

Stark County Health Board Meeting December 4, 2007

Present: Sharon Sager, Glenn Miller MD, Janet Hager, Remi Satkauskas MD, Betty Hoy, Nancy Eagelston

Absent: Chief Buzz Melton, Tim Haas, DDS

Also Present: Gail Ripka, SCHD Administrator; Sandy Sommer, Kurt Kuchle, Duane Stevens, Karen Sumner, Health Dept. Management Staff; Carrie Titus, Community Health Educator

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The quarterly meeting of the Stark County Health Board was held Tuesday, December 4, 2007, at the Stark County Courthouse, Toulon. President Sharon Sager called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with 6 members in attendance. Gail Ripka introduced Carrie Titus, recently hired Community Health Educator. She explained that Carrie's focus will be on the Heart Smart for Women program as well as doing community education for the IPLAN goals and objectives.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2007 meeting. Motion was seconded by Janet Hager and carried via voice vote.

III. DIVISION REPORTS

A. Home Health Services

The Home Health Services report was included in Board packets. August statistics show 105 visits made to 16 patients; September stats: 88 visits to 13 patients; October stats: 75 visits to 10 patients. In addition, the summary of patient referral sources was offered for review.

B. Homemaker Services

The Homemaker Services report was also included in Board packets. August statistics show a total of 707 hours of service provided to 33 clients; in September, 582.75 hours provided to 32 clients; October, 783.25 hours provided to 33 clients.

C. Clinical Services

Sandy noted that the Illinois Smoke Free Act will go into effect on January 1, 2008. Sandy, Kurt and Linda DeMay recently attended a meeting to address the rules and regulations of the Act. The Smoke-Free Illinois Act protects the public from the harmful effects of exposure to tobacco smoke by prohibiting smoking in any indoor public area, place of employment or vehicle owned or operated by the state. Places of employment are defined as any area under the control of a public or private employer that employees are required to enter, leave or pass through during the course of employment. Bars, taverns, nightclubs, restaurants, coffee shops, cafeterias and private and public school cafeterias are also smoke free. It is the responsibility of the owner, manager or person in control of the place to conspicuously post "No Smoking" signs or the international "No Smoking" symbol in each public place and place of employment where smoking is prohibited. If the business owner fails to comply with the Act, an employee or patron may file a complaint; IDPH, local health departments and local law enforcement agencies are designated enforcement agencies. Businesses found in violation of the Act are subject to assessed at \$250 for the first violation, \$500 for the second violation and a \$2,500 minimum fine

for all subsequent violations within one year of the first violation. A person who smokes in an area where smoking is prohibited can be fined between \$100 and \$250. Exemptions to the Smoke-free Illinois Act are retail tobacco stores in operation prior to January 1st that derive more than 80 percent of their gross revenue from the sale of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, loose tobacco, etc. Private and semi-private rooms in nursing homes and long term care facilities are exempt. Hotel and motel sleeping rooms rented to guests as designated smoking rooms are also exempt; however not more than 25% of the rooms available for guests may be designated as rooms where smoking is allowed. Sandy anticipates increased phone calls from people wanting to stop smoking after January 1st. The Health Department provides nicotine replacement therapy such as patches, gum and lozenges free of charge, and a \$50 voucher toward Zyban or Chantix.

Sandy stated that flu vaccine is still available through the clinic; of the 4500 doses of vaccine ordered, there are still 150 doses on hand. Flu activity usually peaks in February, so it's not too late to get a flu shot.

D. Environmental Health Services

Kurt reported that he had sent a letter to IDPH, Bureau of Land Pollution, requesting a tire collection pickup in Stark County in either June or August of 2008. When he gets a definite date, he will schedule the fairgrounds for the collection site. He has received the paperwork to apply for the West Nile Virus grant and plans to submit a proposal even though neither Stark nor Henry County had a bird sample test positive for WNV. Kurt also sent a letter to Springfield requesting that the Health Department be established as a permanent site for collection of unwanted medications. This will provide an opportunity for residents to safely remove medicines that could otherwise become a health or environmental hazard. Medications acceptable for drop off are: expired and unwanted prescription and non-prescription drugs; prescription drugs that are more than one-year old; non-prescription medicines that do not have expiration dates; non-prescription medicines that are more than six months old; and medicines that have missing or illegible labels. Hypodermic syringes will not be accepted. Sandy noted that liquid detergent containers are recommended for disposal of syringes/needles. Betty Hoy stated that she sends expired drugs to a company in Des Moines, IA, and presumes that they use incineration to destroy them. She noted that there is a lot of paperwork involved.

Kurt noted that he had made a few minor changes to the Solid Waste Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Committee. A copy of the latest version of the Ordinance was included in Board packets for review and comment. (see Action Items)

E. Emergency Preparedness

Gail reported that she recently received the Stark County Emergency Preparedness grant contract. There was a \$2,000 reduction in grant funding. She also received the CRI (City Readiness Initiative) contract for Stark County and is in the process of putting the budget together. Funding for CRI remained about the same as last year. Betty McNaught continues to work with Stark County fire departments to develop a system for mass dispensing.

F. Health Education

Carrie Titus stated that she has been in her role as Community Health Educator for the Health Department for about three months. She previously worked for the University of Illinois Extension as a Youth Development Educator. She also had previous experience as a health educator at the Coles County Health Department in Charleston, IL. Carrie gave a brief explanation of recent activities and programs given in Stark County. Her report was also included in Board packets. She is helping to organize a MWAH! Performance (Messages Which Are Helpful) on May 5th for 7th -12th graders in Bradford and Stark County Schools.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

Duane reported a bank balance of \$112,994 as of October 31, 2007. He expects to receive the final tax distribution in the next month or two. Duane received a memo from the State Comptroller in regard to the State's financial situation. The Comptroller Quarterly report detailed a serious decline in Illinois' cash flow position, which has contributed to a record backlog in unpaid bills and delays in payments to state vendors. They are behind about 30 days now and it's expected to get worse. He noted that the Health Department is in good condition financially, so the delay in receiving basic health grant funding will not have a serious impact. Duane referred Board members to the financial services reports in their packets. To date, (11 months) Stark County has subsidized 264 Family Planning clients at an average cost of \$50.07 per client visit. The projected total cost to supplement services to Homemaker clients is \$2,463; to date (10 months) an average of 4 clients have received services at a cost of \$410 per client.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Mental Health

The Stark County Citizens Mental Health Task Force continues to meet every other month; the last meeting was in October. The therapist is now carrying a case load of 60 clients per month and has had to start a waiting list. The large caseload is more than one full time therapist can effectively manage.

Gail distributed a report showing 10 year average suicide rates for Illinois counties (1996-2005). It shows Stark County as having the highest suicide rate in the State; however Gail feels the percentage is skewed somewhat because of the six suicides in 2003. There were no suicides in 2007. A Senior Expo was held in October in an attempt to outreach to more senior citizens. The event at Bradford Courtyard Estates was not as well attended as hoped. Gail stated that the facility and presenters were great and word-of-mouth may increase attendance at future events. Neil Post continues to give presentations to various community groups. Neil works for the Mental Health Association of Illinois Valley and does the advocacy – education and referrals. Denise works for North Central Behavior Health Systems and does the actual therapy.

B. FQHC

Gail reported that the Federally Qualified Health Clinic is planning to open in January. They have leased the clinic facility in Toulon and will be offering primary care, mental health and oral health (dental) services. They have been talking with NCBHS for provision of mental health services. Gail is hoping that the FQHC will be able get services established and sustain them long term since funding for the Stark County Mental Health Initiative is temporary. Dr. Haas has agreed to provide dental services one day per week; the young Dr. Wachtel from Geneseo (a newly graduated dentist) will also provide services one day per week. Their goal is to have dental services available five days per week. Gail noted that the president/CEO of Aunt Martha's met with Jim Nowlan from the Stark County News to get information about the clinic out to the public. Betty Hoy had heard comments that the clinic should be located in Bradford, but there is no appropriate facility available there. Gail agreed that Bradford would be a good location because of its proximity to Putnam and Marshall Counties. The FQHC is not in any way meant to compete with local providers. They do accept Medicaid and Medicare, but they also receive extra Federal dollars to help the growing number of people who are insured.

VI. ACTION ITEMS*

Bylaws. Gail explained that the Bylaws must be reviewed and approved by the Health Board annually. They were included in Board packets. Gail was not recommending changes. Betty made a motion to approve the Bylaws as presented: motion was seconded by Nancy Egelston carried via voice vote.

Solid Waste Ordinance. At the last meeting, Kurt presented the revised Stark County Solid Waste Ordinance to the Board for approval. Since that time, Kurt had taken the revised Henry County Solid Waste Ordinance before the Henry County Planning Committee for review and it was not well received. They had some issues with the Ordinance because it contains laws that are already on the books with other agencies. They want to keep enforcement local and not duplicate laws already in place. At their suggestion, Kurt added in the Preamble that the Illinois Compiled Statutes grant County Boards the power to make ordinances and enforce them. Under the section, Burning of Garbage or Refuse, they recommended adding an exemption for open burning of agricultural waste generated at individual farms as listed in EPA allowances for agriculture operations, Title 35 Subtitle B Part 237 Section 237.120 Exemptions. And, at the end of the Ordinance, he referenced other laws applicable to this Ordinance including the Litter Control Act which covers quite a few of the things in the Solid Waste Ordinance. Kurt stated that he made the same changes to the Henry County Solid Waste Ordinance. Dr. Miller made a motion to approve the revisions to the Solid Waste Ordinance and to recommend that it be adopted by the Stark County Board. Motion was seconded by Dr. Satkauskas and carried via voice vote.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Satkauskas asked about the Clinic Services Report regarding guidelines for second doses of pneumonia vaccine. Sandy explained that a large number of people coming to flu clinics also request a pneumonia shot; when asked if they've had a pneumonia shot before, they either don't know or can't remember how long ago. Sandy stated that we do keep records of persons who have received the PPV shots at our clinics but we have no knowledge of those immunized at doctor's offices, hospitals, nursing homes, etc. Therefore, some people may ask for a second dose or state that their medical provider recommended that they get another dose. To minimize the chance of administering unnecessary PPV shots, the Health Department will follow the guidelines of AAP, the manufacturer and the CDC for repeat PPV. The nurses will provide education on the guidelines for a second PPV dose; clients who still insist upon receiving a second dose of PPV but do not meet these guidelines, will be referred to their medical provider. In the future, we will also provide wallet size immunization cards to recipients so they can share date of their pneumonia vaccination with other health care providers.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was properly moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Stark County Health Board is Tuesday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: _____