

**Ingham County Board of Health**  
**Forest Community Health Center**  
**Tuesday, May 3, 2016**

**Minutes**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR JUNE:** Molly Polverento will send out a survey to Board of Health (BOH) members so they can vote on which Healthy Capital Counties/BOH mutual priorities are top priorities for the group to address.

**In attendance for meeting:** Commissioner Teri Banas, Carol Callaghan, Denise Chrysler, Dr. Christina Dokter, Debbie Edokpolo, Carla Galligan (MedMicro Solutions), Russ, Kolski, Lynne Page (MedMicro Solutions), Dr. Nigel Paneth, Molly Polverento, Nino Rodriguez, Garry Rowe, Lynne Stauff, Steph Strickling, and Linda Vail.

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 by Chairperson Molly Polverento. Molly called for a review of the April 2016 minutes; no changes were required. The April 2016 minutes were moved for approval by Lynne Stauff and supported by Teri Banas; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

**Additions to Agenda:** None.

**Limited Public Comment:** Carla Galligan and Lynne Page from MedMicro Solutions introduced themselves to the group. They expressed interest in learning more about operations within Ingham County Health Department (ICHHD) and the Ingham Community Health Centers.

**Announcements:** Denise Chrysler noted that she'd had an opportunity at a conference to hear the new American Public Health Association (APHA) President, Camara Jones, speak about racial disparities. Denise was very impressed by her speech and encouraged the group to seek out information presented within it as they work to establish the BOH priorities.

**1. Strategic Plan Workgroup Formation - Molly Polverento**

Molly Polverento stated that the Board of Health would be looking at their strategic plan through the lens of the Healthy Capital Counties' priority areas presented by Cassie Larrieux at the April meeting. There are definitely areas of overlap; Molly will be sending out a survey to BOH members so they can determine which of these mutual areas are top priorities for the group to address; workgroups will then be formed.

**2. Opioid Abuse Task Force Update - Linda Vail**

Linda Vail provided the group with background information on the Opioid Abuse Task Force. This group started about a year ago in response to the drastic increase in cases of opioid overdoses within the local community. Linda noted that the increase we're seeing in Ingham County is reflective of trends across the country. When the group first convened, there was very little data available on the issue; now public safety agencies throughout Ingham County, as well as hospitals in the area, report overdose cases to ICHHD who tracks them. This data sharing is allowable (but not mandated) under the public health code; Linda provided the group with specific information about what kind of data is being collected. Teri Banas asked what will be done with this data going forward, Linda stated that it would allow the group to start making year to year comparisons. The data is also allowing ICHHD to start identifying and analyzing location and demographic trends.

Once trends are identified, more targeted actions to address the issue can be taken. Future actions to combat the problem could include raising public awareness through education, billboards, and social media, increased access to Narcan (which is already happening), implementing a needle exchange, and working to increase awareness of alternative pain management techniques and the dangers of overprescribing pain medication.

In order to have success in tackling the epidemic, community agencies, physicians, hospitals, schools, and public safety agencies will all need to work together on the issue.

Linda also stated that she, in addition to several other members of the Opioid Abuse Task Force, including Judge Don Allen (55<sup>th</sup> District Court), Chief Mike Yankowski (Lansing Police Department), and Sarah Lurie (Community Mental Health Authority) had been asked by the Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) to give a presentation on the issue at their fall conference.

### **3. Public Health Update - Linda Vail**

Linda Vail attended the CDC's Healthy Equity Leadership Academy in Atlanta this April. The event included around 100 leaders from around the country, with Linda being one of the few participants from the local health department level. She also attended the Greater Lansing Baby Fair on 4/16; ICHD partnered with Willow Tree Family Center to hold this event at the Lansing Center. Linda discussed a recent breastfeeding awareness/acceptance ad campaign initiated by ICHD's Strong Start, Healthy Start. The campaign has been extremely well-received and ICHD is getting contacts from all over the world regarding it. In the future, the campaign may be used in other areas.

### **4. Tour of Forest CHC**

Linda Vail introduced Russ Kolski, the new Deputy Director of the Ingham Community Health Centers to the group. He then took the meeting attendees on a tour of Forest Community Health Center which opened in January of 2016.

**Meeting adjourned at 1:00.**

**Next Board of Health Meeting:** 12:00 pm on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 in Conference Room C at the Ingham County Health Department, located at 5303 S Cedar Street in Lansing.