

**Children's Environmental Health Working Group
Collaborative on Health and the Environment- WA (CHE-WA)**

Meeting Notes

Thursday, December 8, 2011 9:30-11:30

Hosted by

Host: Aileen Gagney, American Lung Association (ALA) of Washington

Our **mission** is to work collaboratively with diverse groups to eliminate children's harmful environmental exposures in the Puget Sound region and beyond during their most critical developmental years: pre-conception to age 8.

Attendees: Aileen Gagney, Gail Gensler, Margo Young, Lauren Jenks, Barbara Ross, Gretchen Stewart, Ada Otter, Nicole Thomsen, Rachel Koller, Erin Mader, Julia Singer, Michelle Gaither, Dennis Weaver, Sandy Zeimer, Nancy Bernard. By phone: Aimee Boulanger, Carolyn Gleason

9:30-10:30 am

Welcome from Aileen at American Lung Association

AG announced that ALA lost Clearcorps funding, so they will be moving out of current facility, saying good-bye to Clearcorps employees, and otherwise cutting staff and services, including MHE training. They have funding to contract out and will be working with ECOSS to deliver services to homes, in 5 different languages.

Several attendees asked questions about the loss of funding and expressed interest in trying to find potential new sources.

Sub-Group Report-outs:

1. Medical Providers outreach – Gail Gensler

The goal is to try to share children's environmental health knowledge with medical providers via training and other communication. The subgroup was trying to work with the WA DOH Medical Home (MH) program to do this. However, this is a quiet period for MH, so MH suggested we work with the Great Minds program instead. Toni Nunes (AAP), who is on our CHE sub-group, is also already working with GM, so the next step is for her to talk with GM about how we can help. Toni told Gail that one way CHE could contribute to the GM program is to provide them with evidence-based recommendations re: how to prevent toxic exposures to children, and how to build that into developmental screenings. Toni will get back to us.

Sandy – pediatrician at the Everett Clinic is interested in this program.

Ada will check with PEHSU regarding training or speaking requests for medical providers.

2. UW Children's Health Research Symposium, Tuesday, February 28th, 2012. (Margo Young, EPA)

- Mark your calendar. CHE-WA might be asked to help sponsor this event and help cover some costs of food.
- UW also wants to launch a webinar series on children's health research following the February event.

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3. CHE-WA's November Children's Environmental Health Forum (Gretchen Stewart, EPA) Many at this monthly meeting, who also attended the symposium, RAVED about the day, the energy around the topics, speakers, and small group sessions, etc. Several asked if this might be an annual event. Over 110 attended the event.

Gretchen said she would be sending out the results. (They are now posted at <http://www.chenw.org/CEHforum2011.html>). This did bring up short discussion on available monies. The working group has around \$2000 left (revenue from 2009 forum) in an account kept through/via INND/Steve Gilbert.

The future of this type of event (?) and the group's \$2000 will be added to the January meeting agenda.

Activities:

Improving Children's Health through Federal Collaboration Webinars: Organized by EPA Region 8, and the Health Resources and Services Administration, Region 8, in collaboration with other Federal partners. See <http://www.epa.gov/region8/humanhealth/children/webinars.html>.

- January 12, 2012 Coordinated School Health: Clean, Green and Healthy Schools
- February 9, 2012 Obesity Prevention
- March 8, 2012 Affordable Care Act
- April 12, 2012 Communities Working Together for Better Health
- May 10, 2012 Successful Asthma Management
- June 14, 2012 Healthy Homes
- July No Webinar This Month
- August 9, 2012 Children's Environmental Health Research 2nd Thursday of every month from 1PM to 2:30PM PT, beginning November 10
- September 13, 2012 National Children Study

Member Report-outs:

Aileen Gagney (See above)

Lauren Jenks (WA DOH) –

- Intro meeting for stakeholders on 12/14 for her CDC Healthy Homes grant
- They are working to put the revised DOH Lead Card back into *Child Profile*
- Doing a substantial revision of their Healthy Homes brochure, which will be translated (Funded by Mattel AG grant).

Ada Otter (PEHSU)

- Individual case consultation
- Helping (?) with the research symposium on 2/28

Erin Mader (EPA)

- AK collaborative at the AK Forum on the Environment
- Personally – Erin is moving to Office of Air, Waste & Toxics
- Tribal Air Quality

Rachel Koller

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- Washington Toxics (WTC) received a Mattel AG grant, so Rachel will be contracting with WTC to develop or update educational materials, possibly *Home Safe Home* sheets, and updating older tip sheets already available from WTC.

Michelle Gaither (Pollution Prevention Resource Center)

- FYI – (Not working directly on this) Good Guide App – allows you to scan product barcodes at home/stores, to get the good guide rating on that product. (Unsure how in depth the GoodGuide's toxics analysis/data is compared to Environmental Working Group's SkinDeep)
- FYI – (Not working directly on) Washington Green School certification – added a new certification for Healthy School Buildings - <http://wagreenschools.org/37/Toxics+Reduction+&+Indoor+Air+Quality.html>
- Update on Auspen (truly low odor, and refillable) white board markers at schools. Must purchase these online - <http://www.ecosmartworld.com/>. Prices have come way down – almost competitive with conventional.

Dennis Weaver (Change Your Food, Change Your Life)

- Food truck

Sandy Ziemer

- Showed copy of folded brochure on children's toxics concerns in homes – “Prevent Kids from Toxics”. Available from <http://here.doh.wa.gov/materials/protect-kids-from-toxics>

Barbara Ross (EPA)

- They have purchased a new XRF device and will be working with health department on lead risk assessment.

Julia Singer (Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County – LHWMP)

- The online map showing Pesticide Free Spaces in King County covers about 200,000 acres of public land. Working on/goal is to represent all 200,000 acres on a map. There is some possibility of convening hospitals, schools, etc. to work collectively on the goal to reduce the use of pesticides.

Nicole Thomsen (Seattle & King County Public Health)

- Working with Lauren on WA DOH's CDC Healthy Homes grant
- Working on a pilot project with City of Seattle DPD to develop a checklist for use in Seattle on rental housing inspections.
- Show & tell (at end of Aileen's presentation): One sample of Costco vitamins, tested from the home of a child with high blood levels, tested positive for lead.

Gretchen Stewart (EPA)

- In interest of time, Gretchen just mentioned Green Ribbon Schools and that she'd be sending info out to the listserv.

Gail Gensler (LHWMP)

- Offering KC trainings on Eco-Healthy Childcare (self-certification program) to childcares. LHWMP is also doing site consultations.
- Seeking names of childcares in King County that might be interested in trainings, and resources and referrals.

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- King County Child Care Resources' STARS trainings are on hold due to budget cuts – so she is also seeking other avenues to offer trainings.
- A 2012 project: working on a data gathering report –to compile non-demographic information about King County pregnant women and moms of young children , e.g., what topics are of interest to them, where do they go for info, etc...

Phone participants

- Aimee Boulanger, CHE-WA
- Carolyn Gleason, Child Maternal Health, Health and Human Services

Presentation: Aileen Gagney, American Lung Association, presented on *Healthy Homes*:
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/children/Training/HealthyHomes.pdf>

Specific topics/Issues:

- Mold/moisture
- Consumer products (including show and tell)
- Dust and dust mites
- Air flow
- Lead
- Etc.