

Grundy County Board of Health

Monday, July 13th, 2020

Called to Order: 7:00

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Monday, July 13th, 2020, at 7:00am in the Conference Room at the Grundy County Annex Building in Grundy Center, IA; Conference Call-In was available for those who wish not to attend in person. Appointed board members present were: Beverly Meester, *Chair* (via phone); Dr. Charles LaTendresse, MD, *Vice Chair*; Jessica Eilers, RN; Dave Stefl; Helene Wertz (via phone). Presenters participated via phone: Amanda Kirchoff, Operation Threshold (OT) WIC Director; Eileen Daly, Black Hawk County Health Department (BHCHD) Lead Program; Kim Howard, BHCHD Child & Adolescent Health Program & ISmile Program; Halkeno Tura, BHCHD 1st Five Program. Also present: Heather Bombei, Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) Regional Consultant (via phone); Barbara Smith, Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS); Katie Thornton-Lang, Grundy County Public Health (GCPH) Program Coordinator; Michelle VanDeest, GCPH Office Coordinator.

Regular meeting of the LBOH was called to order by Meester. The minutes from June 8th, 2020 were reviewed. Motion to approve the June, 2020, minutes by LaTendresse; seconded by Stefl, carried; the minutes were approved as written. Minutes were signed by Chair, Meester, later in the day at the GCPH office and submitted to IowaGrants.gov.

Presenters: Operation Threshold and Black Hawk County Health Department reported on services provided to Grundy County.

OT/WIC provided a PowerPoint with information regarding regional and county data that was emailed to board members prior to the meeting and reviewed. There was an inquiry as to why there was a “bump” in numbers in recent months, during the pandemic. Kirchoff explained that there is a bit of a “baby boom” in the Waterloo area, as well as pandemic related unemployment resulting in this uptick. Kirchoff stated that the New Hampton birthing unit closed this past May, and they will continue to reach out to participants. In the summer, it is normal for those months numbers to decline, due to Farmer’s Market’s availability, and other outings.

BHCHD Child & Adolescent Health program was distributed prior to meeting. Each month, IDPH sends information to BHCHD of newly eligible families for services. During the pandemic, they have been able to reach more families and connect them to services. The childcare nurse consultant program works with childcare centers and home daycares, and has been reaching out to Grundy County centers regarding the most recent pandemic information, as needed. BHCHD ISmile programming ceased in March, due to the pandemic and the Governor’s Proclamations. The state mandate to audit schools for dental screenings was excluded for the year, due to the pandemic. The program has hired another dental hygienist to help with screening and offered activities and services during the pandemic.

BHCHD Lead program stated that lead screenings are not a mandate, but are encouraged, and program will be working with WIC to reach more families for screenings. Other types of surveillances are being conducted for lead exposures. 13 families were impacted with children with levels greater than 5 but less than 10; 5 families with level greater than 10 of lead levels, 11%, which lead to intervention/education on lead exposure. Inquiry as to if lead mediation is referred to families. Daly reports no, environmental health specialist works with families on mitigation measures to help families, rely on other grants and funding sources. Inquiry as to how information is presented to stakeholders upon first finding of high levels. Daly states that more testing/surveillance is completed by certified staff at BHCHD, then information gathering is conducted; medical issues of child/children are addressed, then focus on environmental needs with discovering where city/block grants are from to work on mitigation measures. Some areas do have jurisdiction at county level for landlords held accountable for lead in rental properties; will be working on updates with jurisdictional information in the coming year. Moving forward, goal is to have a greater understanding of other authorizing bodies and funding opportunities. Daly states that primary care providers are providing screenings to determine if levels are high, which is helping to know that screenings are taking place. BHCHD 1st Five program reported information present on previous distribution.

Intern Update: Program Coordinator, Thornton-Lang, will not be accepting new interns during this fiscal year, due to the constraints that the pandemic has placed on Grundy County Public Health's (GCPH) time. Nichelle Blakesley, former UNI MSW intern, may complete internship in the spring. As Nichelle is a previous intern, this will be more doable, as Thornton-Lang will not have to complete an orientation.

COVID-19 Updates: The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be a main focus during reporting period. GCPH continues to participate in weekly phone conferences, webinars, and zoom meetings as pandemic continues; these meetings include information shared with and available from local, state, and national partners. Working with individual inquiries that have come up daily via email, phone calls, and Facebook messenger are a high priority. We have been helping the local schools with their Return-to-Learn plans, sports teams' inquiries, and assisted them with graduation plans, along with recommending that no school-sponsored proms were held (which all county schools complied with recommendation). GCPH recommended to the Grundy County Fair to not hold it, but to just do show-and-go's for the animal exhibits. That recommendation was sent to ISU Extension, who forwarded it to the fair board; the fair board did decide to hold the Grundy County Fair. There has been some feedback on Facebook that GCPH is not doing enough by not posting daily number counts. That is being reevaluated.

Other: Stefl inquired about EMA role in community and pandemic. It was discussed that he does not know what role is, and Smith stated she would get more information for him. Thornton-Lang, VanDeest, and Smith reported on how he was working with GCPH, Long-Term Care agencies, and other local partners on various aspects of the pandemic.

Public Health Report for June, 2020:

Local Public Health Services (LPHS) Grant

Collaborative Relations: Due to COVID-19 pandemic, all regularly scheduled meetings (i.e., Wellness Committee, Community Partners, etc.) were cancelled or held virtually.

Disease Outbreak & Investigation: On June 3rd, 2020, investigation completed on Babesiosis isolated case. Investigation began on May 29th, 2020. On June 15th, 2020, 2 cases of epidemiologically linked cases of Cryptosporidiosis were completed. Investigations began on June 3rd, 2020. On June 29th, 2020, investigation began and was completed on E. coli Shgt. isolated case.

LPHS FY21 Grant application was accepted. Signed contract has been returned to IDPH for final process.

Immunization (I4) Grant: A latent TB (LTBI) patient is being treated within Grundy County. GCPH representatives dispensed medications and offered education once during reporting period to patient. I4 FY21 Grant application was accepted. Signed contract has been returned to IDPH for final process.

Substance Abuse Prevention (SAP) Grant: No SAP programming during reporting period due to pandemic.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant: No PHEP meetings held during reporting period due to pandemic.

6YR Preparedness Funding: Utilized to cover response time to address the pandemic.

Medical Reserve Corps. (MRC): The Grundy County Medical Reserve Corps. (GC-MRC) continues to help at various community events. There are 27 active volunteers; 1 volunteer left unit due to health issues.

Unit Activity Summary Report for reporting period June, 2020:

- 7 total number of activities
- 32 total number of MRC participants
- 27 total number of hours contributed
- \$846.59 economic value of contribution

Unit Activity Summary Report for reporting period FY21, 2020:

- 113 total number of activities
- 139 total number of MRC participants
- 435 total number of hours contributed
- \$14556.74 economic value of contribution (FY20's economic value of contribution: \$8528.18)

Grundy County Safety Seat Program (GCCPSP): Due to the pandemic, all in-person inspections/installations/ educational inquiries are still recommended to cease. There were 2 educational inquiries addressed to community members via phone call and Facebook Messenger.

Healthy Habits All-Stars (HHAS): There were no HHAS presentations during reporting period due to the pandemic.

Total Community Contacts for Reporting Period June, 2020 = Number of contacts are not available for reporting period due to COVID-19 pandemic constraints.

Social Media Stats: Reached 45,141 individuals for reporting period June, 2020. Reached 414,811 for FY20 (reached 214,017 during FY19). GCPH is active on the following social media sites: Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Instagram. We also promote our county website on all social media platforms.

Motion adjourned at 8:00am; motioned by Eilers; seconded by Wertz; carried.

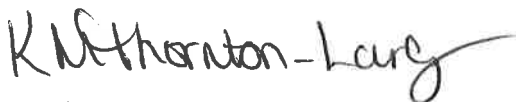
Next Scheduled Meeting Date: Monday, July 13th, 2020, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room

Meeting will be offered electronically via phone conference. One member reported not being able to hear well, GCPH contacted IT and will try a different way next meeting.

Scheduled Meeting Topics:

Recommendations for LBOH Members in December to BOS
Sanitarian Position Information
Policy Updates (as needed)

Respectfully submitted,



Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE
Grundy County Public Health Program Coordinator



Beverly Meester
Chairperson