

## Grays Harbor County Board of Health

PEARSALL BUILDING 2109 SUMNER AVENUE, ABERDEEN, WA 98520

### September 29, 2022 Board of Health Special Meeting

Board of Health Chair Raines called the meeting to order at 8:38a.m. Board Members Jill Warne, Kevin Pine, Char Hood, Chris Olive, Dr. Kenneth Dietrich were also present. Board Member Christine Winn was not present. The meeting was held both in person at the Pearsall Building and electronically though Zoom to allow for social distancing.

Also in Attendance: Jeff Nelson, Environmental Health Director; Mike McNickle, Public Health Director; Dr. John Bausher, Health Officer; Jon Beltran, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor; and Alex Vido, Secretary. Members of the Grays Harbor Public Health Department were also present.

### Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Training - Stephanie Nace, Risk Manager

• Risk Manager Stephanie Nace provided a brief overview of the Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records. She will provide Board Secretary, Alex Vido, the training links for new Board members.

# <u>Community Health Assessment / Community Health Impact Plan</u> (CHA/CHIP) presentation and discussion:

- Dan Hammock, Public Health Communications Officer provided an overview of the Community Health Assessment/Community Health Impact Plan.
- The main CHIP findings were:
  - 1. Access to behavioral and physical health services
  - 2. Physical activities and healthy activities
  - 3. Access to safe and affordable housing
  - 4. Culturally appropriate mass-reach health communication and education



• Mike McNickle, Public Health Director went over some of the questions that were directed to the Board about the CHA/CHIP findings. He also talked about a little about the financial aspect of public health and noted that at the next meeting there will be a presentation about the fiscal aspect to public health. He mentioned in October the Behavioral Gaps Analysis will be published and it might be a good idea to

continue the CHA/CHIP conversation with the Behavioral Health Gap Analysis to then come up with a strategic plan. This would occur at the October 27<sup>th</sup> Board of Health quarterly meeting.

Board members unanimously agreed and supported putting the conversation off until the October Board of Health Meeting as they will have both the CHA/CHIP and Behavioral Gaps Analysis findings to review.

Board Member Raines noted that Public Health only uses about 10-15% of the County general fund and the rest if grant funded.

The Board Members continued to discuss the CHA findings.

A question from one of the Board Members was posed about homeless housing grants through the Department of Commerce.

Cassie Lentz, Public Health Manager responded to the question stating that public health has two grants under the continuum of health: -permanent supportive housing and transitional housing program with domestic violence centers grants.

Board Member Dr. Dietrich asked if the findings were in a certain order and if there was a way to weigh the findings.

Director McNickle stated there was no certain order and said we could bring the findings forward again at the next meeting.

Board Chair Warne asked if there was a breakdown of the demographics.

Director McNickle responded, "Yes."

Director McNickle mentioned the CHA/CHIP show broader findings where the Behavioral Gaps Analysis provides narrower findings. He mentioned there are some findings that are within public health's wheelhouse.

Board Member Raines mentioned it will be good to have both the CHA/CHIP and Behavioral Gaps Analysis together to make decision moving forward.

Director McNickle gave a brief overview of how the Behavioral Gaps Analysis was conducted.

### Community Health Assessment / Community Health Impact Plan (CHA/CHIP) desired plan for 2023:

The Board decided to place this agenda item on hold until the October 27<sup>th</sup> Board of Health Meeting.

#### **Public Comment:**

• Jessica Jurasin, MSN, FNP-C, ARNP, Nurse Practitioner, Pediatrics at Summit Pacific Medical Center commented about the Behavioral Gaps Analysis analysis both during the meeting and later submitted via e-mail. Jessica's e-mail comment is stated below:

"My name is Jessica Jurasin. I am a nurse practitioner in pediatric primary care with Summit Pacific Medical Center and entering my 4<sup>th</sup> year as a school board member for the Aberdeen School District.

I'd like to comment on the behavioral health gap analysis survey process. It is commendable that the county is seeking input regarding the state of mental health care in Grays Harbor. It is also essential that we acknowledge the limited focus and duration of the survey. I participated in one of the community forums as well as the online survey. My perspective was that the gap analysis process was geared towards substance use disorder and those already engaged in mental health services—which I understand are areas of great need, although ultimately make up only a fraction of those in our community who are struggling. Health care organizational leadership and mental health providers (like social workers and counselors) were directly invited to provide input, while those on the front lines, like primary care providers, school staff, and adolescents were not.

We are seeing a significant rise in mental health care needs for those who historically have not accessed services, and this is a trend we should not ignore. I challenge you to think beyond the scope of this survey as you help guide future services and preventive strategies to support mental health well-being in Grays Harbor. I'm grateful to see support for youth noted in the CHIP presentation earlier in this meeting. Please reach out to me anytime if you'd like to learn more about the state of mental health services for youth in our county. "

Board Member Dr. Dietrich mentioned that most of the behavioral health care that is provided in Grays Harbor County is done through Primary Care Providers. He mentioned that his college Jessica feels as though they were not surveyed for the analysis.

Hearing no additional public comment, the meeting adjourned at 9:32 am.

Approved on this 27 day of October, 2072

Jill Warne, Chair

Kevin Pine, Commissioner Second District

Vickie Raines, Commissioner Third District

Char Hood, Consumer of Public Health

Chris Olive, Other Community Stakeholder

- excused -

Christine Winn, Tribal Representative

# approved by phone

Dr. Kenneth Dietrich, Provider

ATTEST:

Alex Vido, Board Secretary