



**Local Government Advisory Committee  
Room 473, Human Services Building, Salem  
October 9, 2009  
Minutes**

**Attending:**

Randy Blackburn	DHS, Transformation Initiative
Katherine Bradley	DHS, Public Health Division
Rod Calkins	Marion County Health Department
Cathy Cooper	DHS, Senior and People with Disabilities Division
Morgan Cowling	Association of Oregon Counties
Leah Craft	DHS, Administrative Services Division
Muriel DeLaVergne	Conference of Local Health Officials
Ron Dodge	Polk County Commissioner
Bobby Green, Sr.	Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs
Bill Hall	Lincoln County Commissioner
Richard Harris	DHS, Addictions and Mental Health Division
John Hartner	Oregon Association of Community Corrections
Tony Howell	League of Oregon Cities
Chuck Hurliman	Tillamook County Commissioner
Chris Johnson	Yamhill County Health & Human Services
Tom Mann	Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs
Linda Modrell	Benton County Commissioner
Jim Neely,	DHS, Administrative Services Division
Gina Nikkel	Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs
Clyde Saiki	DHS, Deputy Director of Operations
Kevin Stufflebean	Coos County Commissioner
Gene Sundent	DHS, Seniors and People with Disabilities Division
John Swanson	DHS, Budget, Policy and Analysis
Sandy Wood	DHS, Division of Medical Assistance Programs

Chuck Hurliman called the meeting to order and roundtable introductions were made. The minutes of the last LGAC meeting were approved. Gina Nikkel requested that Richard Harris also give an update on the demonstration project.

**Director's Report, Clyde Saiki**

Clyde announced that Richard Harris has accepted the position of Assistant Director of Addictions and Mental Health Division. Richard has been the Interim Assistant Director for the past year.

John Swanson discussed potential budget cuts if the taxes passed by the last legislative session are repealed by the voters in January. DHS is reviewing the 30% budget reduction exercise requested by LFO earlier in the year to review the list of options to come back with a revised list. By mid-November, we should have a list of potential cuts by county to give LGAC.

### **Veteran's Outreach Initiative, Executive Order 09-09 and HB 3104, Tom Mann, VA**

Tom Mann discussed Executive Order 09-09 and HB 3104. The legislation asks state agencies to partner with the Department of Veterans Affairs to assist in providing outreach to veterans for services. Identifying veterans who are not receiving services is a major issue.

The veterans who returned from the Vietnam War did not seek benefits. The Department of Veteran Affairs is concerned that the Afghan and Iraqi veterans are returning home and also not seeking benefits.

The new GI bill is the best GI bill since the original. There is money available to help with education, housing, medical, etc. The Veterans Affairs (VA) has a healthcare system and by identifying veterans that qualify for benefits, the VA can sign them up for those benefits which move them from the state healthcare system and onto federal healthcare. The Department of Veterans Affairs is asking all state agencies to find out if the clients they serve are veterans.

### **Demonstration Sites, Richard Harris**

Richard Harris gave an update on the two demonstration sites. We are further along in Central Oregon and are working toward a memo of understanding. Richard hopes that by December, there should be a more formal operating agreement and be ready to move forward with the project after the first of the year.

We are still in the early discussion stages with Eastern Oregon. We are relying on those communities to define their approach to the integration demonstration project.

The intent of the demonstration is to motivate people to think about the way services are being delivered.

### **OHP Standard Rollout, Sandy Wood**

The last time the Oregon Health Plan Standard program was opened, it was by a reservation list. DHS is again opening Standard to a limited number of people, which will increase participants from a monthly average of 24,000 to a monthly average of 50,000. DMAP reconvened an advisory group to determine the fairest way to open Standard. The group faced two constraints. One constraint is the CMS requirement that a reservation list must be on a first come, first serve basis, the second constraint is we have to limit enrollment to match our available funds, which is not sufficient to provide coverage to everyone who needs it.

The advisory group recommended, and DHS agrees, that a reservation list is the best way to open the program. We began sending letters to all the people who were on the first reservation list asking if they would like to continue being on the new reservation list and we received over 19,000 responses. We populated the new list with those responses. The list will be open to all Oregonians to submit their names in November. We will start by pulling a list of 2,000 names from the new list. Thereafter, we'll probably pull about 6,000 names per month in order to get a monthly enrollment of almost 4,000 people.

Meanwhile, we have asked CMS to allow us to have a continuously open list.

### **Healthy Kids Rollout, Cathy Kaufmann**

The Healthy Kids rollout began on October 1, 2009. There are some changes to the requirements. Expanded information as well as the form to apply for the Healthy Kids Program is available on line. We have posted on ORPIN the RFP for targeted outreach grants to provide support to community organizations that assist with enrollment for hard to reach families.

The final wave will be in January, 2010 and will open the private insurance product and will serve families above 200% of federal poverty level. Families between 200-300% will receive a subsidy toward the premium.

#### **Action Item:**

Cathy Kaufmann will send the website link to Diana Woods to forward out to LGAC.

### **Division Transformation Initiative Update, Gene Sundet, SPD; Jeannine Beatrice, AMH; and Katherine Bradley, PHD**

Katherine Bradley outlined each of the initiatives that Public Health Division has been working on as part of the Public Health part of the DHS Transformation initiative. Some of the initiatives are expenditure approval for travel, website design and development, public health lab to transmit lab samples, vaccine fees and obesity.

Gene Sundet gave an overview of initiatives Seniors and People with Disabilities Division has been working on. Some of the process improvements are around presumptive Medicaid disability determination processing, developmental disabilities contract amendments processing time, corrective action unit improvement to meet the 60 day statutory timeline, and limit the utilization of nursing facilities to client appropriate for that level of care.

### **H1N1 Update, Mel Kohn**

The first federal allotment of 41,000 doses of the vaccine for H1N1 arrived this week and will continue to receive more vaccine each week.

The website is being updated and should be completed by the end of the month. The hotline is working well and we are looking at expanding information available. We will continue to work closely with the local health departments.

There have been no major outbreaks. Three hospitals have activated their emergency operations plan, Rogue Valley, St. Charles and Providence Hood River. Surveillance data indicates that the number of cases has increased.

There is some misinformation circulating about a study by some Canadian researchers that looked at data of people who received the seasonal vaccine were at an increased risk for contracting the H1N1 virus and developing complications. This information has not been published and there has been no peer review. Supposedly someone at the CDC has seen it and the consensus is that this study is an outlier and does not make much sense.

### **Topics for next meeting**

Topics for the next meeting can be sent to Chuck Hurliman or Clyde Saiki. The next LGAC will be December 9, 2009. The November 13 meeting will be the AOC-DHS Governance Forum.