



Minutes
State Health Services Council
Telephone Conference Call Meeting

Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
Robert E. Moreton Building, M-739
1100 W. 49th Street, Austin, Texas
May 24, 2012

Attending by Conference Call

Glenda Kane, Chair – Corpus Christi
Beverly Barron – Odessa (until 11:25 a.m.)
Dr. Kirk Calhoun – Tyler
Dr. Lewis Foxhall – Houston
Dr. Jacinto Juarez – Laredo (until 10:00 a.m.)
Rev. William Lovell – Dallas
Dr. Jeffrey Ross – Houston
Dr. David Woolweaver – Harlingen

Not Attending

Nasruddin Rupani – Sugar Land

Visitors

Joe Lovelace – Texas Council of Community Centers
Josette Saxton – Texans Care for Children
Denise Rose – Texas Hospital Association
Nancy Fisher – Texas Association of Local Health Officials (TALHO)

Council Chair, Glenda Kane called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

1. **Draft DSHS Strategic Plan for 2013-17** – Commissioner Lakey provided an overview of the draft DSHS Strategic Plan for 2013-2017. Six challenges and opportunities are addressed in the Strategic Plan:
 - Enhancing Public Health Response to Disasters and Disease Outbreaks
 - Preventing Chronic and Infectious Diseases
 - Improving the Health of Infants and Women
 - Addressing the Evolving Profile of Individuals in need of DSHS funded Services
 - Meeting Increasing Regulatory Demands Due to Business Growth
 - Increasing Emphasis on Healthcare Quality

The complete presentation can be found at:

Enhancing Public Health Response to Disasters and Disease Outbreaks

No questions or comments.

Preventing Chronic and Infectious Diseases

Council members had the following suggestions, questions, and comments for staff:

- Is there a way that DSHS can prevent cigarettes that have additives in them from being sold in Texas?
- DSHS needs to do what it can do to help reduce exposure to tobacco to benefit public health.
- What are the statistics on the number of cigarettes being sold and the demographics of those purchasing?
- What strategic direction will DSHS have working with school health advisory councils on prevention and education in schools? A program to develop student leaders has been successful.
- What type of coordination is in place for working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on childhood obesity and tobacco prevention?
- DSHS needs to partner with children's advocacy groups to make tobacco education and prevention a priority.
- We must stress the economic impact of tobacco use and substance abuse in discussions about strategic plan.
- The demographics and 2010 census are inaccurate, making it difficult to base what we are doing on those census numbers. We are not giving leadership accurate numbers regarding growth and population distribution.
- The state obesity task force estimates were alarming back when the task force was first implemented; now statistics are worse than estimated.
- Need have a stronger emphasis on obesity prevention since more children are becoming obese, and there are more cases of adult onset diabetes occurring in children. Expand upon work with school health advisory councils to combine education/prevention efforts on both obesity and tobacco.
- We are not looking at education system in a global new world. How do you teach children who have no responsible parents to take care of themselves?
- Must become culturally competent in disseminating information – information is presented at a college level.
- Many times the role models that the children have at school (e.g., teachers, coaches, principals, and superintendents) are overweight.
- It is important to be clear about the results of the interventions that we have been attempting. Numbers are flat, show lack of improvement, or are going the wrong direction. Need to establish goals and constantly monitor impact of interventions.
- Despite all the work done in substance abuse prevention, the problem is worse than ever. There is still much work to be done.
- Much of what influenced advocacy efforts 20 years ago has shifted; factors have changed.
- What state is number one in TB cases? California
- Are Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Hepatitis C vaccines included in the immunization proposals?
- Could DSHS pursue writing a grant or partnering with stakeholders to promote media to fill gaps on the issues of vaccines, obesity, and tobacco?
- How much does a vaccine cost per child?
- Need to address health risk of not having vaccines.
- How many children a year get meningococcal vaccine since the requirements changed?
- What can we do to help the bigger cities with Medicaid incentives?

Improving the Health of Infants and Women

Council members had the following suggestions, questions, and comments for staff:

- There is an opportunity to integrate counseling services for treatment of tobacco, alcohol and substance abuse in pregnant women when addressing issue of prematurity.
- Does DSHS have any input on the food stamp program?
- There is a need to enforce drug testing in order to get assistance.
- DSHS needs to look for opportunities to work with elected leadership on these issues.
- Parents are not taking responsibility for their children and are not being trained to take care of their children when they get home from the hospital.
- Is there an opportunity for children's advocates to be our voice on food stamp issue in Washington?

- What is the status of the Women's Health Program and how are we going to do screenings?
- How long will our Family Planning funding last?
- Is there funding by CDC for breast cancer and cervical cancer screenings? Council members requested data on the number of women who were diagnosed with breast and cervical cancer, what stages, and outcomes.

Addressing the Evolving Profile of Individuals in need of DSHS funded Services

Council members had the following suggestions, questions, and comments for staff:

- In discussions with community leaders, most are pleased with work that has been done on the mental health system analysis that is underway. The public feels like they have been heard.
- A forum will be held on June 8, 2012 at MD Anderson to discuss what is important in the process of dementia, psychiatry, pediatric psychiatry. The forum will be podcast and be part of the PCG report. The forum will address workforce development issues.

Luanne Southern reported that updated status report and draft recommendations for Rider 71 will be posted on the website very soon. Also stakeholder meetings will be held on Rider 71 implementation and times will be posted on the DSHS website.

Meeting Increasing Regulatory Demands Due to Business Growth

Council members had the following suggestions, questions, and comments for staff:

- To assume that DSHS has a partnership with county health departments to achieve results in meeting demands is not a good thing. As part of strategic initiative, DSHS needs to discuss ways to make counties assume responsibility.
- Are independent contractors hired to do restaurant inspections?
- As part of strategic initiative, DSHS needs to look at a concise comprehensive initiative toward food safety.
- Consider how we can work with members of food industry to form a coalition on food safety. Kathy Perkins will get statistics on the increase in inspections and licenses.
- Can DSHS work with faith-based groups to partner on these opportunities?
- Can DSHS create a church registry, where church leaders can sign up to receive health updates and information to share with their communities? Then when an issue comes up, DSHS would have an email base to send information out to and be able to contact church leadership. Council members suggested DSHS explore options on establishing website and link.
- Do food items imported from other countries impact what DSHS has to do in terms of commerce and inspection? Does this add to stress and workload for regulatory staff?

- There are declining numbers of primary care physicians in general, and providers for Medicare recipients. How will the declining numbers of physicians in general and those who treat Medicare recipients be addressed?
- There was an article in the *Dallas Morning News* about shortage of physicians in the Dallas metroplex. If Dallas has a shortage, rural areas have a much greater problem.
- There is a lack of residency slots in Texas for graduating medical students.
- This is an economic development issue; worker and income base is needed.
- What does it cost to host a residency? Can private hospitals partner with medical schools for medical training and residency slots?
- Other states have invested their money in opening residency slots. We need to look at the scope of practice and utilize others providers to address coverage and delivering healthcare.
- HEB held clinics, and local doctors ran them out, yet the doctors do not want to accept Medicare.
- Many decisions revolve around what education and training is necessary to deliver a given medical service.
- DSHS needs to encourage discussion with Commissioner Suehs to develop a task force to work on the physician shortage issue to improve quality and providership in state. Ms. Kane will talk to Commissioner Suehs next month about this at their meeting.

Increasing Emphasis on Healthcare Quality

Council members had the following question for staff:

- How do DSHS' activities blend with HHSC or regulatory components on hospital acquired infections?

General Comments

- DSHS needs to consider connecting interventions across diverse areas with specific objectives, develop detailed goals, and determine how we propose to reach and measure them.
- Ms. Kane requested that, prior to the next strategic plan, that the Council be included in pre-planning and planning sessions to provide input on measureable outcomes that can be achieved from their perspective. Luanne Southern will propose this to the Enterprise workgroup.
- Provider shortage is a multi-faceted area of discussion and DSHS and HHSC need to work together with the Texas Medical Association and various medical schools and associations and create a task force to determine how we can come to consensus and solve the dilemma of physician shortage.

2. **General Public Comment** – Ms. Kane called for general public comment. Comment provided by:

- Joe Lovelace, Texas Council – Rider 71 and PCG report
- Josette Saxton, Texans Care for Children – Mental health partnerships

Ms. Kane adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

The next State Health Services Council Work Session is June 13, followed by the Council Meeting on June 14, 2012.



Glenda Kane, Chair
State Health Services Council

June 14, 2012

Date