

Community Partner Advisory Group Meeting
MINUTES

Tuesday, August 23, 2005 Meeting—6:30 PM

Auditorium
County Courthouse Annex--Elkhorn, WI

James D'Alessandro, chairman of the Community Partner Advisory Group, called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Roll call—CPAG members present included Rollie Cooper, James D'Alessandro, Yvonne Fiskum, Dianne Kegley, Letha Kuecker, John Newhouse, Gen Reed, Christopher Stebnitz, and Kathleen Tober. A quorum was declared.

Ag and Extension Education Committee present—Chair, Stan Muzatko, Co-chair, Dorothy Burwell, Supervisor Art Lein.

UWEX staff present—Carolyn L. Belczyk, Department Head, Maricela Quirino, WNEP Program Assistant, and Angie Recknagel, Recording Secretary.

Public in attendance—Pat Grove, Public Health Nurse

There were no withdrawals from the Agenda. **Cooper moved to approve the agenda as presented, with a second by Reed. The motion carried 9-0.**

Lein moved to approve the minutes of the June 29 Community Partner Advisory Group meeting, with a second by Stebnitz. The motion carried 9-0.

Public comment—There was no public comment.

Health Issues in Walworth County – presentation by Pat Grove, Public Health, Walworth County Department of Health and Human Services—Belczyk introduced Grove to the committee. Grove presented an overview of what the Public Health Division of the Walworth County Health and Human Services Department does. Grove discussed the Wisconsin 2010 Health Plan. It's a partnership plan to help improve the health of the community. There are 92 departments and 5 regions in Wisconsin. They try and coordinate their state and local plans to insure that if they had a public health emergency they could have a plan to work through it. They are helping all the communities to develop one of these plans. One way to monitor the health of the community is to look at the immunizations of the children in the community. They analyze the community health status by an assessment that was done in 2003. Walworth County is the 4th healthiest county within the state of Wisconsin. The number one leading cause of death in Walworth County is heart disease.

Public Health works with a number of services to identify communicable diseases. The majority of their work involves environmental health hazards within the community. They are part of the local emergency government team. They work very closely with the State Lab of Hygiene and

work with veterinary services. They have submitted 20 articles to the newspapers in the past year, and have worked with the county's tobacco coalition.

At this time, 40 – 50% of their clients are Latino/Hispanic. There are about 1,775 participants in the WIC program, for whom UW-Extension's WNEP program provides nutrition education.

Public Health tries to educate parents on healthy habits. Staff are currently working on the ABC Project, also with UW-Extension, in the Burlington School District.

HHS staff are members of the Tri-County Bio-Terrorism Consortium. In addition, they belong to the Walworth County Traffic Safety Commission, where they provide car seats for children who need them. They also serve on the Jail Health Advisory Board. They work with the schools on the immunizations of children.

A new program of beach monitoring has been developed. There are 27 lakes in Walworth County in which they investigate e-coli at the beaches.

Division staff try to link people to services. Most recently, after nearly two years of effort, they have become a satellite for the Beloit Clinic. This is not a free clinic, because small payments are expected. This is just a pilot program at this time and is held just once a week on Fridays. There are plans to start a full time clinic possibly as soon as the first of the year.

At this point the Public Health Division has six public health nurses with BSN's, two registered dietitians, five certified breast feeding staff, and a lead inspector. The division has eight grants that support their programs, and they work with the following: County Health Plan Priorities, WWWP Program, WI Well Women Grant, Immunization Program, Twin Oaks Shelter Project, Prenatal Care, Newborn Visitation Program and Children with Special Needs Grant, WIC Program, Environmental Health, Emerging and Reemerging Communicable Diseases.

Discussion; recommendations—Newhouse asked Grove if she feels the division is meeting the needs of county residents. Grove responded that they have received more money because of the grants, but the county's population has grown so much that the public health staff is pretty much only able to handle the mandated programs. Tober asked what type of programming public health provides for the elderly. Grove responded that they have conducted clinics in the past. However, there were a lot of no-shows and the program was not cost effective. They do provide flu shot clinics. Stebnitz noted that Grove had indicated that 85-90% of the school-aged children are immunized, and asked how the non-immunized children are able to start school. Grove responded that there are several ways a parent can override the immunization requirements. Newhouse asked about the overlap of Jefferson and Walworth County services in Whitewater. Grove explained the two public health divisions have territories. If they start working on a case and find that it falls within another county, they refer the individuals to the correct county and collaborate as needed.

D'Alessandro asked CPAG members for any additional discussion or recommendations. There were none offered.

Next Meeting Date—The group will next meet on October 25, 2005, at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment—Stebnitz moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m., and Reed seconded the motion. The motion carried 9-0.

Submitted by Angie Recknagel, recording secretary. Minutes approved by UW-Extension Community Partner Advisory Group on October 25, 2005.