



**POPULATION
HEALTH TRUST**
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Board of Health

Lisa Janicki, Chair
Ron Wesen, Commissioner
Kenneth Dahlstedt, Commissioner

PHT Mtg #48– Skagit Transit Community Room
Thursday 08/01/19 - 8:30 am to 10:30 am

Members: Thomas Boucher, Rocio Castillo-Foell, Polly Dubbel, Randy Elde, Sonia Garza, Bill Henkel, Jennifer Johnson, Chris Johnston, Debra Lancaster, Claudia Marken, Kevin Murphy, Maureen Pettitt, Jennifer Sass-Walton, Michael Sharp, Anneliese Vance-Sherman

Staff: Kristen Ekstran and Mimi Chimera

Regrets: John Sternlicht, Carol Hawk

Introductions and Agenda Review. June minutes were approved.

Celebrations and Updates

- Congratulations to Rocio Castillo-Foell for completing her Master’s Degree and to Kristen Ekstran on her promotion to Public Health Analyst.
- Welcome Baby has successfully launched and has served initial families.
- New Vaping law is in effect. No smoking or vaping within 25 feet of a business.
- Expansion of Secure Medicine Return (SMR) has 2 new boxes installed: Anacortes and Sedro Woolley Police Departments. Distribution of SMR mailer bags is also expanding throughout the county.
- We now have approval to distribute Narcan out of the Justice Center and are moving toward MAT initiation in the jail.

Equity Planning

Tammy Dee had everyone participate in an activity. She asked the question: How are people situated within society in comparison to a goal? (education, good health, owning a home)

We know the barriers that exist in front of us but we don’t see what the folks behind us experience. Equity has to do with where we are situated in society and privilege.

This work requires all of us to reflect on our own personal position of power and privilege, our equity blind spots, and our own potential for perpetuating inequity. Discussion regarding equity, privilege and opportunities:

Equity timeline

Tammy Dee reviewed a huge range of toolkits and narrowed it down to five tools that were brought to the steering committee. Steering Committee will finish reviewing this month and be ready to conclude some decisions.

Domains of Work that Steering Committee is considering include: Internal, Partnerships, Workgroups, Data, Advocacy, and Policy.

Priority areas of Steering Committee – internal work, partnerships, and data

- Difficult conversations
- Shared knowledge & understanding of structural inequity

Tammy asked the group to consider: Where do you think you are on equity? Where is our capacity? The group had discussion about the difficulty of change and the proper focus and emphasis on the work in the midst of other really important work. Are there tools to keep people on the right path?

- Tammy indicated that the discussion was to prioritize where to start, to recognize that equity work is already underway, and to think about what it looks like for the PHT to develop an equity lens.
- Members discussed that data needed to be accurate, disaggregated, and diverse.
- The Urban Indian Health Institute uses the belief that instead of using evidence based practice – practice makes evidence.
- In adding necessary qualitative data, the Trust should not forget the importance of quantitative data which provides structure and direction.

Discussion was held on the concerns about accuracy, validity, and moving too fast. This work is long-term: it's on-going and priorities are not going to be met overnight.

BOH meeting updates

Jennifer shared the plan for the upcoming meeting with the Board of Health on August 6, 2019. The meeting will be opioid focused and will be a dialog with the Board, PHT, and OWLT. PHT members are encouraged to attend.

Skagit County Housing Summit

October 15, 2019 from 3:00pm – 7:00pm at McIntyre Hall

The PHT has been invited to speak at this year's summit. The purpose of the summit is to continue to educate the public about the drivers of homelessness, review local solutions, and think more broadly about additional solutions to the problem. Registration is available at [Skagitcounty.net/housing summit](http://Skagitcounty.net/housing%20summit)

Next PHT Member Meeting is on September 5.