

GREATER COLUMBIA ACCOUNTABLE COMMUNITY OF HEALTH

Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 16, 2020 | 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM
Teleconference ONLY

ATTENDANCE			
GCACH Leadership Council Attendees Board Member: Italicized Name*: Called-in	Jill Whitman	Melissa Hess	<i>Les Stahlnecker</i>
	Cary Cole	Minnie Smith	<i>Kendra Palomarez</i>
	Brian Briggs	Norma Soto	Jorge Rivera
	Cassie Heimgartner	Penny Bell	John Christenson
	Charissa Zorza	<i>Rhonda Hauff</i>	Jeff Guyett
	Joyce Newsom	Robin Didricksen-Read	Janice Gonzales
	Kevin Martin	<i>Ronni Batchelor</i>	Deb Watson
	Kirk Williamson	<i>Sandra Suarez</i>	Karen Hayes
	Lindsay Engh	Shannon Jones	Courtney Armstrong
	Marcia Baden	Sharon Gentry	Bevan Briggs
	Martha Lanman	Cheri Snowwhite	Barbara Mead
	Matthew Kuempel	Toni Clayton	Michelle Sullivan
	Meghan DeBolt	Viktoriya Broyan	Mandee Olsen
	Lisa Gonzalez	Gary Castillo	Holly Siler
	Rep Mary Dye	Ben?	Amy Person
	Brian Fox	Susan Campbell	Cary Cole
	<i>Dana Oatis</i>	Estakio Beltran	Hayley Middleton
	Janice Gonzales	LeAnne Turnbull	Lindsey Engh
	Jill Adcock	Marcia Baden	Lindsay Noble
	Martha Lanman	Norma Soto	Becky Grohs
	Richard Leigh	Stacy George	Toni Clayton
Susan Grindle			
GCACH Staff	Becky Kolln	Carol Moser	Chelsea Chapman
	Diane Halo	Wes Luckey	Laurel Avila
	Lauren Noble	Martin Sanchez	Rachael Guess
	Ruben Peralta	Sam Werdel	

MEETING PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

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<p>Welcome & Introductions (Patrick Jones/ Carol Moser)</p>	<p>Patrick Jones of Eastern Washington University (EWU) welcomed the group and opened the meeting with introductions. There were 102 individuals in attendance (calling in).</p> <p>Find this meeting audio by visiting here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3tHAuRgzu8&t=1s.</p>
<p>Review of Socio-Economic and Health Data (Wes Luckey)</p>	<p>Wes presented his "Review of Socio-Economic and Health Data". During his presentation, he reviewed the following measures including their direction (higher or lower) compared to the state average:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ↑ Families with children headed by single parent • ↓ Median household incomes • ↑ All-age poverty rates • ↑ Share of adult population with high school degree or less • ↑ Uninsured: Franklin and Yakima counties • ↑ Food insecurity: Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, Kittitas, Whitman • ↑ Premature death rate: Asotin, Columbia and Yakima • ↑ Obesity and diabetes • ↑ Sexually transmitted infections: Benton, Franklin, Kittitas, Whitman, Yakima • ↑ Teen births: Hispanics in Asotin, Franklin, Yakima • ↓ Provider shortages: Primary care, dental care, behavioral health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - American Indian/Alaska Natives have the highest premature death rate and injury death, child mortality, in the entire state of Washington and in the entire nation (within the top 20). - Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ronni Batchelor: working extensively in the Hispanic community for healthcare and assistance, could this possibly be related to the fear factor that comes in with the alien aspect of not being legal in the US and then that go through the generational? If you have one person or both parents that are not legal in the US, that goes into the next generation.
<p>Snapshot of COVID-19's Presence in the Greater Columbia ACH (Dr. Patrick Jones)</p>	<p>Source of information: Washington State Department of Health. COVID-19 is more present in larger counties and there seems to be quite a bit of difference in the prevalence between Latino residents in the state.</p> <p>Dr. Patrick Jones of Eastern Washington University, spoke to the COVID-19 Presence in the Greater Columbia ACH. This included:</p>

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- Kittitas County
 - o As of Monday night, there were only 14 confirmed cases out of 549 tests. No deaths to date.
- Yakima County
 - o A total of 614 confirmed cases out of 3550 tests. 25 deaths to date.
- Benton County
 - o A total of 265 confirmed cases, 1600 tests. 29 deaths to date.
- Franklin County
 - o A total of 138 confirmed case, 583 tests. 2 deaths to date.
 - o The highest prevalence rate in the state (except for Adams county)
- Walla Walla County
 - o A total of 23 confirmed cases, 909 tests. 0 deaths.
- Columbia County
 - o 1 confirmed case, 50 tests. 0 deaths to date.
- Garfield County
 - o 0 confirmed cases, 14 tests. 0 deaths to date.
- Asotin County
 - o 6 confirmed cases, 95 tests. 0 deaths to date.
- Whitman County
 - o 11 confirmed cases, 340 tests. 0 deaths to date.

Summary:

- For the state of Washington, we have been able to test about 16 people out of 1,000 residents (or 1.6 people, out of every 100). Our counties – none of them match that state effort. Things could be different if we had more testing among the ACH counties. Walla Walla has tested the most (15 per 1,000). Asotin has tested very few people (4 per 1,000).

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	<p style="text-align: center;">COVID-19 in Washington State Confirmed Cases and Deaths by Race/Ethnicity Data as of April 13, 2020 11:59PM PT</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>Gender & Age: <input type="button" value="Confirmed Cases"/> <input type="button" value="Deaths"/></p> <p>Race: <input checked="" type="button" value="Confirmed Cases"/> <input type="button" value="Deaths"/></p> </div> <p>Confirmed Cases by Race</p> <p>Legend: ■ Confirmed Cases ■ Population</p> <p>% Unknown Race/Ethnicity: 48%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Who makes the decision on who gets tested? o The testing data: does this factor in clinics who are using private labs to test?
<p>Asotin County COVID-19 Update (Shannon Jones)</p>	<p>Shannon Jones, Fiscal & Human Resource Administrator of Asotin County Health District, presented an update on COVID-19 in Asotin County.</p> <p>COVID-19 is taking up about 41% of total staff hours. Are doing case-tracing in their office. The issues have been a lack of PPE, the ordering and dissemination of those. They did receive a shipment last week and is being disseminated this week. The testing kits have been lacking, and have received several of those. Have 9 confirmed cases as of this morning. 2 possible. The stay home stay safe compliance has been difficult for Asotin County. Have had a challenge with local contractors continuing their jobs. Have a lot of demands for tv and communication, they are trying to update their website and social media each day. Received the emergency grant for housing (have 25 beds), put their first person in last night.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Question: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Legal pushback, is this happening with residents? Can you expand upon that?
<p>Garfield/Columbia County COVID-19 Update (Martha Lanman)</p>	<p>Martha Lanman, Garfield/Columbia Counties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SEWA Health Network (covers all three counties)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ordered Logitech meeting/zoom subscriptions – have one in each health department - Public Health role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Both counties received a housing grant o Secured 17 beds in Garfield county and 20 beds in Columbia county (contracts done and beds ready to go) referral system is in place o Immediately set up two healthcare meetings in each of the counties (occurring every other week) o PPE supplies: outsourcing some supplies (limited success), received supplies early on from the state, last week received more N95 masks o Public messaging: involving the foodbanks, putting together weekly flyers for COVID-19 activities and mental health, add messaging in the school lunches o Food stamps and WIC have increased substantially o Received a grant to assist with rent and utility assistance
Whitman County COVID-19 Update (Jeff Guyett)	<p>Jeff Guyett of Whitman County Community Action Center presented an update.</p> <p>Students were away during the stay home, stay healthy order. WSU reacted quickly, and asked students to stay where they were instead of coming back to campus, which helped suppress the cases.</p> <p>Half the staff are working from home, half are working in the office. Set up emergency housing for COVID-19 response, 12 in Pullman and 12 in Colfax. Haven't had to use these beds yet.</p> <p>Folks are really following the stay home order very well in the community. Have 180 units of affordable housing in the county, are currently constructing another housing project (it continues because it is publicly funded). This will be easily filled in July or August once complete. Food insecurity rate is up 20%. Demand for food doubled.</p> <p>Because of their relationship with WSU, local businesses have been impacted greatly. A lot of businesses have had to close. WSU developed a fund for folks to donate to the fund and gift cards are purchased, and the CAC distributes those, called "Pullman Serves It Forward"</p> <p>Question:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In regards to the food insecurity, people can phone 211 and get connected to food stamps immediately. 211 will submit all applications so they don't have to leave their home.
Walla Walla County COVID-19 Update (Meghan DeBolt)	<p>Meghan DeBolt of Walla Walla County Department of Community Health presented an update.</p> <p>26 cases, in Walla Walla County, we don't have community-based transmission of COVID-19, thanks to the stay home, stay health order. When they are tested, they have to stay in isolation until they receive their test results back.</p> <p>In Walla Walla County, a lot of the cases that are presenting here (1/3 of them), are coming from Umatilla County.</p> <p>DCH operations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specimen collection and shipping - Persons under investigation tracking - Case investigation - Contact notification - Education and outreach - Community response <p>Success: unified commands. All of the cities within Walla Walla county are represented on their unified commands group</p> <p>Education and outreach: implemented a hotline (Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm)</p> <p>No questions or comments.</p>
Benton-Franklin Counties COVID-19 Update (Amy Person/Melissa Hess)	<p>Amy Persons from DOH presented their COVID-19 update.</p> <p>This disease effects our older population, Benton – 22% of the county is 60 or older, 15% in Franklin County 60 or older.</p> <p>Testing has been an ongoing issue, related to the nationwide lack of supplies. People who have a better line of testing have done a better job acquiring some of those supplies. That is where we have had a challenge in our area.</p>

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	<p>Many organizations within our bi-county area have implemented telehealth. Have done a lot of building upon existing coalitions. Had a lot of challenges of trying to ensure the public was getting accurate information.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Testing for COVID-19 seems to be limited to people who are showing symptoms in general, can EMS first responders who are a-symptomatic obtain tests? - Are you seeing that, going forward, there might be more granular detail at the county level by race and ethnicity? - Will there be or has there been an opportunity to test the people that are coming positive, testing their metabolic to see what is going on with their body? <p>Melissa Hess, CAC</p> <p>An increase of people calling for information and resources. Connecting them to the services they need and assuring them that there are services that can help you. Seeing an increase for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) program. Working to reach out to current customers in permanent supportive housing projects, checking in with them. Has a partnership with Second Harvest so they can put items together and drop them off at their homes. Working towards preparing themselves for the “clean-up.”</p>
<p>Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic (Jane Gonzales)</p>	<p>Concentrating on developing new ways of delivering the services. Primarily focusing on emergency shelter in the form of hotel/motel vouchers and expanding where they provide those. The other big request is energy assistance. The income criteria has increased so they can provide services to more people who have been impacted by COVID-19.</p> <p>Lilian Bravo– Yakima Health District – they have outbreaks in 5/11 of the long-term care facilities. 180 cases attributed to long-term care. Have not had a surge in hospitalizations. Other hotspots – in Yakima – 50% of businesses stayed open (due to majority of agricultural workers). Likely to see more testing in places of employment. Not enough data on race and ethnicity.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Among the counties, Yakima County has actually shed the fewest jobs in the short term (due to large number of agricultural workers)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Of the cases in Benton and Franklin Counties (large portion of Hispanic people), there is a relationship between the workforce in Latinos. I'm seeing a correlation between long term care facilities, low income populations, and cases of COVID-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Lilian: in Yakima, yes, that is likely an accurate correlation. <p>Rhonda Hauff –</p> <p>The health district has been very communicative in terms of protocols in who gets tested. It has been very helpful.</p> <p>Comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carol: It would be really helpful for the ACHs to be included in some of these discussions. We have been somewhat left out of the mix when it comes to understanding the issues and challenges in our region. We are in the healthcare provider helping business, we've provided funding for telehealth and for food insecurity. We feel we are an important player. Joyce to send Carol the information if she does not hear from the Benton-Franklin Health Department.
Kittitas County COVID-19 Update (Sue Grindle)	<p>Sue Grindle – CEO of HopeSource</p> <p>As a LHIN, we already have a structure. They were able to deploy quickly. The city and the county quickly worked together in response to COVID-19. In the first week, they began setting up meetings and coordinating communication.</p>
ADJOURNMENT	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 11:30am. Minutes taken by Lauren Noble.

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