

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT January – December 2014

The Lane County Public Health Advisory Committee met 12 times in 2014. Current membership, as of December 2014, is as follows:

- James Lakehomer, at-large
- James Mough, at-large
- Laura Hammond, at-large
- Jocelyn Warren (Vice Chair), at-large
- James Lemieux, licensed health care practitioner
- Paula Dion-Watson, at-large
- Kelley Blewster, at-large
- Beth Naylor, licensed health care practitioner
- Larry Dunlap, licensed health care practitioner
- Patricia Ahlen, licensed health care practitioner
- Kelly Fitzpatrick (Secretary), licensed health care practitioner
- James Robertson (Chair), at-large

The Public Health Advisory Committee's Focus Area for 2014

- Continue work with the Tap Water Coalition.
- Support the Board of County Commissioners' efforts with the Community Health Improvement plan, particularly in the area of health in all county policies.
- Continue to be apprised of potential changes to the Ambulance Service Area Plan.
- Continue work on improving oral health care for pregnant women.
- Improvement of childhood immunization rates in Lane County.
- Continue its support of Lane County's tobacco-free campus policy.
- Gather information on e-cigarettes.
- Joint meetings with the Lane County Mental Health Advisory Committee.

Guest Presentations

Ann Elliott, Jo Ellen Roberson, Lane County Public Health, Maternal Child Health (February 2014): Update on Lane County's Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) Program. The presentation provided details about Lane County NFP program since its inception in 2012.

Lindsey Adkisson, LCPH Prevention Program (April 2014): Problem drinking prevention and strategies for underage drinking in our community.

Dr. Patrick Luedtke, Lane County Public Health Officer & Jennifer Jordan, LCPH Prevention Program (April 2014): Public health concerns regarding e-cigarettes and current status of e-cigarette regulation, both nationally and at the state and local level.

Cindy Morgan, Nursing Supervisor, Lane County Public Health, Communicable Disease (June 2014): Results from Lane County's School Immunization Review SY 2013-14.

Lindsey Adkisson, LCPH Prevention Program, Stephanie Jennings, City of Eugene, and Steve White, Oregon Public Health Institute (July 2014): Health Impact Assessment. The group presented their findings on how affordable housing impacts health at both the individual and community level.

Lindsey Adkisson, LCPH Prevention Program (September 2014): Marijuana: Preventing youth use in a changing landscape.

Debbie Heeszal, Chief Randall Groves, Chief Terry Ney (October 2014): proposed changes to the Ambulance Service Area Plan. The proposed changes included some “housekeeping” measures, such as updating language and definitions to align with the Oregon Administrative Rules, and a proposal for the addition of ASA 9 in far northeastern Lane County.

Accomplishments

The Public Health Advisory Committee’s Tap Water Coalition continued working on its campaign, which began in 2013. The Coalition was using a website – Tap It – to publish locations, such as restaurants and stores, where the community could access water, free of charge, for filling water bottles. Due to on-going communication issues with the Tap It site coordinators, the Coalition chose to discontinue this service. Beth Naylor, PHAC committee member, will continue her endeavors with the Tap Water Coalition, although the major work of the Coalition has been put on hold for the moment.

In March 2014, a joint meeting of the Public Health Advisory Committee and the Lane County Mental Health Advisory/Local Alcohol & Drug Planning Committee was convened. This was the first time the two committees met as a joint meeting in over five years. Sandy Moses, of the LCPH Prevention Program, made a presentation called “Making Connections: Depression as a Public Health Issue”. The meeting was well-received and both committees agreed to make this an annual event.

In March 2014, Dr. Larry Dunlap, PHAC committee member, drafted a proposal asking the County to take action on the regulation of e-cigarettes, in particular accessibility by minors and marketing to youth. This call to action became the primary focus of PHAC for the rest of 2014. The proposal was reviewed in a work session with the BCC and Public Health staff in July 2014. Following the work session, Public Health staff was directed to draft ordinance language on e-cigarettes as well as tobacco retail licensing. PHAC’s efforts culminated with the Board of County Commissioners adopting a County ordinance to regulate e-cigarettes, particularly around access to youth. In December, PHAC published an op-ed about e-cigarettes in the *Register-Guard*.

Major Themes/Work Proposed for 2015

1. Marijuana: health impact and health policies
2. E-cigarettes/tobacco
3. Childhood obesity
4. PHAC’s role related to the County’s Ambulance Service Area plan
5. Lane County’s preparation & response for Ebola and other serious emergent diseases
6. Sugar-sweetened beverages
7. Health equity and inclusion