



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# Advisory Council

## June 28, 2022 meeting notes

**Attendees:** Elma Blum, Karen Bowerman, Peggy Carlson, Paul Childers, Tyler Clary, Mark Collier, Heather Dekker, Remy Eussen, Adrienne Fairbanks, Amy Gross, Stephanie Roise-Yamashita, Marla Sanger, Andy Santos, Cassandra Sellards-Reck, Michelle Stickley, Maria Swinger-Inskeep

**Absent:** John Brooks, Sandra Brown, Shona Carter, Dave Fuller

**Staff:** Lydia Gherman, Jeff Harbison, Alan Melnick, Andrea Pruet, Brian Schlottmann, Roxanne Wolfe

### (1) WELCOME/NEW MEMBERS/APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES *(Dr. Aru Headrick)*

- Dr. Aru Headrick opened with introductions.
- The Council reviewed the meeting minutes from May 24, 2022. Paul Childers moved, and Tyler Clary seconded motion to approve the meeting notes as submitted. All were in favor.

### (2) COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- None

### (3) DISCUSSION

The PHAC executives, Dr. Aru Headrick and Michelle Stickley, opened a discussion around the recent Supreme Court decision repealing Roe v Wade. PHAC discussed Public Health resources, guidance, and a link to the DOH statement on the Clark County Public Health website for a consistent message.

### (4) DEPARTMENT UPDATE

- **COVID-19 update** *(Dr. Alan Melnick)*

#### Statewide:

As of June 18, the case of hospitalization rates declined and leveled out. Most people are testing over the counter, and less than 1 out of 5 are reported.

- Rate for COVID-19 is 228 per 100,000 over 7 days
- Hospital rate is 7.9 per 100,000 over 7 days

#### County:

- Rate for COVID-19 is 166.7 per 100,000 over 7 days
- Hospital rate is 11.8 per 100,000 over 7 days
- Hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 patients is 11%

#### COVID-19 vaccination data

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are available for people 6 months and older.

- 66% of people 5+ years are fully vaccinated in Clark County (completed initial series)
- 60% of fully vaccinated people 12+ years have received a booster in Clark County.

#### Free at-home COVID-19 tests resources:

- Washington State program: <https://www.sayyescovidhometest.org>
- Federal program: <https://www.covidtests.gov>

- **Monkeypox update** (*Dr. Alan Melnick*)
  - Current case totals: Worldwide - 4000 cases, United States - 244 cases, WA - 4 cases, OR - 1 case
  - Monkeypox spreads through direct contact with an infected person or by contacting objects, fabrics, and surfaces used by someone with monkeypox.
  - The Feds released making vaccines more available for a high-risk population.
  
- **Racial Equity process status** (*Andrea Pruett*)
 

Andrea provided a brief update on the Racial Equity and Inclusion process. The Equity Diversity Inclusion Group (EDIG) group will convene to discuss the formatting and content of the baseline assessment, followed by an all-staff review to reflect on the qualitative analysis.
  
- **FPHS – organizational chart/positions** (*Leadership Team*)
 

The Public Health Leadership Team provided an overview of the additional positions proposed under their programs. These positions are state-funded dollars allocated for Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS).
  
- **Budget update** (*Jeff Harbison*)
 

Jeff Harbison provided a budget and fee presentation overview. The org chart positions presented are considered part of the main budget. Public Health will add Budget 101 to the PHAC agenda this fall for a deeper baseline understanding of the process. The fee process: Board of Health 1:1 meeting (County Council), next the fee scenarios presented to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), then a presentation to PHAC (this evening), and finally a work session with the Board of Health on July 6<sup>th</sup>. PHAC provided positive feedback on the process and accessibility of information.
  
- **Public Health Ethics Review of Free Fridge** (*Dr. Alan Melnick*)
 

Dr. Alan Melnick provided a brief background on the Ethics Committee and an overview of the Vancouver Free Fridge (VFF) program. The local group’s mission is to reduce food waste and support individuals facing food insecurity. One activity of the VFF is the facilitation of community free fridge project. Refrigerators are on private property, and foods prepared in residential kitchens are encouraged to be donated and made available for anyone in need. In addition to residentially prepared meals, refrigerated and frozen commercially packaged products, dry goods, and whole produce is made available. Clark County Public Health has concerns about the Free Fridge program around the risk it presents for foodborne illness, especially for a vulnerable population. Given the public’s interest in the VFF and CCPH concerns about food safety, we are asking the ethics committee to convene a deliberation about the program, including benefits, risks, and potential alternatives; the committee will invite diverse community stakeholders to participate in the deliberation. PHAC members are welcome to participate in the ethics review deliberation.

**(5) CLOSING/ADJOURN** (*Dr. Aru Headrick*)

- **NEXT MEETING:** August 23, 2022  
The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.