



**Multnomah County Public Health Advisory Board
Public Health Approaches Committee Minutes
December 2023**

Date: Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Time: 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Purpose: To advise the Public Health Division on several areas of work including developing long-term public health approaches to address the leading causes of death and disability in Multnomah County.

Desired Outcomes:

1. Strengthen our bonds of community and trust
2. Department and division leadership updates

Members Present: Cheryl Carter, Jazmin Kling, Su Liu, Jennifer Phillips, Keara Rodela, Sarah Taylor, Karen Wells, Erika Zuel

Multnomah County Staff: Adelle Adams, Amie Zawadzki, Andrea Hamberg, Chantell Reed, Jessica Guernsey, Rachael Banks, Teresa Everson

Item/Action	Process	Lead
Welcome, Agenda & Minutes Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jessica reviewed the agenda ● There was consensus approval for the October meeting minutes 	Jessica Guernsey
Public Comment & Board Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No public comment ● Information sharing and updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mz Cheryl is a member of the supported health services joint task; meet on the second Thursday of the month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Voters voted to help people experiencing homelessness and mental health ■ Meeting people where they stand to help get them off the street ■ Appointed advisory body that advises how to allocate funds to all the agencies in the community 	Jessica Guernsey
Budget Priorities & Community Budget Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Overview of budget process timeline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General fund forecast in November is the first step of the internal budgeting process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Divided out by divisions and programs; starting next week to the end of January ● Community Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More hands on oversight body responsible for core decision making for the county budget ○ No current MCPHAB members on CBAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ We will be sharing additional information in late summer when CBAC is recruiting new members ● Overview of budget priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Division strategic priorities; how we are thinking about priorities and where resources go: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Core public health 	Andrea Hamberg / Chantell Reed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ OHA accountability metrics ■ Health equity ■ Leading causes ■ Sustainability ■ Multi-year budget forecast ■ Statutory responsibilities ● Background for the County budget forecast <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Additional funding from Oregon Health Authority(OHA) ○ Racial & Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) and Community Partnerships & Capacity Building (CPCB) drive a large portion of health equity work ○ Creating sustainable plans for this year and long-term through a multi-year budget forecast ○ State and federal mandates 	
<p style="text-align: center;">Health Department Director Introduction / Q & A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome, Rachael Banks & introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Check-in question in the chat: One song you have to put on a winter playlist for a dance party (responses) ● Health Department Director priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Illicit substance polysubstance plan; response to the gradual rise in overdose deaths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Bringing a Public Health perspective; including prevention and harm reduction treatment ■ Clinics expanding work to address overdose ■ Supporting and investing in families by addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) ■ MCPHAB was the first community group that was engaged for this body of work ○ Public Health Director Recruitment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Rachael will be engaging with MCPHAB and ask for input as we recruit for the PH Director position ○ Public Health Perspective at Department Level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ One department approach addressing issues with a PH perspective ■ Intersections of Behavioral Health (BH), Corrections, and clinics ● Q & A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Q: What are some takeaways you have from working at the state that will help at the county? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A: How hard people at OHA work and to approach with curiosity and grace due to the complexity and lift happening ■ The approach to engaging with community partners as well as the public in media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Different levels of scrutiny in the media and so we do the best with what we have ○ Q: As you are coming in during a time with high levels of transition, what do you anticipate being the biggest hurdle? And what is something you are excited about despite that? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A: Strong, supportive, stable workforce to address work coming at us ■ Intersections with BH, addictions, and homeless services through a PH lens 	<p style="text-align: center;">Jessica Guernsey / Rachael Banks</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Uplifting community wisdom and data to lay out strategies and overcome hurdles together ■ Strengths-based approach; working together with the department and community partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Illicit substance plan a manifestation of this collaboration ○ Q: Is recovery from fentanyl addiction possible? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A: Rachael is not a subject matter expert on recovery although this is something we're thinking about as we're looking at recovery as a continuum; example: peer support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recovery is possible; key component of strategies to roll out ■ Need to stop the trend of increased fentanyl overdose deaths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Asking questions like "what's in our lane, what's not?" ● Supply issue is a large factor ● Prevention; how to prevent the start of use ● Resources such as harm reduction, treatment, and recovery ○ Q: As a loved one and community member; how do I find resources to share? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A: The Health Department's role is working with the state, federal, and community partners to increase capacity and awareness of resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It's a spectrum and there are gaps in meeting the needs of people's individual experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The supply issue is extremely difficult as well as the efficacy of treatment available ● The team working on the illicit substance plan will be coming to a future MCPHAB meeting ○ Board member shared appreciation for how Rachael is mentoring cross-department and the continuum of care as well as how she's on the same page about collaborating with community ● Lines for Life lifeline: 988 is both a 24 hour call and text lifeline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Counselors who speak English and Spanish are readily available; interpreters on-call if another language is preferred 	
<p>Public Health Leadership Updates / Q & A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Andrea is happy to support the division as we search for our new director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Please reach out to Andrea and Chantell with any questions ● Public Health Week the first week of April <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chance to celebrate the important work, incredible accomplishments, and people who do the work across the state and country ○ Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the county's WIC program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Multco has 4 WIC clinics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Gateway clinic has provided important services to our community ● Generations of families have gone through the clinics ○ We're looking forward to having a big party as we have a lot to celebrate for Public Health week in 2024 	<p>Andrea Hamberg / Chantell Reed</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ We will share our plan for celebrating and would love for MCPHAB to be involved ● Q & A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We are working to invite Emergency Preparedness to present on the CEI hub in a future MCPHAB meeting 	
Farewell to Departing Public Health Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opportunity to share thank you's, good bye's, and kind wishes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jessica Guernsey resigned from her role as Public Health Director as it is what's needed for her family; Public Health is also her family ○ Jessica worked in Public Health for 23 years including starting as an intern in the Medical Examiner's office. Jessica is proof that Multco grows fantastic leadership ○ Jessica expressed her gratitude to everyone; it was the honor of her life to be in her position and to work with you all ○ Board members expressed their gratitude and thanks to Jessica for her hard work, dedication, and leadership 	Andrea Hamberg
Wrap-up & Meeting Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next steps and action items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Future meeting topics will include the behavioral health illicit substance plan, emergency preparedness with the CEI hub, and Public health director recruitment ● Poll results were either "strong" or "very strong" for all categories except "The meeting began on time". This received one "weak" vote. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improvements will be made to ensure future meetings start in a more timely manner ● Meeting adjourned at 4:55pm 	Jessica Guernsey