



State Health Services Council Meeting

Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Robert E. Moreton Building, M-739

1100 W. 49th Street, Austin, Texas

December 1, 2011

Minutes

Council Members Present

Glenda Kane, Chair – Corpus Christi
Dr. Kirk Calhoun – Tyler
Dr. Lewis Foxhall – Houston
Dr. Jacinto Juarez – Laredo
Rev. William Lovell – Dallas
Dr. Jeffrey Ross – Houston
Dr. David Woolweaver – Harlingen

Council Members Not Present

Beverly Barron – Odessa
Nasruddin Rupani – Sugar Land

Visitors:

Elaine Arnold – Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP)
Haley Cornyn – HillCo Partners
Eilen Fagin – University of Texas System
Jordan Head – Senate Health and Human Services
Justin Henderson – Texas Ophthalmological Association (TOA)
Greg Hoke – Reckitt Benckiser Pharmaceuticals
Menily Keller – Texas Suicide Prevention Council
Joe Lovelace – Texas Council of Community Centers
Vilma Luna – HillCo Partners
Mary Ellen Nudd – Mental Health America of Texas
Morgan Sanders – March of Dimes
Josette Saxton – Texans Care for Children
Gyl Switzer – Mental Health America of Texas

Council Chair, Glenda Kane, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. Approval of September 14 and 15, 2011 minutes - Ms. Kane asked for a motion to approve the minutes of September 14 and 15, 2011. Motion made by Dr. Ross, seconded by Dr. Juarez. Motion passed.

2. Commissioner's Report

- Commissioner Lakey provided updates on the following program initiatives.
 - Quality improvement activities and showcase – selected displays were available in the meeting room to view during break
 - Vital statistics imaging project
 - Wildfire response
 - Investigations into food-borne outbreaks by the newly created rapid response team
 - Tuberculosis response in Ennis Independent School District
 - Budget issues and implementation of legislation from the 82nd legislative session
 - Behavioral health study
 - Regulatory program evaluation (Rider 59)
 - Texas Healthy Babies initiative
 - Preventable hospitalizations initiative
 - Newborn screening changes from opt out to opt in
 - Public Health Funding and Policy Committee (SB 969) status

- Ongoing investigation at Austin State Hospital of Dr. Charles Fischer – Dr. Lakey itemized newly issued directives to state hospitals to prevent any such occurrence in the future. DSHS is committed to ensuring a safe environment for patients.

Dr. Ross asked how many allegations have been made against this physician in the past and if a track record of allegations is considered. Dr. Lakey responded that due to the ongoing criminal investigation, we are limited on what can be discussed. Dr. Lovell thanked Dr. Lakey for transparency and diligence of agency. Dr. Calhoun said that the University of Texas Health Science Center of Tyler (UTHSCT) will be taking direction from the directives that DSHS is instituting to ensure same safety measures are taken in UTHSCT hospitals. Dr. Foxhall stated that when the legal proceedings are concluded, he would like to revisit with the Council to review and make sure policies and procedures are in place going forward. Glenda Kane stated that when situations are made known, the assistant commissioner needs to take immediate action to alert the general counsel.

- Moreton Building move – The move will begin in March and continue through the summer of 2012. Dr. Foxhall asked that computer and data integrity during the move be addressed, especially the Texas Cancer Registry. Dr. Lakey will provide an update on this at the next Council meeting. DSHS is looking at buildings that already house state employees to ensure that security measures are in place.

- Staff and program recognitions:
 - Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) Vision Awards – ASTHO presented Vision Awards in two categories: category A, programs with budgets greater than \$250,000, and category B, programs with budgets less than \$250,000. DSHS received a second place award in category A for its Breast Milk – Every Ounce Counts Campaign (Tracy Erickson and Julie Stagg, staff) and in category B for its H1N1 Pandemic Influenza Antiviral Distribution Initiative (Mike Czepiel, staff).
 - Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Global Award for Partners in Preparedness
 - External funding in chronic disease
 - Donate Life Texas Registry – The registry reached two million donors on September 28, 2011. It took about 13 months to go from 1 million donors to 2 million; this was mostly due to

legislative changes that removed the two witness signature requirement on Internet donor registration. Department of Public Safety is also putting the question about becoming a donor on the driver's license application and automating the donor registration process as part of the first time and renewal driver's license processes.

- Quality improvement – A Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grant requires DSHS to create a quality improvement task force. We are in the process of developing milestones and tools to impact community outcomes.
- Community Transformation Grants (CTGs) – CTGs are authorized by the Affordable Care Act to engage populations that are facing health disparities in a variety of settings to make the healthy choice the easy choice and to ensure opportunities to make the healthy choices. CDC completed their awards for the CTG initiative in September. Awards varied with the size of area, proposed activities, and needs of each community. DSHS was one of 36 entities to receive an implementation grant. DSHS was awarded \$10 million per year for five years and will utilize to develop a new program, *Transforming Texas: Health People in Healthy Communities*. DSHS Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention Section will implement by creating new practices, programs, policies, environmental and system changes to reduce cardiovascular disease, decrease exposure to second hand smoke, increase opportunities for healthy eating and active living, and decrease the burden of obesity and diabetes in communities. The program will target non-urban counties (those with less than 500,000 residents) due to their disproportionate burden of chronic diseases.
- The Journal of the American Medical Association published an article co-authored by Dr. Melanie Williams. The Texas Cancer Registry was a critical part and the study relates to increased risk of cancer after organ transplantation.
- Rachel Samsel, with the Family and Community Health Services (FCHS) Division, Adolescent Health, was elected the new president of State Adolescent Health Coordinators.

Glenda Kane announced that Dr. Lakey has been elected president of ASTHO. Kirk Cole is the new associate commissioner for DSHS. She congratulated both Dr. Lakey and Mr. Cole.

3. Consent Agenda – Recommend to the Health and Human Services Commission proposal of the following rule actions for public comment:
 - a. Amendments to rules concerning the reporting of healthcare-associated infections.
 - b. Amendment to a rule concerning the reporting and control of occupational conditions.
 - c. Repeal of rules and new rules concerning department-funded substance abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment services.
 - d. New rule concerning cottage food production operations.
 - e. Amendments to rules and repeal of a rule concerning the regulation of food service establishments.
 - f. New rules concerning sexual abuse and child molestation training and examination for employees of certain campus programs for minors.
 - g. New rule concerning adverse licensing, listing, or registration decisions.

Discussion: There was no discussion or questions from the Council members. There was no public comment. Motion to accept rules and send to HHSC for public comment was made by Rev. Lovell; seconded by Dr. Woolweaver. Motion passed.

4. Healthy Texas Babies Initiative – Assistant Commissioner Evelyn Delgado provided an update on this initiative. Ms. Delgado introduced Sam Cooper and Aisling McGuckin from the Office of Title V,

Alison McCool from the FCHS Division, and Morgan Sanders from the March of Dimes. This initiative is highlighted as Dr. Lakey's presidential challenge of reducing infant mortality during his tenure as President of ASTHO. The entire presentation can be found at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/council/agenda.shtm>.

Council members had the following questions and comments for staff:

- Dr. Foxhall asked for clarification on the goal to reduce the preterm birth-weight. Would this be an overall rate reduction, or would African American rates be taken into separate consideration? Do we have a specific goal for this population?
- Dr. Calhoun asked about Hispanic rates.
- Dr. Juarez asked for the percentage of pre-term births in African Americans, Hispanics, and other ethnicities across the state.
- Mrs. Kane asked for a map of Texas showing counties with high birth rates.
- Mrs. Kane asked who is participating in the coalition; she suggested we involve the church communities and other faith-based organizations in addition to medical communities.
- Mrs. Kane asked if we are partnering with other organizations to match funding for this initiative.
- Mrs. Kane said that MD Anderson has a culturally competent outreach for minorities that identified platforms to reach this population. In this initiative, hairdressers provide one outreach option. Mrs. Kane suggested outreach work with Texas Cosmetology Association.

5. Suicide Prevention Initiative Partnership – Sam Cooper and Jenna Heise provided an update on this initiative. Ms. Heise recognized Ross Robinson, Rachel Samsel, the ARC of Texas, and Mental Health America as partners in this initiative. The entire presentation can be found at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/council/agenda.shtm>. Videos can be seen on www.TexasSuicidePrevention.org.

Council members had the following questions and comments for staff:

- Glenda Kane – The Internet is contributing to suicide in children. How are we reaching out to children?
- Dr. Foxhall – How long has the Youth Risk Behavior Survey been going on and what is the trend? Is there a reason we only do this survey every other year, if statistics show an increase in suicide?
- Glenda Kane – We need to start in middle school to train teachers to recognize and address these issues. How much would this cost?
- Dr. Foxhall – Do we have data on impact results where teachers have taken the training?
- Glenda Kane – What is being done with screening with military dependent children at Ft. Hood? What are the post traumatic stress disorder rates that live in this area?
- Dr. Juarez – How many of the suicides are related to bullying? Do we have any data with the financial implications involved with suicide?
- Dr. Lovell – How are we involving church and faith based coalitions in this effort?
- Dr. Juarez – What are the causes of Latino girls having the highest rate of suicide attempts?

Glenda Kane asked that the Council members submit questions to Carolyn Bivens to address in a subsequent presentation.

6. Report on Community Transformation and Chronic Disease Grant Awards – Assistant Commissioner, Dr. Adolfo Valadez and Dena Stoner gave presentations on the objectives and impacts of this funding. Dr. Valadez introduced Dr. Lauri Kalanges and Marci Kirtz who are working on this project. Both presentations in their entirety can be found at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/council/agenda.shtm>.

Council members had the following questions and comments for staff:

- Dr. Foxhall asked how participants will be recruited for this. He invited staff to present at the Harris County Alliance and MD Anderson meetings.
- Dr. Calhoun asked if they could collaborate on projects and identify partners and other opportunities to present this information in order to address issues on a statewide basis much more aggressively.

7. Report on Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Activities - tabled to February meeting.
8. General Public Comment – Ms. Kane asked for general public comment. There was no general public comment.

Ms. Kane adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Next scheduled Council work session is February 22, 2012 and the next scheduled Council meeting February 23, 2012.



Glenda Kane, Chair
State Health Services Council

February 23, 2012

Date