



Environmental Health Services

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DEHS Director Meeting: 06/02/2011 Next quarterly conference call is scheduled for September 1, 2011 at 1:00 PM Eastern Time.

These abbreviated minutes will be put on the DEHS website under the "Conference Call Minutes" section of "Documents".

Aberdeen:	Not on Call	Nashville:	Kit Grosch
Albuquerque:	Leisa Cook	Navajo:	Sandra Mastandrea, Steve Breithaupt
Alaska:	Denman Ondelacy, Jeff Smith	Oklahoma:	Harold Cully
Bemidji:	Diana Kuklinski, Casey Crump	Phoenix:	Kenny Hicks
Billings:	Not on Call	Portland:	Not on Call
California:	Gordon Tsatoke	Tucson:	Mark Pike

Environmental Health Support Center: Ron Zabrocki

Rockville: Kelly Taylor, Susan McCracken, Darren Buchanan, Dave McMahon, Nancy Bill, Jessica Schwarz

1. DEHS Directors/Injury Prevention Meeting: Kelly

- a. The general feedback from the group is that March 2012 is the best time for the next face-to-face DEHS Director's meeting. It will be held here in Rockville, MD. Please send Susan dates that do not work for you in March of 2012 as soon as possible.

2. Performance Measures: Kelly

- a. Though the GPRA measures are no longer in effect, performance measures are still being used. The 2011 measures are still in effect and are tied to the budget requests for the year by an "output table". Please continue to monitor your progress on the performance measures so that we can report on them at the end of the year.
- b. The 2011- 2013 performance measures were used in the 2013 budget justification. Please find the attached document with details, descriptions and outlined projected activities as well as timelines related to these performance measures for food safety and seat belt interventions.
- c. Food safety measures were the most popular environmental surveillance measures picked by the areas over the past three years. For 2011, each area needs to pick one target population (by facility type or violation or something of your choosing). Kelly would like each area to come up with a baseline percentage of risk based violations that occur (items 1-27 on current food survey form). In the next few years interventions will be conducted (2012) interim measures will be taken (2013) and then a final measure will be taken in 2014 to be compared to your baseline measure. At that point we hope to share best practices and success stories.
- d. The 2011 Injury Intervention performance measure is targeting the TIPCAP sites focusing on increasing seatbelt use rates. Nancy will identify which cooperative agreements those are and will work with the coordinators and project managers on



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those measurements. They will discuss this when they meet at the end of June for the national meeting here in Rockville. The injury intervention measures use an approach similar to the food safety measures.

3. **Canadian Staff Exchange: Kelly**

- a. There were 5 applications from Canadian EHOs to participate in the IHS/First Nations Inuit Health Branch staff exchange; 2 were selected.
- b. Kelly is reviewing their applications to determine placement. California and Alaska have expressed interest in being host sites. Anyone else who would like to volunteer to host should get in touch with Kelly as soon as possible. Sites would be expected to start hosting in the late fall or early 2012.
- c. Applications for our staff to be sent to Canada are due to Susan by June 24th.

4. **Mid-Level Managers Meeting: Kelly**

- a. Kelly wanted to know if there was interest in planning a district managers meeting for 2012. This meeting would be a way to engage other than senior management (“mid-level managers” for want of a better word) in program planning and direction. The SFC engineers have had success in holding similar meetings, and Kelly is wondering if our staff are also interested in doing this. This would be a meeting, NOT a training course. The idea would be to have the agenda developed by district staff so it would address their needs.
- b. By the end of the call, it did not appear the Directors wanted to commit to sending staff to this meeting without first seeing an agenda. If district staff want to volunteer to develop an agenda, we will revisit the issue at a later date.

5. **Commercial Off the Shelf Web Environmental Health Reporting System (COTS WebEHRS) Update: Darren**

- a. The team is in the process of cleaning up and refining the requirements for the development team.
- b. CDP has started some development and mock ups.
- c. User acceptance and Beta testing should occur mid August. In addition the project schedule should be out soon and will help us identify sites for training users. Stay tuned for more details.

6. **Institutional Environmental Health (IEH) Updates: Dave**

- a. The IEH National Meeting was held in Portland June 19-21. Thank you to Celeste Davis, Matt Ellis, Ron Zabrocki, Stefanie Pecos-Duarte, Brian Hroch, Tim Duffy and Keith Cook for all of their assistance in making it a great meeting.
- b. A meeting summary will be sent out to the directors soon. Nine of the twelve areas were represented at the meeting.
- c. The group was tasked with continuing to challenge and further the practice of IEH.
- d. From that tasking the group looked at radiation survey practices. Ricardo Murga and Keith Cook are coordinating a meeting in Phoenix next month to focus on modification of survey practices and instrumentation.

7. **Injury Prevention (IP) Updates: Nancy**

- a. The TIPCAP meetings and workshop are rescheduled for June 28th-30th here in Rockville, MD. There will be an orientation meeting for project officers with grants management and a Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Program (TIPCAP) tribal advisory committee meeting on the 28th. The project officer training for this year will most likely be postponed.
- b. There was a TIPCAP conference call on the 1st of June for project officers to go over the agenda for the June TIPCAP workshop.



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- c. The Injury Prevention Fellowship Summer Session in Epidemiology will once again be in July at the University of Michigan School of Public Health at Ann Arbor. There are 13 Fellows participating.
- d. Holly Billie, IHS/CDC Injury Prevention Liaison, served as the lead for the Atlanta Injury Prevention Fellowship training in May 9-13, 2011. Thank you to her, Rob Morones and Kenny Hicks for their help during the training.
- e. Dr. Fink will report on last year's Fall Prevention Initiative activities at the TIPCAP workshop. Half of the current cooperative agreements are focusing on fall prevention. This report will be sent out to the DEHS Directors for feedback.

8. Area Reports:

- a. **AB: not on call**
- b. **AK: Denman Ondelacy, Jeff Smith**
 - i. Didn't know how many staff would be interested in the mid-level managers workshop but will poll the staff.
 - ii. Ron Ferguson met with CDC regarding the expansion of Troy Ritter's water survey.
 - iii. Bethel hired COSTEP Ryan Autenreith, he reports to duty in July.
 - iv. Four of the five students selected for internships are in place as externs, and will convert to COSTEPs if possible.
 - v. COSTEPs on memorandums of agreement (MOA) to tribes come with an additional \$3300 charge plus 2.8% of their base pay per officer which makes them much more expensive than externs. If this charge remains in effect Alaska will probably discontinue hiring COSTEPs.
- c. **AQ: Leisa Cook**
 - i. Might have two staff interested in the mid-level managers meeting but would like to see the agenda.
 - ii. Vacancies: Acomita-Canoncito Laguna (ACL) Sanitarian position is still in Human Resources.
 - iii. There is an Occupational Safety and Health position also pending HR.
 - iv. One of the three COSTEPs was able to get confirmation that their paperwork was finalized and the other two have gotten no response from OCCO. If they all come on board two will be stationed at the Santa Fe Service Unit doing general environmental health work and the other will be stationed at the Area Office focusing on injury prevention.
- d. **BE: Diana Kuklinski**
 - i. Two potential attendees for a mid-level managers meeting, would like to see an agenda.
 - ii. The Rhinelander position announcement will have to be resubmitted to HR.
 - iii. The COSTEP selected may not be able to come on board since it appears their required start date will come before the paperwork/orders are complete and they still need fingerprints.
- e. **BI: not on call**
- f. **CA: Gordon Tsatoke**
 - i. Very interested in the mid-level managers workshop, could send 4 staff.
 - ii. Working on a safe drinking water project with Fresno State to identify hazards and treatment plans. They have sampled 10 sites and are analyzing the results now.



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- iii. Recently administered a needs assessment and they have their top three needs are prioritization of work, training and marketing.
- iv. The COSTEP selected for the area identified June 15th as their last possible date they could come on board. If they are not hired by then they will have to seek out other opportunities.
- g. **NS: Kit Grosch**
 - i. Nashville has no managers so they are not interested in the workshop at this time.
 - ii. Still trying to classify their vacancy so that it can be reviewed and announced.
- h. **NV : Sandra Mastandrea, Steve Breithaupt**
 - i. Would be interested in sending 2-3 staff to the mid-level managers workshop depending on the agenda.
 - ii. Federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) from Phoenix paid the Area office a visit. Apparently the workman's comp continuity of pay for the area was listed as the area office address so they were coming to investigate. They were sadly mistaken.
 - iii. The Navajo Area Office of Environmental Health and Engineering (OEHE) Director vacancy has been announced and they hope to hire someone soon.
 - iv. They have selected one COSTEP and their paperwork is finished. They will plan to come on board as long as they can be called to active duty by June 17th. After that date they will need to seek out another opportunity.
- i. **OK: Harold Cully: No report**
- j. **PH: Kenny Hicks**
 - i. Would have 8 staff that could benefit from the mid-level managers workshop.
 - ii. Five externs will report on Monday the 6th, with hopes of converting to COSTEPs when the paperwork clears.
 - iii. Hired an Injury Prevention Coordinator in the Eastern District. His name is John Peabody.
 - iv. Announcement will be coming out soon for an Area Staff Sanitarian. This position will be ½ time at the area office and ½ time in the field. It is classified at a 7/9 level.
- k. **PO: not on call**
- l. **TU: Mark Pike**
 - i. Would have one mid-level staff person to send to the workshop but would like to see an agenda.
 - ii. Steve Hink resigned.
 - iii. EHT position is still at HR for classification.
 - iv. Sells safety officer should be advertised soon.
 - v. Ariel Lawrence will report June 6th as a student extern and hopes to convert to COSTEP.
- m. **EHSC: Ron Zabrocki**
 - i. The center has been reauthorized through IACET for CEUs. This will last another 5 years.
 - ii. IEH/EH vacancy is still at HR for classification.
 - iii. The leadership workshop that is under development by the OEHE Leadership Initiative Group may be a good fit for the group instead of developing our own mid-level leadership course.

END OF NOTES



ATTACHMENT A:

Environmental Surveillance Measure:

2011:

Using data from food service inspections in WebEHRS, establish a national baseline for the percent data items marked “out” of compliance for all data items considered to be “Risk Factors” by FDA.

Note: Areas need to define what food service operations they will target with the interventions. This can be top violators, hospitals, schools, head starts, a combination of facility types, etc. The baseline (2011) and all other measures will be taken from the defined/targeted facilities only. Areas are responsible for reporting the 2011 baseline measure to Headquarters by mid December.

Note: “Risk Factors” are items 1 to 27 on the current WebEHRS food survey form.

2012:

In food service operations included in the baseline measurement in 2011, implement a comprehensive intervention to decrease the number data items marked as “out” of compliance for data items considered to be “Risk Factors” by FDA.

Note: A useful resource for this performance measure is Annex 4 of the FDA Food Code, Management of Food Safety Practices-Achieving Active Managerial Control of Foodborne Illness Risk Factors.

2013:

Using data from food service inspections in WebEHRS, capture a preliminary measure for the percent data items marked “out” of compliance for all data items considered to be “Risk Factors” by FDA to determine interim effectiveness of the intervention.

Note: The comprehensive intervention will continue until the final measure in 2014.

2014:

Using data from food service inspections in WebEHRS, capture a final measure of food “Risk Factors” and determine percentage improvement from the baseline measure with a target of reducing “Risk Factors” marked as “out” of compliance by 2 percentage points.

2015:

Share success stories from comprehensive interventions determined to be most effective in reducing “Risk Factors” marked as “out” of compliance throughout all Areas.



Injury Intervention Measure:

2011:

Identify current Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Sites that are focusing on increasing seatbelt use rates and establish a 2011 seatbelt use rate through observational surveys for all sites.

Note: One average percentage will be submitted per cooperative agreement site regardless of the number of communities targeted.

2012:

For Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Sites identified in 2011 as focusing on increasing seatbelt use rates, implement proven or promising practices/strategies to increase seatbelt use rates.

2013:

For Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Sites identified in 2011 as focusing on increasing seatbelt use rates, capture a preliminary seatbelt use rate through observational surveys for all sites to determine interim effectiveness of the intervention.

2014:

For Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Sites identified in 2011 as focusing on increasing seatbelt use rates, capture seatbelt use rate through observational surveys for all sites with a target of increasing the seatbelt use rates by 5 percentage points.

2015:

Share success stories from comprehensive interventions determined to be most effective in increasing seatbelt use rate.