

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)
Monday, July 27, 2015
5:00 P.M.
ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PRESENT:

Richard A. Ortoski, D.O., Chair
Richard Dreyfus, M.D.
Carla Picardo, M.D.
Reverend Nettie Smith

IN ATTENDANCE:

Melissa Lyon
Charlotte Berringer
Karen Tobin
Nicole Bolash
Valerie Bukowski
Pamela Brunner
R. Anthony, Snow, M.D.
Phil Fatica, County Council

EXCUSED:

Carolynn Masters, Ph.D., Vice-Chair

GUESTS:

Kate Ebersole, Consultant, KEE Concepts
Joy Henry, Refugee Health Coordinator,
Erie Co. Dept. of Health

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairperson, Richard A. Ortoski, D.O., called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.
- Approval of Minutes: Meeting minutes from February 23, 2015, and April 27, 2015 were both approved on a motion from Reverend Nettie Smith, and seconded by Richard Dreyfus, M.D. All in favor.
- II. **Public Comments:** None to report.
- III. **Director's Report:**
- Division Reports (Reviewed prior to meeting)
 - Elect to Keep as Official Meeting Minutes of the BOH?
 - Synopsis of Division Reports given to the Board members by the Health Department directors for the benefit of those who were not able to read the Reports in advance.
 - Additional information from Health Promotion & Quality Improvement Division:
 - ◆ Breastfeed Mini-Grant: An additional \$40,000 was awarded to the Health Department to provide additional nursing supplies and equipment for lactation rooms in local businesses.
 - ◆ Accreditation Report: As part of the PHAB Accreditation requirement, the Strategic Plan processes will be incorporated into the narrative which is due to PHAB 8/19/2015.
 - ◆ Tobacco Control Program, Diabetes Mini-Grant: The PA Dept. of Health chose Mercer County, a sub-contractor of the Erie Tobacco Control Program, to receive \$59,500 to target type 2 diabetes patients, in conjunction with tobacco cessation programs.
 - ◆ Highway Safety Grant: PennDOT has approved a \$120,089.10 multi-county one-year grant beginning on 10/1/2015. Comment from PennDOT was that Erie's grant application was the best one they received.
 - ECDH Budget – Chelsey Ricketts, Grant/Fiscal Officer
 - 3-Year Plan with Financials
 - The Plan is a requirement of County Council. This year's Plan included a financial narrative along with projected 3-year expenditures.
 - ◆ Health Department's Projections - Net county costs are projected to decrease with diversified funding streams in the future.
 - ◆ County fiscal year is January - December.
 - ◆ PA DOH fiscal year is July - June.
 - Act 315 is reimbursed to the County based on the PA DOH fiscal year.
 - ◆ Melissa is available to answer any questions on fiscal year expenditures or budgetary explanations.
- IV. **Old Business:** None to report

V. Board Updates:

➤ Presentations:

- **Strategic Plan Overview** – Presented by Kate Ebersole, Consultant, KEE Concepts
 - Strategic Plan is a 3-year Plan for the Health Department
 - Strategic Plan is a requirement of the PHAB Accreditation
 - PowerPoint presentation overview of the Strategic Plan processes to date
 - Internal and external discussions were mostly positive
 - ◆ If individuals or businesses know what the Health Department does, positive comments
 - ◆ If not, they only know about food inspections
 - ◆ Public needs to know more about the services the Health Department provides
 - Value is not communicated enough to the public
 - Problem seen by stakeholders
 - Could affect funding availability
 - ◆ Health Department staff are not paid competitive wages
 - Internal - many staff have to work 2 jobs to make ends meet
 - External - see a new turn-over of staff coming into businesses
 - ◆ Behavioral health not seen as an external factor to consider
 - ◆ Collaboration with other community partners for future funding essential
 - ◆ Needs in the community
 - Poverty was number one
 - Environmental safety
 - ◆ Health Department Strategic Plan Team
 - Proposed a list of six (6) possible priorities for the Strategic Plan
 - Board of Health members were given the list of the six priorities
 - ❖ Asked to rank the priorities according to how the Board would like to see the priorities addressed
 - ❖ Asked to recommend any other priorities they felt the Health Department should be addressing
 - Health Department staff, along with community partners, will rank the priorities via an electronic survey
- **Healthcare Leadership Council**
 - Governor Tom Wolfe has assembled a healthcare leadership council
 - ◆ Erie was one of three (3) counties invited to attend the event in July 2015
 - ◆ Four council meetings will be held throughout the nation as a national advisory to healthcare reform at the state level
 - Kate Ebersole is involved in a national initiative applying improvement science to incorporate measurable outcomes versus outcome-based initiatives to support public health
 - ◆ She will bring this methodology as a process to the Health Department's Strategic Plan team
 - ◆ Board members thanked Kate for her efforts to get the ECDH staff involved in the Strategic Plan processes
- **Refugee Health Program Overview** – Presented by Joy Henry, Refugee Health Coordinator
 - PowerPoint presentation overview
 - ◆ Joy Henry, Refugee Health Coordinator, works directly with the resettlement agencies to coordinate health care needs for the refugee population in Erie County
 - ◆ PA Dept. of Health provides the funds for Joy's position and program materials
 - ◆ Resettlement non-profit agencies in Erie County
 - International Institute
 - Catholic Charities
 - ◆ Refugee population has risen to over 10,000 residents in Erie County
 - Physical exams before entry into USA
 - Immunization records either not available or current
 - ❖ Given immunizations upon arrival into USA
 - Immunizations must be current for refugees to receive their "green card"

- ❖ Infectious diseases not readily known upon arrival (i.e. polio, pertussis)
- ❖ Notified of Class B Tuberculosis arrivals
 - No active TB cases are allowed to enter the Erie area
 - No cases of drug-resistant TB clients from the refugee population
- Mental health exams upon arrival into USA
- Interpreter services funding currently provided by a PA Dept. of Health grant
 - ❖ PA Dept. of Health identifies community needs and funding streams
- Other interpreter services
 - ❖ Dr. Snow stated that Community Health Net uses telephonic
 - ❖ Dr. Ortoski can provide contact information for Swahili interpreters
 - ❖ Dr. Picardo will provide contact information for a Chinese interpreter
- ◆ Thank you to Joy for her work with the refugee population in Erie County

➤ See Division Reports:

- Community Health Programs – Charlotte Berringer, Director, CHS
- Environmental Programs – Karen Tobin, Director, ENV
- Epidemiology – Valerie Bukowski, Supervisor, EPI/PHP
- Health Promotion and QI – Nicole Bolash, Manager, HPQI

VI. New Business:

- NACCHO Public Health lapel pins were distributed to Board of Health members. The ECDH has adopted the NACCHO Public Health emblem, which can be seen on all email correspondence.
- An ECDH and NACCHO Public Health emblem clothing item was offered to Board of Health members; choice of clothing included either a fleece jacket, nylon jacket, or polo shirt.
- Dr. Richard Ortoski, D.O., thanked ECDH staff for their professional interaction with the LECOM medical students on how to assist the immigrants who migrate to Erie County. Providing cultural diversity interaction is a key developmental tool for the LECOM students, in addition to their engagement with the ECDH's community partners.

VII. Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m., on a motion by Carla Picardo, M.D., and seconded by Reverend Nettie Smith.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela K. Brunner, Recording Secretary

The next Health Board meeting is scheduled for MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015 AT 5:00 P.M.