

## **McHENRY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

### **Minutes of January 25, 2010**

President Andy Andresky called the McHenry County Board of Health meeting to order at the McHenry County Department of Health at approximately 7:00 p.m. Board members present were: Mr. Andy Andresky, Ms. Eleanor Jackson, Ms. Lyn Orphal, Dr. Thomas Skiba, and Mr. Edward Varga. Board members absent: Ms. Linda Brogan, Dr. Richard Gorski, and Mr. Dallas Larson. Staff members present included: Mr. Patrick McNulty, Ms. Patricia Nomm, Mr. Jerry Rivard, Ms. Betty Schlieben, Ms. Fran Stanwood, Ms. Marylou Ludicky and Ms. Karen Mueller. Dr. S. L. Ruggero, the Health Department's Medical Advisor, and Dr. E. Mehanovic were also present.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

### **MINUTES**

Dr. Skiba **moved** to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2009 meeting, **second** by Ms. Orphal. The motion passed unanimously.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Varga **moved** to approve the Consent Agenda, **second** by Ms. Orphal. Following a brief discussion the motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

### **CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS-New**

Dr. Skiba **moved** to approve the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Agreement for Service with Dr. Alan Johnson, **second** by Ms. Orphal. Following a discussion, the motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT**

McHenry County Department of Health HIV: 2010 Update  
Presented By  
Marylou Ludicky

The goal of the MCDH HIV program is to prevent the transmission of HIV by providing anonymous and confidential HIV testing, providing education on risk factors and risk reduction to individuals and groups, and referring HIV positive individuals for treatment and follow up care. This program is important because the CDC estimates that about 1.1 million Americans are living with HIV; 21% of these persons do not know they are infected. In 2005, 1400 cases were diagnosed in Illinois.

The HIV Program, an IDPH grant funded program, has been a part of the Health Department for more than 15 years. The HIV Educator has a Master in Public Health, writes grant proposals and provides quarterly reports, determines target populations for grant deliverables, and participates in regional implementation groups.

The HIV Educator's role is to provide HIV counseling and testing. There are two types of tests that MCDH uses – the first is "Ora Sure" which provides results in three to seven days. The other – "Ora Quick" provides results in 20 minutes. "Ora Quick" tests are very costly and are only used in certain situations where it is felt the client may not return to receive the results of the testing. Testing can be anonymous or confidential.

A 30 minute appointment with clients includes risk evaluation, risk reduction, and assessment of existing support systems. The HIV educator provides a safe and nonjudgmental environment. They refer

positive cases for treatment and follow-up to the AIDS Foundation of Chicago and Open Doors Clinic in Elgin. Notification of at-risk partners can also take place in certain situations.

The HIV grant deliverables for 2009 were high risk heterosexuals, intravenous drug users and MSM. In 2009, the total number of clients that were provided testing and counseling were just above 300. The HIV Educator's role also includes HIV/STD/Hepatitis B and C education, and HIV testing to McHenry County Jail inmates, high risk substance abuse groups at McHenry County Family Services, High Risk Dual Diagnosis groups at McHenry County Family Services and the Advantage group in Crystal Lake.

McHenry County's HIV Educator is a member of Garden Quarters Apartments Board, works closely with MCDH Family Health programs to educate and test high risk clients, provides HIV education and testing to TB clients with active disease in MCDH's TB program and refers HIV positive clients to the TB program. This individual also offers additional community education through classes at MCC, high schools, health fairs and provides outreach through social media networks such as Facebook and Twitter.

Individuals who are infected with STDs are at least two to five times more likely than uninfected individuals to acquire HIV infection if they are exposed to the virus through sexual contact. If an HIV infected individual is also infected with another STD, that person is more likely to transmit HIV through sexual contact than other HIV infected persons. The presence of other STDs increases the likelihood of both transmitting and acquiring HIV.

A new Institute of Medicine report released 1/11/2010 calls for a major public health push against Hepatitis B and C. Over the next decade, 150,000 people in the United States will die of either Hepatitis B or C, according to the report. Hepatitis B and C necessitate nearly half the liver transplants performed each year. There is high prevalence of HIV/HVC Co-infection. It is estimated that 1/3 of HIV cases are Co-infected with Hepatitis C. Individuals at high risk for HIV are also at high risk for Hepatitis B and C.

People infected with HIV are more likely than uninfected people to develop TB. Without treatment, as with other opportunistic infections, HIV and TB can work together to shorten the life of the person infected. Someone with untreated latent TB infection and HIV infection is much more likely to develop active TB disease during his or her lifetime than someone without HIV infection. Among people with latent TB infection, HIV infection is the strongest known risk factor for progressing to active TB disease.

CDC short-term HIV goals for 2010: (1) reduce the number of new HIV infections in the United States by 10%; (2) provide targeted testing to increase the number of individuals who know their HIV status by 80%; (3) increase by 50% to 65% the number of newly diagnosed HIV cases that are linked to appropriate care and treatment programs.

MCDH HIV funding is grant-based, a very competitive process. Interventions must be based on federally recommended best practice models from the Centers for Disease Control Division of HIV /AIDS prevention, the Illinois Department of Public Health HIV/AIDS Prevention Program and grant administered by Illinois Public Health Association. MCDH's grant funding from 2000 to 2005 was \$20,000; 2006-2009 funding was \$30,000. In 2009, approximately \$4.3 million dollars were available for HIV prevention programs in Illinois – \$2.8 million in state funds and \$1.5 million in CDC funds. Local grant funds included 30% of the HIV Educators salary.

In 2010, only CDC funds are available. The IDPH HIV/AIDS Prevention program at this time is scheduled to receive NO state financial support in 2010. For 2010, the CDC funds will only cover 33% of HIV prevention program activities statewide. Grant funding for MCDH in 2010 is \$5000. HIV funds

from the State of Illinois have been allocated to keep the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs operating for 2010 rather than funding prevention programs.

The importance of having an HIV program in McHenry County is that no other organization or provider in McHenry County provides anonymous or confidential testing with either Ora-Sure or Ora-Quick tests, counseling for HIV risk factors and ways to decrease risk, provides direct links to the AIDS Foundation of Chicago for referrals, treatment/follow-up and offers education on Hepatitis B and C, STDs or TB to individuals, high risk groups or the general public.

The importance of having an HIV program in McHenry County is because of the close association between STD's, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, TB and HIV. It would be a loss to MCDH high risk clients in other programs to be unable to access HIV education and testing. It would also be a loss to the general population of McHenry County to not offer education on HIV and these other diseases.

The Illinois Public Health Association and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago's response to HIV budget cuts is the elimination of all state dollars for regional prevention programming. This puts Illinois in jeopardy of costly and tragic increases in HIV transmission. The elimination of community providers for HIV prevention services will be counterproductive in our fight against HIV and would impact those who are at most risk for infection. As more residents become infected with HIV, it would also destine AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) for even higher utilization levels in years to come.

There was a brief discussion following the presentation regarding how the Department is looking to make up the difference in funds for the program. Members questioned if there were any other funds from different grants that could be used to help support this program. Ms. Orphal suggested talking to Ralph Sarbaugh regarding ways to approach the subject with the County Board. Ms. Orphal said that she thinks the County numbers are down because of the education we are providing. Mr. McNulty said that is what Public Health is all about. Preventing the issue before it becomes a problem. Mr. McNulty said he would talk to Ralph and then report to the Board and bring something to the committee.

### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. McNulty gave a brief overview of what has been taking place regarding the H1N1 clinics and locations. We are offering free walk-in clinics everyday at our office here in Woodstock and also in Crystal Lake for anyone who would like to receive the H1N1 vaccine.

Mr. McNulty, Dr. Mehanovic and Mr. Rivard talked regarding Pets In Need (Dale Armond) coverage on FOX TV. They explained that some of the information that was provided in the TV coverage was incorrect. Further that the information provided intermixed the Bloomingdale Pets In Need and Hebron farm locations. Mr. Rivard stated that the Department has had extensive involvement at the Hebron Farm with the most recent visit two weeks ago which indicated satisfactory condition of the Animals on site. Mr. Rivard stated that he would generate a chronological order of events for the Departments activity at the Hebron Farm.

### NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Orphal **moved** to approve the review of the mission statement, **second** by Dr. Skiba. Following a discussion, the motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Ms. Orphal **moved** to approve the FY10 Mileage Rate adjustment, **second** by Mr. Varga. Following a discussion, the motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Mr. McNulty talked about the information that was provided in the packet regarding staff turnover statistics. This is provided every year so the Board can review staffing trends. Overall, 2009 was similar

to 2008; we are slightly below our 5- and 10-year trends. There many need to be staff reduction in the HIV program if funds are not available. Mr. Andresky asked if there are any positions frozen. Mr. McNulty said there are two, both Environmental Health Practioners.

Dr. Skiba **moved** to approve the Resolution regarding the Illinois Department of Agriculture, **second** by Mr. Andresky. Following a discussion, the motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

### **BOARD ISSUES**

Ms Nomm reported on the Environmental Advisory Committee. Mr. Andresky asked who some of the members could possibly be. Information will be placed on the website regarding the Committee. Mr. Andresky asked where the meeting may be held. Meeting would likely be held at the Government Center in Woodstock or In Crystal Lake. Mr. McNulty indicated it would be the Committee's choice to select a location. Mr. Andresky stated it is a great thing and he is looking forward to it. Mr. Andresky asked if he could show the information to the Environmental Committee in Crystal Lake. Ms. Nomm and Mr. McNulty both agreed.

Mr. Andresky discussed Board of Health Committee assignments for 2010. The only difference from last year is Ms. Jackson was added to the Public Relations & Promotion Committee as well as to the Planning & Development Committee. Mr. Andresky said he feels that the Planning & Development Committee will be active this year. They will be putting together the retreat. Mr. Varga asked if dates have been considered for the retreat. Mr. McNulty said not at this time but he would inform everyone as soon as dates are known.

### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Andresky reviewed the information in this section.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Orphal **moved** to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:35p.m. to enter into Executive Session (discussion topic: release of previous executive session minutes), **second** by Mr. Varga. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Ms. Orphal **moved** to go out of Executive Session at 8:37p.m., **second** by Dr. Skiba. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Mr. Varga **moved** to go into Regular Session at approximately 9:37pm, **second** by Dr. Skiba. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Mr. Varga **moved** to accept the release of the minutes from previous executive session meetings, **second** by Ms. Orphal. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

### **APPENDIX**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Varga **moved** to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:40p.m., **second** by Ms. Orphal. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mr. Andy Andresky  
On behalf of Ms. Linda Brogan