

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting Boulder County Public Health Auditorium June 13, 2016

BOH Members Present: President Gregg Thomas; Vice President Don Misch, M.D.; and Board Members Sonya Jaquez-Lewis, Jorge DeSantiago, and Olga Bermudez.

Staff Members Present: Public Health Director Jeff Zayach, Director of Administrative Services Stephanie Martz, Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon, Community Health Division Manager Andrea Poniers, Health Planning and Evaluation Manager Namino Glantz; Inspire Youth Connections/OASOS Program Coordinator Heather Crate, Health Planning and Evaluation Specialist Megan Noel; Biostatistician Talia Brown; Community Health Division Support Dahlia Mohamed; and Business Operations Manager Tammy Golden.

Meeting Called to Order.

President Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Following the tragedy that occurred recently in Orlando, Florida (i.e. gunman killed 49 people at a nightclub), Board Member Sonya Jaquez-Lewis asked for a moment of intention so each person could have a moment of reflection.

ITEM 1. Public Comments (on unscheduled agenda items).

None.

ITEM 2. Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of March 14, 2016, Board of Health Meeting Minutes.

Vice President Misch made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Jaquez-Lewis, to approve the March 14, 2016, Board of Health minutes, as presented. With all Board Members voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion approved.

ITEM 3. Update on Inspire Youth Connections (IYC) Program.

Community Health Division Manager Andrea Poniers introduced IYC Coordinator Heather Crate, who manages IYC and Open and Affirming Sexual Orientation and gender identity Support (OASOS).

Ms. Crate said the Community Health Division conducted a year-long youth assessment process in 2014. The purpose was to align with the agency's strategic plan and ensure that program work was done following best practices. She said BCPH embraces the life course perspective in promoting physical and mental health of children, youth, and families. She said adolescence was a critical and sensitive period of development. Given the tumultuous nature of this period of life, adolescents are frequently seen as problems rather than assets to be valued. BCPH has a vision of resilient school-age children, teens, and young adults who are all valued, respected, and supported by the communities where they live.

IYC utilizes a strength-based approach to address multiple risk factors and reach youth and young adults (ages 6-26) who are not “high flyers.” This is done by recognizing safe risk-tasking to ensure safe, smart, and careful fun. She also mentioned that brain development continues through age 26 years.

The overarching goal of IYC is to build resilient youth. The program partners with other BCPH programs and community partners to build positive relationships for youth with caring adults; maintain a coordinated and informed service system; and build a community that values, respects, and supports youth. This collaboration works together to address the three priority areas where youth need support: 1) mental health, depression, suicide; 2) substance use; and 3) sexual health.

Ms. Crate said IYC aligns with Colorado 9 to 25 (CO9to25), which is a collective, action-oriented network of youth and adults working together to align efforts to achieve positive outcomes for all Colorado youth. CO9to25 works to ensure that youth are safe, healthy, educated, connected, and contributing.

Some of the approaches used by IYC to achieve this include:

- *Positive Youth Development*: Involves youth in more activities and efforts and encourages them to provide more input.
- *Sources of Strength*: An evidence-based program implemented in Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) and OASOS, which is also expanding to all BVSD middle schools.
- *Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)*: An 8-hour course to train adults to respond to youth who are experiencing a mental health or addiction challenge or who otherwise are in crisis. The training primarily targets adults who regularly interact with youth, although it is beneficial for anyone wanting to effectively help adolescents (e.g. parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens). The course has been added to Boulder County’s employee training program. Thus far, about 50 county employees have taken the class. Board Member Bermudez said she took the training and said it was very informative. Public Health Director Zayach said Mental Health Partners has also provided the training to St. Vrain Valley School District (SVVSD).
- *Coordinated Youth System*: IYC has started working with community partners to build a coordinated youth system by beginning discussions on what a coordinated youth system would look like that would further strengthen the work of the IYC Program.

Ms. Poniers recognized Health Planning and Evaluation Specialist Megan Noel. She said Ms. Noel has done a great deal of work with the IYC Program.

Ms. Crate said the Open and Affirming Sexual Orientation and gender identity Support (OASOS) Program is offering a new youth leadership group called Youth Advocating for Change (YAC), which is a school-year long leadership advocating program; she said participating students do receive a stipend. Other efforts include building relationships with key community partners (i.e. mapping who’s doing what), working with BoCo Strong (a countywide resilience hub to create and support collaborative relationships between individuals, communities, nonprofits, governments, and businesses), connecting with school districts regarding prevention strategies, MCH (Maternal, Child Health) bullying and suicide prevention work (begins in October to work on building life skills and evidence-based training to increase life skills, protective factors, etc.).

Ms. Poniers said IYC’s work isn’t linear, and community change work and system change also were not linear. She said building a community of resilient youth was the ultimate goal of the IYC Program.

The Board thanked staff for the update.

ITEM 4. Presentation of Annual Strategic Plan Update and 2015 BCPH Annual Report.

Public Health Director Jeff Zayach presented this item and said the past year has been a transition year, and that the format and framework for the agency's annual report and operational plans were being updated to better correspond with the strategic plan.

BCPH's future focus will be on resources, assessment, and prioritization, including: 1) enhanced infrastructure and resources; 2) increased workforce capacity and health equity; and 3) increased capacity for assessment and prioritization.

Mr. Zayach updated the Board and said BCPH was providing leadership on numerous local, regional, and statewide efforts. He said BCPH staff was doing extraordinary work in several areas, including:

- *Metro Healthy Beverage Partnership*: Reducing sugary drink consumption.
- *Community of Hope (COH)*: Collaboration of Boulder County Public Health, Community Services, and Housing and Human Services to ensure there is a more family-driven, prevention-oriented, and holistic safety net for Boulder County families. Mental health has been chosen as the first focus area; mental health was also identified as one of the three public health improvement process (PHIP) priorities, as it is the biggest issue facing our community. COH is helping to leverage and support this effort.
- *Colorado 9 to 25*: Collaboration working to ensure that youth is safe, healthy, educated, connected, and contributing.
- *Metro Denver Partnership for Health*: Seven local public health departments that are collaborating on three priorities: 1) mental health, 2) HEAL (heathy eating and active living); and data sharing.
- *Breastfeeding-friendly worksites and child care centers*.
- *Regional Care Collaborative Organizations (RCCO)*: Connecting Medicaid clients with providers, as well as with other community and social services.
- *Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) data*.
- *Early childhood toxic stress*.

There is a focus on establishing developmental partnerships to work together to address a variety of issues, such as HEAL. Funding requests submitted from groups are more competitive because the work spans several counties.

Some of the things that BCPH is doing to address budget and resource needs include:

- 1) Creating a strategic budgeting workgroup to increase budgeting capacity, develop budget and grant guidelines, and discuss longer-term funding strategies. BCPH's grant committee evaluates grants of highest priority across the agency and across BCPH divisions. It also works with a similar group at the state level to identify longer-term, sustainable funding.
- 2) Developing new funding streams and partnerships to tie in with the work being done by the hospitals. In the past hospitals would consult with BCPH for data, but now BCPH is more involved in completing hospital assessments with a focus on mental health, HEAL, and access to care. A lot of work is being done that will benefit the entire community by this collaboration with local public health and hospitals in Colorado; it is more advanced than most of the nation. Public Health Director Zayach acknowledged the work of BCPH Health Planning and Evaluation Manager Namino Glantz and her team in this effort.
- 3) Meeting resource needs with new FTE: County funding was more limited than initially thought. Staff will present more information at the 2017 proposed budget study session on June 27. Mr. Zayach said more will need to be done to allow for short-term FTE needs because there isn't sufficient long-term funding for new FTE.

- 4) Continuing to build infrastructure in Longmont, Lafayette, and Boulder. The completed remodel and expansion project at The Hub in Longmont was very successful. BCPH programs in Lafayette are currently being co-located at Clinica Campesina, which has agreed to provide reception duties on behalf of BCPH. The County is beginning its assessment in Boulder to identify mid-term solutions to provide a bridge for a long-term space solution.

Mr. Zayach said plans were in place for workforce development and health equity, and a workforce development plan was written and resourced for 2016. BCPH partnered with Boulder County to add two trainings in the County's training program, and staff has also partnered with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Health Equity Office.

Significant progress has been made in health assessment and prioritization. The BCPH Strategic Initiatives Branch (SIB) was expanded to include a biostatistician and health planning evaluation specialist. The focus will be health systems and policy, and SIB is currently evaluating strategic frameworks, completing hospital assessments, and assessing BCPH Health Communications and Information Technology needs as part of its work in evaluating strategic frameworks. An environmental health assessment was also underway, and SIB was improving BCPH's strategic planning cycle to more effectively connect the agency's operational (op) plans, strategic plan, and annual report.

Health Planning and Evaluation Specialist Megan Noel said she was working with programs to simplify plans, with a focus on strategy and evaluation. Staff is beginning to connect the strategic plan, strategic priorities, and budget; the next step will be working to establish program profiles, then completing program work plans and evaluation plans, ending up with the annual report. She said the next strategic planning cycle will begin in 2018.

Regarding op plans, Ms. Noel said she'll be working with BCPH programs to draft a one-page profile to link program work to outputs and the strategic plan. Ideally, all plans will link directly to the strategic plan, whether they're program profiles, program work plans, program evaluation plans, strategic priorities, budgeting, or the annual report. The program profile will link program work to outputs and strategic plan by helping programs prioritize their work into key components. This will make their op plans easier to read, more strategic, and will show staff how to roll them into objectives at the health equity level. It will also shift the focus from cost centers to health initiatives. This new format, which will start in 2017, will be reflected in the next annual report.

Mr. Zayach said prioritization and resources were still needed, and workload was still an agency concern and focus. He said there will be more effort to remain clearly focused on areas with greatest impact on the community rather than trying to "take on everything." An employee survey conducted last year by Boulder County identified workload as an issue at BCPH. A subsequent assessment was conducted internally by BCPH to determine what "workload" meant to staff and what must be done to address it.

Identifying sustainable funding was a priority, as resources expansion was required for new work being done. It'll be important for the agency to identify its role and areas of greatest impact. An example of identifying new funding was Director of Health Division Heath Harmon's work on the marijuana tax, which has turned into a solid funding source for BCPH. Staff will continue to evaluate if changes should be made internally to structure funding and to identify other funding opportunities that are "outside the box" and to collaborate with other county departments and community partners on joint funding opportunities and aligning together on high-impact areas.

President Thomas said a challenge for the agency will be continuing its work while also addressing

emerging needs. He said he was glad to hear that workload is being addressed, and he congratulated staff on a job well done.

Mr. Zayach said it was important to acknowledge that funding was limited. Management Team will continue to address identified issues, focusing on the areas where BCPH should invest to help guide the agency into the future.

Dr. Glantz said her team was evaluating the various timelines (national, state, agency, etc.) for work and where and how planning and evaluation should overlap. The overall assessment conducted by staff will be evaluated with other assessments being conducted to help lay the foundation for getting work done. She said it'll be important to align both locally and regionally with hospitals, PHIP, etc. to strategically use BCPH funding and staffing. She thanked the Board of Health for its support of the Strategic Initiatives Branch.

Vice President Misch asked why the number of Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) clients was declining locally and nationally. Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon said that was mainly due to declining fertility rates and a positive decline in teen pregnancies, although that has also resulted in decreased funding. Mr. Zayach said Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and WIC work closely together because there is a lot of overlap in their work. He said Family Health Division Manager Heather Matthews was working with State WIC to help improve service delivery. Mr. Harmon noted there weren't many models nationally that were delivering WIC services more innovatively and improving efficiencies than in Boulder County.

The Board commended the Vital Records Program for receiving a perfect audit score from the State of Colorado and thanked staff for the strategic plan update and annual report presentation.

ITEM 5. Director's Report.

Board Member Jaquez-Lewis asked if other counties were doing work to fight against consumption of sugary beverages. Mr. Zayach said Health Systems and Policy Planner Summer Laws was working closely with the Healthy Beverage Coalition and others, including the local chamber of commerce, to share information about sugary beverages. He noted there was an effort to place this issue on the ballot, so it was encouraging to see support throughout the state on this issue.

Board Member Bermudez asked about the four communicable disease outbreaks in schools mentioned in the director's report. She was told the outbreaks were most likely pertussis and were probably close contacts but not within the same families.

ITEM 6. Old and New Business/Announcements.

A. Discussion on Tabled Consent Agenda Items (if any).

None.

B. Old and New Business.

Board Members Jaquez-Lewis and DeSantiago said they cannot attend the June 27 budget study session. Staff said they would check the possibility of rescheduling to July 5. If that isn't possible, Director of Administrative Services Stephanie Martz could provide updates to Board Members Jaquez-Lewis and DeSantiago prior to formal adoption of the budget at the July 11 Board of Health meeting.

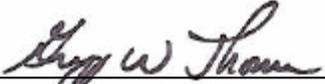
President Thomas asked for an update on the indoor air quality issue at Casey Middle School last year. Mr. Zayach said that issue has been resolved and acknowledged the collaboration of BCPH, CDPHE, and BVSD to educate the public and remedy the situation.

C. Announcements.

Mr. Zayach asked if any board members were interested in attending the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCCCHO) July 19-21 in Phoenix, although none were available.

ITEM 7. Adjournment.

There being nothing further to discuss, President Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.



Gregg Thomas, President



Jeffrey J. Zayach, Public Health Director