



Public Health
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DELAWARE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

99 MAIN STREET, DELHI, NEW YORK 13753

Amanda Walsh, MPH Public Health Director

607-832-5200 Fax 607-832-6021

Early Intervention & Preschool Fax: 607-832-6022

Health Services Advisory Board Minutes

Meeting Date/Time:	November 9, 2023 10:12am	
Attendees/Title:		
Arthur Merrill, Town of Colchester Supervisor	Amanda Walsh, Public Health Director	
Joseph Cetta, Town of Walton Supervisor	Wayne Marshfield, Town of Hamden Supervisor	
Dr. Rohan Jayasena, Medical Director	Eric Wilson, Town of Sidney Supervisor	
Christina Gardner, Accounting Supervisor	Edward Bartos, District Office	
Heather Warner, Public Health Programs Manager		

Topic:	Discussion:	Action:
Approval of Minutes	The September 7, 2023 minutes were approved as written.	Moved: Art Second: Joe Vote:Ayes-4, Noes-0
Public Health Programs Update	<p>COVID Enhanced Detection Grant will be ending December 31st of this year. We were able to acquire a mobile clinic trailer and repair our vaccine refrigerator this year with these grant funds.</p> <p>COVID Vaccination grant continues through June 2024. This grant funds the promotion of Influenza and COVID vaccinations.</p> <p>The Public Health Corps Fellowship grant continues through June 2024. This grant funded temporary fellowship positions to support Public Health work. We had two fellows who worked with us for over a year, one remote and one in house. The funds continue through June. Per NYSDOH any new positions must be filled prior to the end of December 2023. We do not anticipate filling these as we are focused on filling our budgeted vacant positions that will continue after June 2024.</p>	



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	<p>The Public Health Infrastructure grant funds recruitment and retention of staff. We are awaiting approval for our budget submission which includes a targeted recruitment campaign for our vacant positions and some retention activities for staff satisfaction.</p> <p>Rabies activities are finally winding down for the season.</p> <p>Communicable Disease trends include the typical GI illnesses and hepatitis reporting. Lyme and tick related disease reports are winding down at this time of year. We are focused on Flu prevention and promoting immunizations. Monthly immunization clinic appointments have remained steady. Our clinic serves individuals with gaps in their insurance and enables them to remain up to date with their vaccinations for school and work.</p> <p>Lead program activities remain steady. Staff work closely with the NYSDOH Oneonta District Office (environmental inspections) with elevated cases. At times, a child's lead level will lower prior to the completion of the environmental intervention.</p>	
<p>Environmental Health Update – NYSDOH Oneonta District Office</p>	<p>Ed Bartos shared that his office is wrapping up summer activities, following up on items that needed addressing and enforcement actions to ensure compliance. There is a need to fill vacant engineering positions but staffing for sanitarians and inspectors has been acceptable. They currently have two fellowship positions funded by the Public Health Corps Fellowship grant that will run out in June of 2024. Hoping to keep at least one of these positions full time. Routine inspections will continue throughout the winter months.</p>	
<p>Children's Program Update</p>	<p>In August one of our program coordinators left the children's programs unit. We continue to recruit for this position. The Early Intervention program currently has a caseload of approximately 70-75 children while the Preschool program serves approximately 90 children. Transportation services have been running smoothly and we are working on a ride share agreement with Greene County which will provide some savings for one of our runs. We continue to have children on waitlists for therapy services. Speech remains the service with the largest deficit. We continue to recruit for our vacant speech and occupational therapy positions. Early Intervention has been utilizing virtual services which can work well for some</p>	



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	families but is not appropriate for all services. We plan to utilize the Public Health Infrastructure grant funding to run a targeted recruitment campaign for these specialized therapy positions.	
Quality Assurance/ Incident Reports	The Quality Assurance/Incident Reports were tabled for the next meeting.	
Corporate Compliance Annual Report and Certification	Heather reviewed the annual Corporate Compliance report. Mandy conducted the annual presentation reviewing our Compliance program and reviewed the agency compliance policies and procedures.	
Staffing Update	<p>We have hired Sara Anderson as our Health Education Program Coordinator, which is a position that has been vacant for some time. We have interest in our part time speech language pathologist position. We have interviewed a candidate for Program Coordinator and are hopeful the individual will accept the position. Another Program Coordinator has submitted her resignation so we will still have an open Program Coordinator position by the end of November.</p> <p>Dr. Jayasena inquired if we have a program to retain current staff. Mandy shared that we have included some small retention and wellness items in our Public Health Infrastructure grant for staff appreciation and support. Some of the barriers we have encountered with retaining and recruiting staff are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very limited prorated paid time off in the first year of employment. • Limited telecommuting/work from home flexibility options. • Health Insurance buyout options seem to be more frequently asked for from new hires and current employees who do not need the health insurance benefit. 	
Annual Policy Binder Approval	The committee approved the Public Health policies contained within the Public Health Policy and Procedure books.	Moved: Joe Second: Eric Vote:Ayes-4, Noes-0
Fiscal	There is no fiscal report to review due to USL and network issues preventing us from downloading the fiscal data.	



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Other	OT in Lieu of Comp Time Request was approved.	Moved: Joe Second: Wayne Vote:Ayes-4, Noes-0
2024 Meeting Dates	<p>The 2024 meeting schedule will be as follows:</p> <p>January 25, 2024</p> <p>March 14, 2024</p> <p>June 13, 2024</p> <p>September 12, 2024</p> <p>November 14, 2024</p> <p>All meetings will be held at 10:00am at the OFA conference room, 97 main st, Delhi, NY 13753 and via zoom.</p>	
Meeting Adjourned at: 11:15am		

Respectfully Submitted By,

Amanda Walsh, MPH
Public Health Director