

## Meeting Minutes

### MT Public Health System Improvement Task Force Conference Call

Wednesday December 5, 2018, 1:30-3:00pm

**Task Force Members Present:** Todd Harwell PHSD; Lora Wier MPHA; Dustin Schreiner MEHA, Jen McCully Lincoln County; Natalie Clairborne AHEC; Kristi Aklestad Toole County; Tony Ward UM; Cindia Ellis Custer County; Kari Smith DEQ.

**Task Force Members Not Present:** Janet Runnion Rocky Boy; Kristin Juliar AHEC; Tanya Houston Cascade County; Hillary Hanson AMPHO.

**Non-Task Force Members Present:** Terry Ray, Kerry Pride, & Anna Bradley, PHSIO, PHSD; Michelle Henderson MHCF.

**Contact for Minutes:** Emery Byrd (emery.byrd@mt.gov or 444-4141)

#### PHSI Task Force Charter Changes – Terry Ray

- Removed the history information in the introduction paragraph.
- Changed list of purposes to reflect the new PH system improvement priority areas approved by the TF at the last meeting.
- Removed dates out of the purpose statement.
- Removed constituency, refer to organizational chart.
- Changed name of the SHA/SHIP Coalition to Montana State Health Improvement Coalition.
- Added Rocky Mountain Tribal Epidemiology Center to list of members of the State Health Improvement Coalition.
- Lora Wier, requested a footer to keep track of dates updated.
- Task Force will vote on the Charter changes at the next meeting.
- Send Terry an email if you want any specific changes.

#### SHA and SHIP Document release and Communication Plan – Todd Harwell

- State Health Improvement Plan will be released for public comment this week (Dec. 7) along with the SHA for reference.
- The public can contact Anna Bradley (plans coordinator, [abrady@mt.gov](mailto:abrady@mt.gov) or 444-5968) or in comment in the comment box on the “A Healthier Montana” site. Comment period will be open until Dec. 23rd.
- Anna will review comments received and make any final edits. Finalized SHA SHIP will be released January 2019.
- Anna will also reach out to workgroup leads to learn more about how she can support them and their Coalition liaisons as we move into implementation stage.
- Todd discussed recent tribal visits- good feedback on the SHA and the SHIP.
- Anna will reach out to workgroup leads on the Coalition to see how she can support them.

#### System Support and Improvement Grants – Kerry Pride

- Current Grants for FFY 2019 and 2020: \$50,000 MHCF, \$100,000 CDC Block Grant
- Next round of grants (2019). Preference will be given to first time applicants and those who have never completed the grant task.

- Discussion questions:
  1. Should we decrease to \$5,000 or \$7,500 so more Health Departments can be funded? Possibility for applicants repeating the tasks to be funded at a lower amount and keep first time applicants at \$10,000
    - a. Kristi: Those who are starting from scratch should receive more grant funds. Possibly require a financial statement for those better off. It will help us see who really needs help. Money may be a good incentive to get health departments become accredited.
    - b. Kerry: Should we require budget sheets?
      - i. Kristi: That may be the right answer. If no budget sheet, people would spend money just to spend money.
    - c. Natalie: Encourage collaboration between hospitals and health departments.
    - d. Decisions:
      - i. Fund first time applicants at \$10,000, repeating applicants at lower amount that is determined.
      - ii. Explore possibility of requiring budget for grant activities (pros and cons).
      - iii. Continue to encourage collaboration and partnerships with hospitals
  2. Grant areas: Should we add back QI plan, WFD plan, Performance Management, accreditation management and admin processes? What about small CHIP implementation grants?
    - a. Decisions:
      - i. Continue to fund CHA, CHIP, SPs and add back in QI, WFD, PMS and small grants for CHIP Implementation (funding amount TBD).
      - ii. Will continue to have a ladder approach. Must have a current CHA to apply for CHIP, current CHA/CHIP to apply for SP, current CHA, CHIP, SP to apply for QI, WFD, PMS or CHIP implementation.
      - iii. Preference given to first time applicants.
  3. Ideas for reaching health departments that haven't participated in any of the grant activities, excluding BOH training? Non-participating Health Departments: Crow, CSKT, Sanders, Ravalli, Granite, Powell, Liberty, Hill, Phillips, Sweet Grass, Stillwater, Carbon, Big Horn, Rosebud, Sheridan, Carter
    - a. Jen: Are there any connecting characteristics with health departments who have not started a grant? Can we get more creative? Can we support with more than just money?
      - i. Anna: Suggested student interns or practicums.
      - ii. Cindia suggested: Maybe using county extension agencies with those w/o hospitals.
      - iii. Terry: PHSIO is looking inward for assistance for the small health departments. We would coach rather than completing the work for them.
    - b. Todd: Asked Kerry to set up webinars and case studies on how they did it, new lead public health official to reach out and speak on importance.
      - i. Natalie: On our website there are resources and success stories.

- c. Todd: I will plug these grants when we do our tribal visits.
- d. Todd: Let's have a plan A and B. Kerry and I can do more outreach with health departments who are starting from scratch.
  - i. Plan B, open it up a smaller percentage and to go CHIP Implementation.
- e. Decisions:
  - i. Todd and Kerry will start more direct outreach to non-participants to see what are the barriers and how can we be of assistance. If not enough applicants will open a smaller percentage of funding for CHIP implementation grants that align with the SHIP priorities
  - ii. Explore option of webinars and case studies for smaller sized health departments to discuss how they completed a CHA, CHIP, SP, or other grant activities, work with lead local public health officials on this
  - iii. PHSD will continue to work on how to best provide assistance for health departments that have not applied for a grant opportunity.
  - iv. PHSD will continue to work with U of M and other universities to get practicum students to help with these tasks.

#### Updates on Board of health trainings

- f. BOH and PH Governance improvement opportunities- E Learn course created by PHSIO; Terry attended NALBOH Conference- we now offer the NALBOH Course. Looking at other options and opportunities.  
Recommendation- MSU has courses available that can support BOH 2.0 training, online courses also
- g. Terry: Recommended offering sessions at MPHA in the Fall '19 on helping PH understand how to engage and use their BOH- use success stories, more personal discussion.

#### 4. Other discussion:

- a. Lora: Asked if it is associated with goal 3 in the Charter?
  - i. Kerry: It is going to help with the goal, but there are gaps.
- b. Terry: Noted that having a consultant increases cost every time they want to update a plan.
- c. Kerry: How much do we need to support this?

#### MPHA Grant -PH 101- Lora Wier

- Meeting this Friday with Shawn Hinz and Alexis Wolf for the MPHA Learning Opportunities Committee to discuss the MHCF Public Health 101 Grant.
- Hiring consultant by the end of February to oversee the grant process.
- This will allow us to meet the goals of our Strategic Plan.

#### PHSIO Updates

- April 11-12 (tentative) Systems Thinking and Principles of Strategic Planning with a focus on addressing social determinants of health. Communication developing/ planning.
- May 28-31 (tentative) Mental Health and substance abuse. One-day training event in the western and eastern part of MT.
- July 15-19 (tentative) Program planning and program evaluation, Summer Institute.
- August 20-21 (tentative) Public Health Ethics.
- Date TBD- Budgeting and financial skills in the managing public health work (University of Michigan)

- Educational Grants – 12 Certificates from UM, 10 for Certifies Public Manager, and 10 PH Management Certification.
- Lead Local survey will go out in January.
- MHCf awarded Grant to the PHSIO for a state-wide workforce survey.
- Terry asked AMPHO what they would like to do during Summer Institute, and if they want to conduct a year-long program next year. Response: Pending.

#### University of Montana updates

- First CPH cohort is graduating. 22 will continue for a MPH.
- Working on other grants.
- Working on offering training here that supports the Workforce Development Plan.
- Todd: Public Health Evaluation and Ethics course, we will be using UM instructors.

#### AHEC updates

- Two new grants. Look on website for more info.

#### MEHA updates

- Currently focused on Legislative session.
- Intern work study w/ MSU in progress.

#### AMPHO updates

- Advocacy group is meeting to prepare for the legislative session.

#### MPHA Updates

- Reviewed and updated their Strategic Plan for 2018-2021.

#### DEQ

- Composing a request to the legislature to address lead testing in schools- bill for session.
- Grant process for schools to identify lead levels.
- Requesting an increase fees for connection to public water from \$2.25 to \$4.

Next Meeting: February 27, 2019, 1:30-3:00, GoToMeeting platform.

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