

## DEHS Director Meeting: 08/14/14

The meeting was recorded and documents were available for download during the session. These items can be viewed and downloaded directly from the recording at: <http://ihs.adobeconnect.com/p2nr9xnl3d1/>

<b>Alaska:</b>	Jeff Smith	<b>Nashville:</b>	Kit Grosch
<b>Albuquerque:</b>	Debra Grabowski	<b>Navajo:</b>	Brian Johnson
<b>Bemidji:</b>	Tim Duffy, Casey Crump	<b>Oklahoma:</b>	Danny Walters
<b>Billings:</b>	Joe Amiotte	<b>Phoenix:</b>	Kenny Hicks
<b>California:</b>	Gordon Tsatoke	<b>Portland:</b>	Celeste Davis
<b>Great Plains:</b>	Chris Allen	<b>Tucson:</b>	Martin Smith

**Environmental Health Support Center:** Richard Turner

**Rockville:** Kelly Taylor, John Smart, Darren Buchanan, Nancy Bill, David McMahon, Jessica Otto

### 1. OEHE Director Meeting: Kelly Taylor

- a. The meeting will be 9 - 11 September in Phoenix. If you have items that should be discussed with the directors let Kelly know. The white paper on economic development will be discussed.
- b. When supporting tribes with letters for the Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Native American Programs grants for mold remediation, do not call the letter a "letter of support". Please call it a letter of commitment and outline how you will support the effort and the estimated costs.

### 2. COSTEPs and Externs: Jessica Otto

- a. If you have a narrative for your COSTEP or extern please send them to Jessica so she can post them on the website and send a thank you letter and challenge coin from Kelly to them.

### 3. Area Reports:

- a. **AK: Jeff Smith**
  - i. Joy Britt is a new employee.
  - ii. Troy Ritter is finishing his PhD and Korie Hickel finished her MPH.
- b. **AQ: Debra Grabowski**
  - i. Annual Head Start Summit is today and 65 people are in attendance. There will be another one next week at another location and they are anticipating 65 more participants.
  - ii. There is a car seat program underway with a push to certify technicians. Jerry Lee is working on his train the trainer certification.
  - iii. Still working on getting the online food handler training administration pushed out so that each of the areas has administrative control.
- c. **BE: Tim Duffy**
  - i. There will be a vacancy announcement soon to backfill a recently vacated position.

- d. **BI: Joe Amiotte**
  - i. Three position vacancies are with HR for classification, the Area DEHS Director, an Injury Prevention Specialist, and a Sanitarian at the Crow Agency.
  - ii. The vacancy announcement for Browning closed yesterday and they hope to select a candidate for hire soon.
- e. **CA: Gordon Tsatoke**
  - i. The vacancy announcement for Sacramento closes today. Hope to select a candidate for hire soon.
  - ii. The vacancy announcement for Redding closes on August 27<sup>th</sup>.
- f. **GP: Chris Allen**
  - i. The vacancy announcement for Sisseton closed, hope to select a candidate for hire soon.
  - ii. A position for Ft. Totten will be announced later this fall
- g. **NS: Kit Grosch**
  - i. Hired Charles Craig for the Manlius vacancy. He will start work in October.
  - ii. Riley Grinnell is in the process of converting from civil service to Commissioned Corps.
- h. **NV : Brian Johnson**
  - i. Plan on advertising a position (O2/O3) Field Sanitarian at Many Farms soon.
  - ii. Have been working with the epidemiology center staff on public health notification system to alert key players in the event of a public health emergency or event.
- i. **OK: Danny Walters**
  - i. An Institutional Environmental Health position should be announced next week.
  - ii. Hope to announce an Injury Prevention Specialist position after the first of the year.
- j. **PH: Kenny Hicks**
  - i. Filled two vacancies at Whiteriver and Parker.
  - ii. Awaiting one staff member to convert to Commissioned Corps. pending a slot at OBC.
  - iii. San Carlos Hospital construction is nearly complete.
  - iv. Will be advertising a GS 13 position at Phoenix Indian Medical Center this week.
  - v. Will be holding a Level I Injury Prevention Course in Scottsdale September 23-25.
- k. **PO: Celeste Davis**
  - i. Both the Tulalip and Bremerton positions have closed. There were over 70 applicants. Hope to conduct interviews soon.
  - ii. Will host a regional workshop with the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology on ambulatory surgery centers September 3-4 in Spokane.
  - iii. Will attend a meeting hosted by EPA and HUD on home assessments for asthma and increasing CMS reimbursements for those services on September 26<sup>th</sup>.
- l. **TU: Martin Smith**
  - i. RMSF Campaign Phase 2 starts soon on the Tohono O'odham Nation.
- m. **EHSC: Richard Turner**
  - i. Colleen Yazzie retires January 1<sup>st</sup>. November 14<sup>th</sup> will be her last day in the office.
  - ii. Have hired someone for the SFC position, announcement will be coming soon.
  - iii. The vacancy announcement for the EHS position will be coming soon, it will be an O5 billet.
  - iv. Undergoing a website revamp, which will include the ability to have an automated individual development plan generated, and management/enrollment in online courses.
  - v. Will host a Lead Certification class soon.

- vi. Working with the Hospital Consortium to work on funding assistance for Safety Officer, Institutional Environmental Health and Emergency Preparedness classes for IHS staff.

**4. Economic Development White Paper: John Smart and Kelly Taylor**

- a. Still needs some work. Will incorporate comments and rewording and discuss with the OEHE Directors at the meeting in September.
- b. Areas should let Kelly know which option(s) they plan on exercising so she can be aware of the direction programs plan on taking and discuss that with the OEHE Directors. A visual of the results can be found below:

Areas	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Do Nothing
AK						✓
AQ	Will consult in hopes of Tribes funding a team					
BE	✓	✓				
BI	Reserve right to exercise all options					
CA	✓	✓			✓	
GP					✓	
NS	No Response					
NV			✓		✓	
OK					✓	
PH	✓	✓	✓		✓	
PO	✓				✓	
TU					✓	

**5. Performance Measures for 2016-2020: John Smart, Darren Buchanan, Jessica Otto**

- a. The final measures were sent out before the meeting. The Environmental Surveillance Measure is to decrease the number of foodborne illness risk factors identified at Head Start and Child Care centers in tribal communities.
  - i. HQ will send out the updated definitions of an Institutional Day Care and a Home-Based Day Care so that areas can separate those facilities with new code numbers in WebEHRS. These facilities should be reclassified by the end of 2015.
  - ii. Areas need to ensure that parent/child relationships are set up in WebEHRS for the food operations at the facilities (Head Start and Institutional Day Care). These relationships should be established by the end of 2015.
  - iii. The violations and code numbers that will be used for data analysis are available upon request. HQ will be pulling the numbers for each year's trends instead of the areas, which is why getting the facilities coded correctly and having your staff enter the food surveys in the system is so important.
  - iv. Darren demonstrated how to change the facility type codes and create parent child relationships during the call. You can view the demo in the meeting recording.
- b. The Injury Prevention Measure is to increase driver seatbelt use. This measure and the logistics to get everything ready for the baseline in 2016 will be discussed on a future call.