



Multnomah County Public Health Advisory Board Minutes June 2020

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020

Time: 3:30-5:30pm

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. Determine areas of greatest interest and influence within the resolution
2. Learn about areas of alignment with PH Division's violence prevention work
3. Hear updates on legislative concepts and Legislature special session
4. Learn about advocacy opportunities

Members Present: Suzanne Hansche, Becca Brownlee, Hanna Atenafu, Timur Ender, Mahad Hassan, Bertha Ferran, Ryan Petteway, Cheryl Carter

Multnomah County Staff: Rachael Banks, Adelle Adams, Bernadette Nunley, Nathan Wickstrom, Erin Fairchild, Jessica Guernsey

| Item/Action | Process | Lead |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Welcome, Introductions, & Minutes Review | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board members and staff did a brief introduction ● November minutes were approved | Suzanne Hansche |
| MCPHAB Resolution Discussion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public Health is broad - touches on everything ● Multi-systems perspective ● Resolution has a lot of information in it <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Many of the actions are systemic ○ There are some areas that the Public Health Division doesn't have intricate knowledge of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Think through what the public health piece is, if there's a bigger piece that's county-wide ■ The County budget was passed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There were items in the budget that shifted funding from the Department of Community Justice - what could this look like from a behavioral health/public health perspective? ■ Need to determine what the right role is for us <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Where we can take action and where we can take a supportive role ● Pandemic allowing us to see urgency in this <p>Erin Fairchild, Violence Prevention & Interventions Systems Manager, gave a presentation on violence prevention work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See attached slides for more detail ● Questions that board members wanted to see addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Distinguishing what's in our purview - where can we lead? ○ What tools does the County have and what tools is the PH Division willing to use? ○ What are other public health departments doing against budget violence? ○ How can we create culture change so that violence doesn't have a place here? ○ What are the types of violence (e.g. medical racism) and what do we do against them? ● Violence and racism as a public health issue are at the forefront of public conscious <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leading us to make changes, which is exciting ● Violence prevention work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tameka Brazile is the manager of the team, which includes Erin and 4 other members ○ A majority of the focus is on youth ○ STRYVE program addresses teen dating violence and gang/gun violence | Public Health Staff |

| | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Racism drives a lot of this violence ○ Some types of violence include systemic violence, domestic violence and sexual assault, gun violence, child abuse and sex trafficking ○ All of the forms of violence have overlapping risk factors and stressors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ e.g. poverty tends to reduce options and escalate violence ○ Landscape in Multnomah County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Department of Community Justice ■ Department of County Human Services ■ Public Health - focus on preventing violence ○ Discussion on getting better aligned across departments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Shared values ■ Race first approach ■ Rooted in racial justice ■ Who is at the intersection of most acts of violence? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More often communities of color (leading to race first approach) ● Understanding that violence doesn't just occur and that public policies can cause it - growing income inequality and violence link <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Economic mobility is a proven violence prevention method <p>Question: Who is at the center or intersection of multiple forms of violence? (Erin Fairchild and Suzanne Hansche focused the committee on this question, moving somewhat from the police reform/government-initiated violence focus.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pull plans related to violence intervention and prevention already in action in other communities. Draw on community wisdom from active groups and communities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Public Health Modernization ■ NAMI, e.g. ○ Work with Erin and the Violence Prevention team as she lands on policy-related needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Inventory on where the County relies on MCSO ■ As move forward and MCPHAB develops positions, possibly invite agency representatives to discuss <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inviting a police officer to attend a board meeting could be traumatic for some members, consider other options if MCPHAB moves in this direction ■ Dig into the budget and have more of a conversation on violence prevention investment (see Erin's slide) ○ Use the Board of Health as the Voice--tell them what MCPHAB wants and request their advocacy ○ Keep an eye on the Portland Street Response efforts ○ Violence can be reduced through government intervention and education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Culture change is needed ■ It is the duty of County staff to intervene when structural racism is seen ● Additional unanswered questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is there discussion of the role of structural racism via segregation (e.g. redlining) and policing? ○ Is there discussion of use of public health police powers to regulate police actions/practices? | |
| Legislative Concepts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Concepts that came from MCPHAB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requiring racial and ethnic data be collected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moving forward to Government relations ▪ OHA had the understanding that they can't collect that data, but we are waiting to hear back from them ○ Adequate compensation for essential workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Changed term to critical infrastructure workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ranging from health workers to people working in restaurants ● Kept it broad, as there are many types of employees potentially at risk ▪ PPE for employees | Adelle Adams, Bernadette Nunley |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased pay (premium pay) ▪ Provide additional benefits and health coverage ● Comment from MCPHAB member: If there is no money, we can work with department of corrections to reduce cost. The state has money that they could reallocate for other purposes ● Folks are working on how to shift investment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is an area we can watch to see what's happening ● Police enforcement and public health guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tear gas and sound cannons are moving forward at the legislature ○ More transparency - database of police records ● Millions of dollars are being cut from the police bureau <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A lot of eyes on this ○ Would love to see the County as an active player supporting this ● Moratorium on rental evictions was extended ● Telemedicine and telehealth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Insurance boundaries are being suspended until the end of the year - increased access, but technology barriers still exist ○ Action to extend until July of 2021 to give time for permanent legislation to be introduced ● Adelle will learn and share out some more outcomes tomorrow | |
| <p>Wrap-up and meeting evaluation</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting adjourned at 5:35 | <p>Suzanne Hansche</p> |