

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, April 28, 2009, 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The Board of Health held its monthly meeting on April 28, 2009 in the Jennifer K. Putman Meeting Room at the Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington, Urbana. The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m. by Julian Rappaport. Board members Stan James, John Peterson, Bobbi Scholze and Julian Rappaport were present at the time of roll call. Absent Board members were Brenda Anderson, Prashanth Gowda, Nezar Kassem, Cheryll Ramirez, and Betty Segal. The staff members present were Kat Bork (Board of Health Secretary) and Susan McGrath (Senior Assistant State's Attorney). Also present were Nancy Greenwalt (Smile Healthy Executive Director), Darlene Kloepfel (Regional Planning Commission Social Services Director), Julie Pryde (CUPHD Administrator), and Cherylanda Trice (Crisis Nursery).

Rappaport noted with only four members present the Board of Health (BOH) did not have a quorum and could not conduct any business. McGrath stated the Board could collect information, but not take any action.

Approval of Agenda/Addendum

No action could be taken to approve the agenda due to the lack of a quorum.

Public Participation on Agenda Items Only

There was no public participation.

Correspondence and Communications

There was no correspondence or communications.

Collaboration with the Mental Health Board

Issues Regarding Crisis Nursery Perinatal Depression Program (Segal)

There were no issues raised because Segal was not present.

Quarterly Report from Crisis Nursery

Cherylanda Trice was present to answer questions about the report. Rappaport inquired how Crisis Nursery will address the transportation issues they are seeing. Trice explained they are setting aside funds to give gas cards to mothers who attend groups. This will be an incentive to hopefully encourage more attendance at the groups. Rappaport liked that idea and noted transportation is a problem for all public health services. There have been discussions about how a regional transportation system is needed. Trice has contacted agencies who provide transportation to the cities and learned the cost was relatively pricey for the families served by Crisis Nursery. She reported the program is on track with referrals. The goal is 25 families and

they have 22 families so far. Crisis Nursery continues to struggle with getting the families initially engaged in the parent/child interaction groups. They are doing more home visits to work on engagement. A group has been started at Crisis Nursery in order to get families in the door. They more comfortable the families are with the nursery, the greater the likelihood that they might utilize the respite care. Rappaport asked if the respite care involving sending a childcare worker to the parents' homes. Trice said they do not use home visits for respite care. The nursery does try to help parents identify a support network.

Senior Wellness Program

Issues Regarding RPC Senior Wellness Program (Scholze)

All issues were discussed in conjunction with the quarterly report.

Quarterly Report from the Regional Planning Commission

Kloeppel distributed a document about the portion of the services that are the value added piece because Board members have asked for this to be enumerated. She said it was difficult to separate out what further services RPC Senior Services provides with the BOH's money beyond their normal services because RPC is trying to leverage what they currently do into additional services. She listed some of other agencies who give funding to RPC Senior Services, including ECIAA, the Champaign County Mental Health Board, the Masons, and the Community Services Block Grant. Carle Hospital gives funding for a transportation program. Each of the funders requires that RPC perform certain activities for the money it provides. Kloeppel stated the services build on each other and she has a difficult time sorting out what funding pays for specific services. The BOH money is supposed to be providing for home visits and assessment/advocacy for rural seniors. The Senior Services staff has realized over last few years that information and referral in the strict sense is basically a senior calling or walking into the Senior Services Office to ask for information. The Senior Services staff spends 10 to 30 minutes with the senior providing information. Kloeppel indicated the information and referral business has morphed into staff having to spend a lot of time with seniors because asking one question connects to other issues in the senior's life. About 2 years ago, Senior Services began doing short-term case management that was funded by the Community Service Block Grant. Not every client receives case management services, but as financial stresses become tighter and the public learns more about available services through the Senior Services Office, the office fields more phone calls from people. Some seniors are contacting the Senior Service Office because if they are not in the hospital or involved with a home health agency, then they do not have a social worker and they need geriatric case management. Some people in the community have tried to provide geriatric case management privately, but they have not stayed in business very long because the seniors asking for the service cannot afford to pay for it. Kloeppel stated there are a lot of seniors and people with chronic illnesses who just need to consult with a professional about available services.

James has worked with elderly tenants and thinks it is better for everyone if a person can stay in their own home instead of going to a nursing home. He wanted to be certain the program was helping people, not just passing out forms. He appreciated what is being done as a starting point.

Kloeppel said Senior Services would not be able to make very many home visits in the rural parts of Champaign County, perform some data collection, or build the network of gatekeepers without BOH funding. Without the \$50,000 from the BOH, Senior Service would have to lay off a staff person, so they would not be able to handle as many applications or information/referral calls. James asked if RPC was funding the Rural Rider Program. Kloeppel said they receive a grant from Carle to fund transportation. James suggested RPC and other groups work together to pool their resources to provide transportation effectively without levying additional taxes. Kloeppel explained that each agency providing funds to the Senior Services Office has a targeted population they want the office to address. Almost every funding agency wants the office to work with low income people. She does not separate out the BOH money to specifically go towards funding certain activities. Rappaport asked if zero home visits would be made without the BOH money. Kloeppel stated some home visits would be taking place without the BOH funding. Compared to Kloeppel's baseline numbers, Senior Services has seen 12 more rural people in this quarter. She stated the office had seen more people because they have another staff person.

Scholze was trying to get a clear picture of what activities the Senior Services Office would normally have done before the BOH funding. James said he wanted to see if the money was really helping and quantifying help to a client is complicated. Kloeppel added that she does collect satisfaction surveys once a year. The survey allows clients to give feedback on the help they received. She stated the funding her office receives from ECIAAA and the Mental Health Board has not increased in 10 years, while personnel and overhead costs have gone up. Rappaport requested an update on the project to identify and implement community gatekeepers. Kloeppel said her staff is making specific contacts in communities, such as pharmacists, when they go out to refer clients to Senior Services. James has seen many people who are uninformed about the available services, so finding a way to better inform the public would be very beneficial. Scholze noted as the gatekeeper network builds the office might see more referrals or services provided. Kloeppel mentioned her office gets a lot of referrals from the Supervisor of Assessments' Office because seniors visit there to file for property tax exemptions.

Approval of FY2009 Contract

No action could be taken due to the lack of a quorum.

Issues Regarding Smile Healthy (Kassem)

Greenwalt heard at the Friday transportation meeting that RPC was short 500 surveys of the required number they need to complete to move onto the next step for funding. Trice said she received the link to the survey yesterday to assist in filling out the surveys. Greenwalt has contacted all of the families who use Smile Healthy's services to encourage them to complete the survey. This might be a good way to fund a regional transportation program. Greenwalt stated there was no monthly report from Smile Healthy because they are behind on data entry. Because Medicaid is not paying Smile Healthy, she cannot afford the staff to keep up with the administrative tasks, but she plans to catch up next month. She plugged the Last Chance Dental Clinic, which provides the school-required dental exams. They added another day because there have been so many requests for exams.

Treasurer's Report

Approval of CUPHD Invoice for February 2009

No action could be taken due to the lack of a quorum.

Issues Regarding CUPHD

Report from CUPHD Administrator

Pryde provided an update on the swine flu epidemic. She called leadership team together to plan for a pandemic and they were ready when a public health emergency was declared. CUPHD decided to call together the regional emergency coordination group, which met on Monday morning. As of last night, the World Health Organization raised the U.S. to Pandemic Level 4, which she described for the Board's benefit. She explained the country is in the early stages of a pandemic, the virus in the U.S. is very mild, and it is no really different than the seasonal flu but the virus can mutate. In Mexico, 152 people have died and the number of infected is unknown. Only 104 cases have been confirmed worldwide with 64 confirmed cases in the U.S. The closest case to Champaign County is in Indiana. Peterson asked if emergency rooms should notify CUPHD if they have a suspected case of the swine flu. Pryde agreed they should notify CUPHD and perform a flu swab. Peterson noted the ERs do not have a bedside test for swine flu. Pryde added the confirmation of test results can take a week, so more cases are likely to be reported. The concern about Mexican swine flu cases stems from the fact that young adults are dying, which is unusual. Peterson remarked this age range is typically the healthiest population. Pryde recalled the last pandemic was the Hong Kong flu in 1968. Champaign County public health has been preparing for a pandemic for years and a lot of places, such as shelters and service providers, are ready to house infected people for 2 weeks. Pryde said there is more intergovernmental cooperation in Champaign County than she has ever heard of. CUPHD has done staff training and adjusted its staff internally to address calls on the swine flu. Further, they have done a lot of communication with the Spanish-speaking community about the flu and encouraged sick people to come in and be tested. A directive has been issued that any staff person with a fever should not report to work. Pryde will continue to email the BOH updates and recommended they keep checking the CUPHD website for more bulletins. Internally, CUPHD is preparing to receive shipments from the strategic national stockpile. Scholze asked if there was any problem with getting the medicine. Pryde said it depends on who you are. The national stockpile will be distributed at some point to hospitals for their staff and to CUPHD for the first responders. They checked today and there is no shortage of medicine in Champaign County. The Board discussed the swine flu and the various media reports concerning it. Pryde asked for people to contact CUPHD with any rumors, so the agency can do research and debunk them on its website. The BOH discussed the type of influenza virus and the treatment. Pryde reiterated any questions or concerns should be directed to CUPHD, as they have been in training for just such a situation for years. Rappaport said it would be useful for the media to post some direction about when a person should seek medical attention versus when someone should stay home. Peterson advised patients with the flu to stay home and only seek medical help if they cannot maintain their fluid intake.

Division Monthly Reports

No action could be taken t due to the lack of a quorum.

Other Business

Election of Officers

No action could be taken t due to the lack of a quorum.

Budget Study Session on May 12, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

The Board would hold a study session about the budget on May 12th. A special meeting will be held first to approval the Senior Wellness Program contract renewal and the CUPHD invoice that could not be approved tonight and then the Board will proceed directly into the study session.

Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items Only

There was no public participation on any non-agenda items.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork
Board of Health Secretary

Secy's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.