



Office of Citizen Involvement

**MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON**

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August 13, 2010

Lillian Shirley, Director  
Multnomah County Health Department  
426 SW Stark St  
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Ms. Shirley:

The Multnomah County Citizen Involvement Committee (CIC) extends its sincere appreciation to you for meeting with them. Your presentation did an excellent job of informing and increasing awareness of the public's current participation within the Multnomah County Health Department (MCHD), as well as your community outreach efforts.

The CIC believes that by meeting with the county's various departments we develop a better understanding of the public involvement taking place within the departments. As a result, we are better equipped to offer suggestions to departments on how to further engage citizens within the county. The committee commends you and your staff for engaging citizens in many diverse and important areas of the work that MCHD does. To further enhance the public involvement process, we would like to offer three recommendations for your consideration:

- Expand community outreach efforts that increase information to citizens about the services and programs MCHD provides. Target groups and populations that are most likely to use the services and programs.
- Take steps to bring your idea to work with the Commission on Children & Families & Community to fruition. This commission would strategically analyze and review MCHD policies and programs that affect children and families from the perspective of promoting the best overall results for the "whole" child/family.
- Consider adding citizen member(s) to all advisory groups that MCHD convenes (i.e., the Food Service Advisory Committee) to ensure that public input is present during group deliberations.

It is our hope that you will consider these suggestions when determining methods for continuing to enhance citizen involvement within MCHD. We are fully prepared to offer our assistance with implementation of any of these suggestions and to assist in

engaging the public in the event of a policy shift or new initiative that your office is considering implementing. We encourage you to contact us at any time with any questions or concerns.

Thank you again for meeting with us, and we look forward to the opportunity to work with you in the future!

Sincerely,

*Steve Schmunk*

Steve Schmunk, Chair  
Departmental Review Sub-Committee  
Citizen Involvement Committee

*Kathleen M. Todd*

Kathleen Todd, Director  
Office of Citizen Involvement

cc: Chair Cogen  
Jana McLellan  
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