

**DeKalb County Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2013
3:00 p.m.
Bohan Auditorium**

Board Members Present

Arlene Parker Goldson, Chair
Jacqueline Davis, Vice Chair
Daniel Salinas, M.D., Parliamentarian
Kendra March
The Honorable Jeff Rader

Board Member Absent

The Honorable Donna Pittman

Staff and Guests Present

S. Elizabeth Ford, M.D., M.B.A., Health Director
Tesi Gillispie
Dianne McWethy
Thomas Maney
Beth Ruddiman
Tori Cheney
Retha Williams
Kassie Bennett
Alicia Cardwell Alston
Wanda Reese
Dwayne Turner, D.D.S.
Mia Young
Jotonna Tulloch
Patricia Joseph

Staff and Guests Present

Sandra Piñeyro, Executive Assistant
Sherimar Boyd
Carlean M. Jones
Bernard Hicks
Brandi J. Whitney
Teresa Edwards
Don Brundage
Alexandra Davis
Katrina Green
Hanna Demeke
Ryan Cira
Les J. Richmond, M.D., M.B.A.
Juanette Willis
Sentayehu Bedane, M.D.

The regular meeting of the DeKalb County Board of Health was called to order by Chair Goldson at 3:05 p.m. Chair Goldson welcomed everyone to the first 2013 Board of Directors meeting and reviewed the meeting agenda items.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Goldson moved for approval of the November 15, 2012, Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Election of 2013 Board of Health Officers

After a brief discussion, Board member Rader moved to reappoint Arlene Parker Goldson as Chair and Jacqueline Davis as Vice Chair. Board member Dr. Salinas was nominated Board Parliamentarian. All members present were in favor.

Appointment of 2013 Board of Health Budget Committee

Vice Chair Davis and Board member Rader volunteered to be members of the Budget Committee. Chair Goldson and Dr. Ford are ex-officio members.

Director's Board Report

Dr. Ford wished everyone a Happy New Year. She stated that 2012 was a very difficult, with many budget cuts. She further stated that the Board of Health has a lot of plans for 2013 and asked staff to continue their support during these difficult times.

Dr. Ford thanked the staff for their generous giving to the Tree of Love Foundation. The Board of Health adopted a total of 25 children. Staff went above and beyond what was expected. This is the third year that the Board of Health has participated. This year, because of the economic situation, it was sad that the children did not ask for toys, video games, etc. The children asked for socks, underwear, bed sheets, etc. Your generosity allowed them to meet their needs.

Office of Emergency Preparedness

The office is preparing for the City Readiness Initiative/Strategic National Stockpile Technical Assistance Review scheduled for March. Dr. Salinas asked if we hold internal audits to keep us ready. Dr. Ford answered that we conduct emergency preparedness drills on a consistent basis.

Marketing and Business Development Division

The flu campaign continues, including a referral promotion for OB/GYNs and a campaign to reach DeKalb County's vulnerable populations. The division prepared materials for a teen driving campaign, continued to work on the public health accreditation effort and reviewed grant announcements. It continues working on the DeKalb Medical Community Health Assessment Report, roll out of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and the Youth Risk Behavior Survey reports, and the "Picture DeKalb Healthy: Let's Move, DeKalb Seniors!" event to be held in March.

Administration Division

Finance

The annual Board of Health audit has been completed and submitted to the Georgia Department of Public Health. The proposed county budget has been completed and submitted to the Board of Commissioners, reflecting a three percent reduction.

Human Resources

The department received a total of 100 personnel action requests.

Policy and Procedures Committee

The committee approved the Leave of Absence Without Pay policy.

Wellness Initiative

The Wellness Committee created an interest and utilization survey. They also coordinated and conducted the Board of Health's annual health fair. A zumba session was attended by 25 employees and a three-week health and wellness challenge was conducted, which included eliminating soft drinks and fried foods and adding 20 minutes of exercise a day. The program collaborated with the Georgia Department of Community Health to offer onsite biometric health screenings and a six-week, onsite yoga class.

Information Technology (IT)

IT completed the installation of the Mitel telephone system. The Ultipro Web portal that will provide employees online access to their personnel information is complete and ready for implementation.

Facilities

The office processed 92 work orders, of which 43 were sent to the county's Facilities Management office. The Board of Health received approval from the state on the janitorial contract which began service on January 2. The new contract for courier services for laboratory specimens and pharmaceutical deliveries began in January.

Purchasing

The office processed 308 purchase orders.

Contracts

The office processed 82 contracts and/or agreements.

Vital Records

During November and December, 5,508 death certificates and 1,776 birth certificates were issued.

Environmental Health Division

During 2012, 25 staff members conducted 6,917 inspection/enforcement activities and 2,524 complaint investigations. The division provided 22 Rollins School of Public Health students from Emory University with project development opportunities. There was one restaurant closure as a result of receiving two consecutive "U" grades.

CHAPS Division

Ryan White Early Care Clinic (RWECC)

RWECC provided care for 573 unduplicated clients through 2,991 clinic visits. Of these, 70 were new clients. The services included primary care, mental health and substance abuse counseling, health education/risk reduction education, psychosocial support and case management. RWECC submitted an application for a continuation grant in the amount of \$456,073. Dr. Ford announced Dr. Nancy Koughan's retirement and stated that she will be missed.

Tuberculosis (TB) Program

Contact investigations were conducted at four sites (three businesses and one college). A total of 184 individuals received TB skin testing. Of those, 38 were positive. The program is preparing to conduct investigations at two additional businesses, a nursing home and another college. The TB issues continue to drain Board of Health resources. There is a national shortage of Rifampin and INH, which are critical TB medications. However, the Board of Health pharmacist confirmed that we have an adequate supply.

Refugee Health

The program has treated 403 newly-arrived refugees. To accommodate them, the program increased the health screening days from two days per week to three days per week in order to meet the prescribed deadline of seeing them within 30 days of arrival.

The Refugee Pediatric Clinic provided 120 health checks and 191 sick care and follow-up services for 311 children.

Sexually Transmitted Disease/HIV Prevention Outreach

The outreach team partnered with the DeKalb Addiction Clinic to offer free HIV testing. Eighteen individuals were tested with 0 positives. There were 220 condoms distributed. They also offered free rapid HIV testing to the public at the Vinson Health Center, where 24 individuals tested with 0 positives. There were 300 condoms distributed.

The Board participated in a health fair at Agnes Scott College where ten HIV tests were conducted with 0 positives. Two hundred condoms were distributed.

Dental Health Services

The program conducted approximately 4,420 dental screenings and 5,633 oral health presentations. There were 130 children who participated in the sealant clinic at Avondale Elementary School.

Adolescent Health & Youth Development (AHYD)

AHYD conducted two professional development trainings: "What Works" and "Getting the Most Out of Your Afterschool Program." Six youth-serving organizations attended, for a total of 27 participants. A parent and teen café event was held in recognition of the Let's Talk Month campaign. The campaign encourages caregivers to talk to their children about sexual health.

Babies Can't Wait (BCW) Program

The program is serving 489 special needs children. Due to budget cuts at the state level, BCW laid off seven full-time employees. The program continues to receive an increase in referrals.

Children's Medical Services (CMS)

CMS has a total of 299 active clients.

Mothers Offering Resources and Education (MORE) Program

The program has a caseload of 105 clients. The program has begun classes for pregnant young women of the Little Debbie Group Homes.

Immunization Program

The 2012 assessment activities ended with 276 childcare facilities being assessed, totaling 17,655 immunization records.

Woman, Infants and Children (WIC)

The program served a caseload of 27,433 participants.

Health Centers

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening program at Clifton Springs Health Center exceeded the expected number of women ages 50-64 that were screened the first half of the fiscal year. The expectation of 150 women screened was exceeded by 18 women. Through the Apples for Teachers program, health center staff vaccinated 22 school staff members with the flu, Hepatitis A and B, and Tdap vaccines at two elementary schools. In addition, health center nurses vaccinated 208 students onsite at the Georgia Institute of Technology with the HPV vaccine.

East DeKalb Health Center had six heating units replaced. North DeKalb Health Center administered 2,710 flu vaccines. Vinson Health Center administered 151 flu vaccines to the general public and 217 flu vaccines to DeKalb County and Decatur school students through the school flu-based program. The center also administered 36 Hepatitis A and B vaccines at area businesses.

Health Assessment and Promotion

Communities Putting Prevention to Work/Obesity Prevention

The obesity team participated in the Atlanta Local Food Initiative summit at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens to discuss the plans for the Atlanta metro food system. They completed Safe Routes to School walking audits at four elementary schools. Close-out site visits for the sponsored farmers markets were completed.

The obesity staff is working on the final edits of the Let's Move DeKalb! dancercise video. The "Picture DeKalb Healthy" ad began airing the last week of December on CBS Atlanta. The ad will run on MARTA from January through March. Print and radio ads will run from January through March.

Focus groups were conducted with middle and high school students to gather feedback on the upcoming PHIT Magazine and its Web site.

Office of Epidemiology and Statistics

The office completed the DeKalb Medical 2013 Community Health Assessment Report. A stakeholders meeting took place January 16.

Injury Prevention

Injury Prevention hosted two child passenger safety classes and a booster seat education program and seat distribution. Students at Mary McLeod Bethune Middle School received information about the effects of alcohol and marijuana. Safe Communities and the Board of Health celebrated and promoted Drive Safely to Work Week.

Live Healthy DeKalb (LHD) Coalition

LHD held its initial 10-year anniversary celebration of collaboration and partnerships. The celebrations will culminate with an April showcase.

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Live Healthy DeKalb (LHD), cont'd.

LHD's Go Green Action Group has recruited nearly 50 families to go green in the new year. The families are committing to recycling and/or to becoming smoke-free households. The goal is to sign up 100 families by the end of April 2013.

Strategic Alliance for Health (SAH) – No-Cost Extension

The Clarkston Active Living plan has been printed and distributed to the Clarkston Active Living committee. The Doraville Active Living Plan is complete and will be ready for release by the end of this month.

Four joint use agreements are in place with the DeKalb County School District.

SAH's success stories are to be included in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's national program success book.

Announcements

Emergency Preparedness welcomes Alexandra Davis, M.P.H., as risk communicator. Ms. Davis is a graduate of the University of Alabama.

Human Resources issued ten faithful service awards for Board of Health employees. One employee received their 15-year service award, four employees received their 10-year service awards and five employees received their 5-year service awards.

The Live Healthy DeKalb Coalition meets the first Wednesday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., in the Bohan Auditorium.

Vinson Health Center wishes Fay Bishop, RN, the best in her retirement after 27 years of service.

North Health Center welcomes Tiffany Barnes as Office Supervisor and Kimberly Knight as Public Health Nurse.

Jessica Grippo, Epidemiologist, has been nominated and selected as the 2013 president-elect of the Atlanta chapter of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology.

The Office of Epidemiology and Statistics welcomes Tory Cheney as the new Public Health Nurse Specialist.

Financial Status Report

Please see attached memorandum. Ms. McWethy informed the Board about the catastrophic budget cuts in the Babies Can't Wait program. However, operationally the Board is doing well. She further stated that the refugee program is also doing well.

Public Health Accreditation Presentation

Dr. Ford thanked Vickie Elisa for taking the leadership on the accreditation process. We are thankful that we have the opportunity to pursue accreditation with financial assistance. Out of this process, we will be getting a reasonable benchmark for a community that has limited resources. Dr. Ford said that she sees the enthusiasm and feels that DeKalb has the best chance of getting accredited because we are a single-county district with an engaged Board of Directors. A lot of what is needed has already been done.

Dr. Salinas thanked the team for their great work. He said accreditation validates the work that an entity is doing and helps you look for gaps. It tells the story.

The timeline is very aggressive. The Board thanked the staff for stepping up and being courageous to go after this accreditation.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Board Comments

Chair Goldson said that accreditation is a great process and asked the Board members to make themselves available.

Adjournment

Board member Dr. Salinas moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:20 p.m. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Piñeyro
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

Arlene Parker Goldson, Chair
Jacqueline Davis, Vice Chair
Daniel Salinas, M.D., Parliamentarian