



Department of Community Health Team:

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- Clinic Services Division Manager –Kara Breymer started on December 17th and is catching on VERY quickly. She oversees several diverse programs and her background is perfect for the position. We are working with HR to rename this position to Preventative Services Division manager to be more indicative of what it oversees and is targeted at accomplishing.
- Community Health Nurse – this position is still vacant; however, we have received several applications. We will be conducting interviews in late January and early February.

Business Office:

- Contracts:
 - Traffic Safety Commission - Bikes on the Road Grant – we received a renewal for 2019 and Nancy Walters will start work on that this Spring. Work includes holding 4 events – which include a bicycle rodeo, safety course, helmet fitting, and minor repairs.
 - Health Care Authority – Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention – we received a renewal for funding January to June 2019. This pays for some staff time, Youth Mental Health First Aid, and three community events:
 - Reach Out Walk – May 11th

Foundational Public Health Services:

- Communicable Disease – We are able to keep up with the workload and even do more. We started a new Infectious Disease Call with local infection contract nurses and staff. This call will be the first and third Tuesday's of the month at 9am and anyone is welcome to join. The goal is to track all infectious disease, however this winter we will be focused on flu. We will use this convening to discuss any outbreaks the community may face.
 - Measles: there are confirmed Measles cases in Clark, King and Multnomah Counties, we have sent out an alert to providers and a press release to the community on 'what to do'.
 - Flu: the season is mild.

Community Health Improvement Plan: The Blue Mountain Regional Community Health Partnership (BMRCHP) analyzed the CHNA data and decided that the following areas are of primary concern in Walla Walla County.

- Early Learning – we will partner with the Early Learning Coalition to set goals and objectives to address early learning concerns (the main indicator here is Kindergarten Readiness).
- Housing – we will partner with the newly formed Council on Housing and use the upcoming Housing plan to identify goals to address housing issues in the community.
- Behavioral Health – mental health and chemical dependency are frequently part of a communities CHIP, we are going to take a step back and first look at the system as a whole. We are convening a Behavioral Health Planning Team to outline what the system should look like and how to get there. More to come.

Veterans: At the December meeting, we had Steven Gill from the WA State VA present on Veteran's Service Officers and how effective they can be. There is great interest in possibly using some of the VR Funds to support a VSO in Walla Walla County, as we only have two part time. There is an Ad Hoc Committee collaborating on this. In addition, in December the VRAB voted Debbie Baker in as Chair and Trina Perrish as Vice Chair. They will be wonderful at leading us forward.

Homeless/Housing:



- The Council on Housing applicants were appointed by the BOCC in December and their first meeting was January 28th, 2019 and was well attended. They recommended Andrea Weckmueller-Behringer to be appointed as well, thus I will bring this appointment to the BOCC on 2/4/19. Craig Volwiller serves on the COH and is CHAB's liaison.
- We continue to work with the City of WW regarding the City/County partnership in addressing homelessness. The City and County are in agreement on contract terms and have signed a contract for Operations of the Sleep Center. Sierra and I will be meeting with the City in January to discuss the contract expectations further.

Other:

- Blue Zones: The site visit in January went well mostly thanks to our amazing planning team: Jessalyn Waring Bruce, Kara Brey Meyer, Norman Thiel, David Lopez, Debbie Minter, Kathleen Obenland, Harvey Crowder, Susann Bassham, Ursula Volwiller, Amanda Perez, Tim Copeland, Chris Zagelo, and Lauren Plattman.
 - February 11th – 10am – Follow up call for the proposal – details to come
 - February 20th – 8am – Blue Zones return visit to present the proposal and next steps
 - We then have two months to decide
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Behavioral Health

This committee is taking a break for the time being to determine the scope and purpose. We have convened a Behavioral Health Planning Committee to evaluate the needs for BH system oversight and consider all behavioral health related programs and needs. We have several BH focused committees and coalitions in Walla Walla County and we would like to streamline them. See attached for possible structure for new BH Council and Network (Reach Out).

Board Development

Mary Aparicio and Richard Miller have resigned due to time constraints. We may want to look at our roster to see if we want to open recruitment for vacant seats. Vacant sector seats include:

- Communication
 - Education
 - Public Safety
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Walla Walla DD Subcommittee Meeting February 1, 2019

Present: Alicia Walker, Kate Propst, Emily, Libby McCaw, Cyndy Knight, Amanda Hinrichs, Olivia Baez, Shamra Baez, Nancy Riggle, Cindy Wolski

Cooking/Healthy Eating Update - Nancy:

- Classes continue to have great participation.
- The Senior Center included pictures of the VRS cooking class in their latest newsletter (see attached). They are happy to be partnering with VRS for these classes.
- Next class, February 7th, the class will be making Yogurt Parfaits.



- Working on a crock pot recipe that can be prepared at the class and cooked at home in the crockpot. Volunteers will make the recipe ahead of class so that participants can taste it.
- VRS has purchased fabric bags that each participant will be given to keep their recipe binders, measuring cups/spoons, etc. in during the duration of the cooking class. They will be able to take them home the last day of the class.
- Classes are schedule on the first and third Thursdays of each month through December.
- You can sign up for the class at www.wwvdn.org
- A Facebook Group page has been started by Tami. It is currently a public group so that all participants can join. Then it will be closed.

Craft Classes Update - Nancy:

- VRS held it's second craft class on January 23rd. They made sock snowmen and snowwomen.
- Celeste Maddox is teaching the craft class.
- The Series of Craft Classes is held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month.
- You can sign up for the class at www.wwvdn.org

Residential Update – Nancy:

- Guardianship costs (from paid guardians) are draining funds on clients. Some owe back money that they will never be able to pay due to their low income.
 - There are very few paid guardians in our area. Marci Perkins has retired. Debbie Conklin is still providing services.
 - Nancy found out that there is a Guardianship Board. She will address concerns with the board as well as research if there are “caps” on charges for services.
- Nancy receives 10-15 referrals a week. She is no able to accept any due to lack of housing, staffing and not being able to support (more) clients with significant behavioral issues).

Community Health Advisory Board Update – Alisha:

- The monthly meeting has been changed to the second Thursday of each month from 3:30 pm. To 5:00 p.m. The meeting will continue to be held in the Training Room at the County Community Health Building at 314 W. Main Street (Rose Street is main entrance).
- Meghan has assigned a program area to present at each meeting so the members can learn more about the services provided. Cindy and Amanda are scheduled to present at the April meeting. Cindy will ask if WWVDN can also make a short presentation.

County Update - Cindy:

- The Press Release for recruiting for the Accessible Communities Advocacy Committee (ACAC) has been posted. Please share with interested people. The Press Release and Application are attached. Application deadline is March 1st.
 - This will be a Commissioner approved committee of 10-12 people who represent a broad range of disabilities (physical, hearing, vision, emotional, mental health, developmental, etc).
 - Funds are available to Counties who have an ACAC from the Governor’s Council on Disability Employment and Issues. The dollars come from fines collected when ticketed for parking in a handicapped parking space without a permit. The funds can be used for accessibility projects in the community.



- There is also funding available for transportation and interpreters for ACAC members to attend regular meetings. Meetings are anticipated to be held quarterly.
- This committee can also be call on to assist with accessibility assessments (walk throughs) for buildings, emergency shelters, parks, streets, etc.
- The Governor’s Committee on Disability Issues and Employment (GCDE) has selected Walla Walla as a site for their 2019 Community Outreach Project Committee. Connie Taylor-Randall, a local GCDE member, nominated Walla Walla for this Outreach Project.
 - Date will be late April or early May.
 - The GCDE will come to Walla Walla and host a Town Hall-style meeting to celebrate the achievements toward improving accessibility and the quality of life for individuals with disabilities. Also discussed will be barriers and concerns. The top three areas where improvement can be made will be noted. A Leadership breakfast will be held the following morning with key leaders in the community will be held. An action plan will be written up following the visit.
 - You can view the report from Pullman’s site visit, held last April 2018, at: <https://esd.wa.gov/GCDE/projects>
 - The GCDE will plan, facilitate and pay for costs involved with this visit.
- A two-day Benefits Planning workshop will be held in Kennewick in April or May. It will be free to providers and interested individuals. Benton-Franklin County DD Coordinator offered to host and pay for this event. This will free up some additional money for Cindy to send more people to the Community Summit this summer.
 - Community Summit: June 11-13, 2019 in Wenatchee, WA. Registration opens in March 2019.

County Update – Amanda:

- Created a Family Support Team (FST) to better meet the needs of our families with children birth to five looking for services. This team will meet once per month prior to a Zoom meeting with ESD123. The goal is to connect families to supports and services in a timely manner.

Senior Center Update – Libby:

- Senior Center Board is happy to be working with VRS and WWVDN to host Cooking Classes.
- The Senior Center Board has approved the use of its facility for the Transition Expo on March 27, 2019.
- The Bi-laws have been changed to take out any age requirements for Center activities. Anyone can participate in meals, activities, Quest classes, etc.

WWVDN Update - Cyndy:

- Glenna Gallo, Assistant Superintendent, Special Education OSPI, was January’s “Better Together” Series speaker. It was well attended and very informative. It was video-taped and has been posted on the Walla Walla Valley Disability Network’s website: www.wwvvn.org
- Events tab on the website has been changed to “Calendar” on the website. There are LOTS of activities going on in February. A few are:
 - Deaf Culture (Better Together Series)
 - Healthy Relationships Training
 - Various Support Groups
 - Family Activities

Other Business:



- Transition Fair was discussed. The planning committee has begun meeting to plan this event. The theme is “*Get Fired Up for Your Future*”, the theme color is red. Agencies will video tape a couple-minute description of their services. These videos will be playing on a continuous loop in a separate room from the participant display tables.

Next Meeting: Friday, March 1st at 3:00 p.m. at Valley Residential Services

Columbia County DD

Columbia County Developmental Disabilities Sub-Committee Meeting
January 22, 2019

Present: Jeanne Walter, Malinda Lambert, Tyler Cooper, Estasia Collins, Cindy Wolski, Martina parris-Fully, Alicia Walker

WW County Update (DD Related):

- BoCC approved \$3,126 ad valorem funding to be used for outlined activities (attached) to support inclusion and a better quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities in Columbia County. Funds are available as of January 1, 2019. We will be using the Community Network to access funding.
- Susann Bassham, Walla Walla County’s Healthy Communities Division Manager is retiring on January 31, 2019. Meghan DeBolt, Department of Community Health Director will fill in until someone is hired for this position.

Columbia County Health Update:

- Estasia is working with Walla Walla County’s Children with Special Health Care Nurse and the Birth to Three services to identify needs in Columbia County and connect families with services.

Parent to Parent Update:

- Parent to Parent support meetings continue to be held on the third Friday of each month. The last meeting was held at Chief Spring’s Pizza and was attended by 12 people.
- There will be a Peer Mentor training on February 17 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Information is being shared at the Middle/High Schools. There are three people currently signed up. Once this training on working with people who have disabilities, the Peer Mentors can earn volunteer hours assisting with upcoming classes and events.
- A Spring picnic in Dayton is in the beginning stages of being planned.
- Rascal Rodeo will be a combined event this year, held at the Walla Walla County Fairgrounds. Jeanne had worked out a free transportation option for families traveling from Columbia County to Walla Walla for the Rascal Rodeo event. Due to a change in Acting Manager at Columbia County Transportation, Jeanne will have to wait until a permanent Manager is hired. Then, work on getting transportation set up for this event.

School District Update (ESD112)

- Martina has been talking to the SpEd teachers and Para-Educators about the Peer Mentor training and asking them to encourage students to participate.
- There is only one student in the transition years (aged 18-21). This student is already connected to DVR and had a trial work experience this summer in the community.

Columbia County Activity Planning:

- Discussed the funded activities and began planning for events (see attached)



- Updating the CC/WW DD Resources brochure to include WWVDN website and Public School SpEd contacts.
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Finance

DCH received a request from The Health Center to utilize unspent funds (about \$27,000) from their 2017-18 0.1th% Award in 2019. Meghan sent this request to Craig V. and Doug to review. The Health Center had been through a lot of changes over the past year, including a new Director with a new business plan, thus they agreed that we should allow them to roll over the unspent funds to be used in 2019 for School Based Behavioral Health Services. On average their monthly billing is around \$18,000 (mostly direct services).

Housing and Homeless: January 31, 2019

Presentation by Tim Meliah of WW Catholic Charities

Head office of Catholic Charities (CC) for WW in Spokane. Most housing matters for WW are done by the Spokane Office. WW CC established 1944.

In WW Catholic Charities has the following housing: 1. Garden Court Apartments 47 units, seniors and disabled 2. St. Michael's housing on VA grounds-40 units for homeless vets and their families 3, The Loft-6 beds for homeless youth ages 12-17 People don't need to be Catholic to be in CC housing, nor do employees need to be Catholic.

VA (St Michael's) CC gutted old officer quarters and turned them into apartments (24) and built 16 new units (22 one bedroom, 10 two br and 8 three-br) for a total of 40 units. Now a waiting list.

The aim is to transform homeless Vets lives. VA services a short walk away from home.

There is a full time Social services director there on campus, with drug rehab and mental health facilities. Most residents have a spirit of community. Seahawks had BBQ there. Great view and surroundings.

The site is federal land so no drugs, alcohol, or weapons (no evictions up to now)

Leading up to Loft, Terri Barilla helped with study of youth 13-17. Found one young woman trading sex for housing. Found another who paid rent by shoplifting.

At this point there was no help available from state. CC looked at possible sites.

At Loft, there are now 20 places for childcare, for children ages newborn to 3l. There is no permanent housing for teens with children.



THE LOFT

Just three years ago the WA State started a program in the State Dept. of Commerce for homeless youth. The Federal definition of youth is 12-24. WW Catholic Charities uses ages 12-17. Individuals age out on 18th birthday.

The LOFT is located in the HUB next to Lincoln HS. (HUB also contains medical section and daycare for teen's children.)

Youth self-refer to stay at Loft. Doesn't take everyone. For example, can't take sex offenders or teens with a history of violence.

Took The Loft a long time to get state licenses. When they opened in Oct. 2018, no one came for 2 weeks.

At capacity once and 5 beds full several times. There is a one 3 bed room, one 2 bedroom and one 1 bed room.

There is one staff member there at all times. Three shifts to cover 24 hours. Youth can stay 30 days and renew to 60 (try to increase by 15-day increments)

Tim noted that staff does not blame or shame. Youth can act out, be aggressive or swear at staff. Youth can come in high but not continue use. Some have come from difficult backgrounds—drugs, sex trafficking. LBGT individuals make up 25% of homeless youth. Average age of kids is 16.

Annual cost for LOFT salary and maintenance is \$600,000.

WAY HOME program - Walla Walla is one of 4 “anchor communities” in WA state working on The Way Home program. [“A Way Home Washington is a statewide program to prevent and end youth and young adult homelessness. We will focus on the 13,000 - 15,000 unaccompanied young people in Washington State who are surviving homelessness on their own.”] ----from web page