

December 5, 2012

Thomas Engle,
Oregon Health Authority
800 NE Oregon St. Suite 930
Portland, OR 97232

Dear Tom,

Enclosed you will find Grant County's Annual Plan for 2013-2014. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 541-676-9161 or 541-980-8551.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Lindsay

Administrator
Grant County Health Department

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Grant County Health Department (GCHD) provides quality services for the residents of Grant County. In addition to its suite of traditional public health programs, which includes the Healthy Smiles Dental Clinic, the GCHD is a Rural Health Clinic that provides primary care services as a critical and integrated part of its services

In July of this year the Grant County Commissioners contracted administrative oversight of the GCHD to Community Counseling Solutions (CCS). The GCHD and CCS, which operates as the Community Mental Health Program in Grant County, were and will continue to be co-located in the same building. CCS will employ the same individuals who are currently and have been employed at the GCHD. At this site, individuals will be able to access the following services: public health, primary care, outpatient alcohol and drug treatment, mental health treatment, and developmental disability services. Additionally, CCS also operates a statewide warmline run by peers, a 24/7 secure residential treatment facility and respite care services, operates the Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion Program of Eastern Oregon, soon will have contracts for Foster Care beds, and in February of 2013 will open a psychiatric acute care facility in John Day. CCS believes in the importance of offering a continuum of care, providing quality services at the most local level possible.

Recently the GCHD went through the Triennial Review process. While there were a number of findings in several programs which are discussed below, there also were a number of programs that did not have any findings. Overall the review was good and the state is pleased with changes that have been made. One change that remains to be made is that the Board of Health (or Grant County Court, in this case) needs to hold meetings that are distinct from regular county court meetings. We will work closely with them to accomplish that task.

The county faces a number of challenges, including the high unemployment rate, tobacco issues, reduced funding and staff taking on multiple tasks, accreditation and finding stable funding for the Healthy Smiles Dental Clinic. Of these, the last two are more immediately addressable by the GCHD.

The GCHD Administrator still has to take several courses recommended by the Council on Education for Public Health. A four year plan is set forth to become compliant. We are in compliance with all other staffing recommendations.

In summary, while there have been a significant number of changes at GCHD, we continue to provide quality programs. Our dedicated staff is looking into areas that need to be addressed, and are striving to increase efficiencies and deliver comprehensive services to the residents of Grant County.

II. ASSESSMENT

A. CHANGES TO THE 2012-2013 ASSESSMENT OR NEW INFORMATION

The Grant County Health Department (GCHD) has undergone a significant change in its administration. In the spring of 2012 the Grant County Court contracted with Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) to provide administrative oversight of GCHD. In the fall the court invited CCS to take over the program in its entirety effective January 1, 2013. Grant County will subcontract with CCS for public health services.

While there is a new administration, the faces of GCHD providing services remain largely the same. The Grant County Court, CCS and the former GCHD Administrator feel that this change will allow for more responsible oversight of the program, improved financial processes and reporting, and a stronger framework and additional administrative time that will allow the GCHD department to move forward in various areas of quality improvement and enhanced services.

B. ADEQUACY OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

The GCHD department is compliant with, or in the process of becoming compliant with, all rules and statutes. Recently GCHD went through the Triennial Review in September of 2012, which found 9 programs to be in compliance with no findings, and 7 programs that had anywhere from 1 to 8 findings. CCS has replied to all of the findings for every program with the exception of the lab, which will be completed in the next 30 days.

C. EXTENT TO WHICH THE GCHD ASSURES THE FIVE BASIC SERVICES CONTAINED IN STATUTE AND RULE

1. Epidemiology and control of preventable diseases and disorders:

GCHD provides all of the required communicable disease activities, with 0 findings during the most recent Triennial Review. We continue to provide 24 hour public health emergency coverage with procedures in place to respond to public health emergencies. One staff member has CD 303 and ICS training. We have a good relationship with our local hospital which facilitates disease reporting.

2. Parent and child health services, including family planning clinics:

The following services/programs are provided by the GCHD: Oregon Mothers Care, Babies First, Healthy Smiles Dental Clinic, primary care services, immunizations, maternity case management and family planning services. During the September 2012 Triennial Review, two of these programs (Immunizations and Family Planning) had findings, all of which have been addressed. Despite these findings, it was reported that the parent and child health services at GCHD have many good things going for them, and are solid programs.

3. Collection and reporting of health statistics:

The GCHD works closely with the hospital, mortuaries and physicians to ensure accurate vital records are maintained. We also continue to provide data for other public health programs including CaCoon, Babies First, Immunizations, WIC, Family Planning, Environmental Health and Oregon Mothers Care. No findings were cited for this program during the Triennial Review.

4. Health information and referral services:

The GCHD provides health information in the following ways:

- Providing health information in both English and Spanish
- Providing and placing written pamphlets in our office and community
- Providing presentations when requested to schools and community groups on various health topics
- Providing referrals to other community resources/providers
- We will create a website that effectively promotes the health department's mission and advertises the agency's services.

5. Environmental health services:

The GCHD has a Registered Environmental Health Supervisor (.8 FTE) and a Registered Environmental Specialist that works up to 12 hours/week. Both Wheeler and Harney County contract with GCHD for their Environmental Health services, and Grant and Harney for their Drinking Water services. We provide a full array of environmental health services, including: restaurant inspections, temporary restaurants, mobile units, traveler's accommodations, jails and pools/spas. At the last Triennial Review, the GCHD was found to be in full compliance for Drinking Water and Food, Pool and Lodging Health and Safety.

D. ADEQUACY OF OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. Laboratory services:

The GCHD provides laboratory services that are in compliance with CLIA standards. Any services outside of our scope are provided by Interpath Laboratories, Blue Mountain Hospital or the Oregon State Public Health Lab.

2. Older adult health:

We work closely with various nursing homes to provide information and referral services. Blood pressure checks are available daily at no cost. Immunizations for influenza and pneumonia are given annually at several locations as well as offered daily at our clinic.

3. Primary health care:

The GCHD provides primary care services as a Rural Health Clinic. Recently our provider tragically passed away unexpectedly. We have found another provider who will begin work in early January 2013. Blue Mountain Hospital is also experiencing a shortage of providers, but expects to be fully staffed by June of 2013.

4. Medical Examiner:

Medical Examiner services are provided by Dr David Hall whom we work closely with to ensure that all reporting requirements are met.

5. Nutrition:

The current Nutritionist that we contract with has announced that she will be moving on. We are actively looking for another Nutritionist. Once found, we hope to enhance this component of our program.

6. Accreditation processes:

Unfortunately we have not been successful in obtaining in any grant funding to assist us with the beginning stages of accreditation. Accreditation is a labor/time intensive process, and at this time we do not have any staff time to dedicate to this process. We are hopeful that we will soon be successful with writing a grant so that we can begin work on this very important process.

7. Coordinated Care Organizations

The GCHD, through CCS, has been actively involved in the development and implementation of the CCO program in Grant County and the Eastern Oregon Region. The Executive Director of CCS is a board member for Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc. (GOBHI). GOBHI and ODS formed the Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization, the CCO for all of the Eastern Oregon Counties. The GCHD will have representation on the community advisory council. Additionally, GCHD has been meeting monthly with representatives from EOCCO, Blue Mountain Hospital and Advantage Dental to develop a process to identify high utilizers of service who would benefit from a coordinated care approach.

8. Emergency Preparedness

GCHD employees a .5 FTE PHEP Coordinator. We are continuously working to develop and implement emergency response plans, conduct exercises and work with community partners.

III. ACTION PLAN

A. EPIDEMIOLOGY AND CONTROL OF PREVENTABLE DISEASES AND DISORDERS

1. Current condition

Grant County Health Department is responsible for reporting communicable diseases through surveillance, investigation and reporting. Routinely, the department operates in passive surveillance, receiving reports of disease from the medical community and laboratories.

2. Goals

To detect, prevent and control communicable disease in our community through both passive and active surveillance, environmental measures, immunization and education.

3. Activities

- CD investigations are done according to state guidelines and requirements and are reported in a timely manner.
- Continuous surveillance in the community for disease trends.
- Keep 24/7 emergency call in procedures in place and updated with contact information.
- Give presentations to community partners regarding communicable disease prevention information.
- Staff is knowledgeable with CD policies and procedures and continues to work to keep them up to date.
- Continue efforts to reduce barriers for immunizations.

4. Evaluation

- Review CD log monthly to assess for timeliness, accuracy and disease trends
- Review training and educational needs of staff and arrange for appropriate classes to be taken as time and budget allow.
- Routinely assess the vaccination process to remove barriers and ensure the highest possible level of vaccination within the community.

B. TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAM

Our Tuberculosis program has a current plan for treatment, testing and follow up. We have not had an active case in Grant County for many years. We keep current TB medication in our med room with appropriate policies and protocols on how to use them. We continue to monitor for active and latent cases of TB.

1. Parent and child health services, including family planning clinics as described in ORS 435.205

No changes to MCH. Wendy Ballou is the newly hired nursing supervisor, and coordinator of Family Planning, WIC and Immunizations.

C. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

1. Current condition

Grant County Health Department provides all licensed facility environment health services for Grant, Harney and Wheeler Counties as well as the Drinking Water Program for both Grant and Harney Counties. All services adhere to state guidelines.

- a. Goal

To detect, prevent and control illness caused by contamination of food, water or other miscellaneous environmental exposures.

- b. Activities

- Inspect each identified licensed facility according to ORS regulation
- Follow up on complaints or noncompliance of facilities
- Provide information and education to the public
- Assist with outbreaks, disasters or other incidents
- Keep current on issues and regulations

- c. Evaluation

- Monitor records to ensure at least a 90% inspection rate of all licensed facilities
- Review complaint investigations and resolution
- Continue to evaluate the financial statistics of the programs

2. Health Statistics

- a. Current condition

Grant County Health Department employs 1 registrar and 1 deputy registrar to assist as needed; both positions are part time. GCHD receives birth and death information in electronic format and hard copy format. All birth and death certificates are processed in a timely manner. GCHD relies on program manuals as a resource. Program policies and procedures need to be developed.

- b. Goal

The GCHD registrar and deputy registrar will receive additional training in vital records as needed. Policies and procedures will be developed and implemented.

c. Activities

- GCHD staff will attend training offered by OHA that pertain to birth and death certificates
- GCHD staff will request assistance from OHA with obtaining policy templates
- GCHD staff will develop, review and implement policies and procedures that pertain to birth and death certificates
- GCHD will develop a quality assurance program to provide direction in implementing new systems

d. Evaluation

- GCHD will train staff on policies and procedures; training will be documented in the training manual
- GCHD will assure proper implementation of policies and procedures by quality assurance activities

3. Information and Referral

a. Current condition

Grant County Health Department provides unbiased and accurate information and referrals to clients seeking services. Information is presented through oral presentations and written materials. GCHD receives many referrals from community partnerships regarding activities involving public health services and available community resources.

b. Goal

To continue to provide accurate and updated information and referral services and to maintain an accurate database of resources.

c. Activities

- Assure that the information and referral data base remains updated on an annual basis and as changes occur
- Assure that written information is available upon request
- Include GCHD information and referral training at staff meetings

d. Evaluation

- Documentation of review and update of information and referral data
- Monitor the written material is that available on an ongoing basis
- Documentation of staff training in training manual

4. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

a. Current condition

Grant County Health Department has a 0.5 FTE Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator who is the primary contact for all PHEP issues. We have emergency plans in place in accordance with the PE 12 requirements. We have an emergency public information phone line available 24/7, contact with the PHEP coordinator is maintained through the use of cell phones, satellite phones, satellite pagers and land line phones. We participate in the Health Alert Network and have a HAN administrator. GCHD is in compliance with the ORS and PE12 requirements.

b. Goals

To be prepared to meet the needs of public health emergencies that might arise in Grant County and to assist the community in preparation for these emergencies.

c. Activities

To comply with the requirements set forth in PE12.

d. Evaluation

- Keep all staff up to date with procedures and training needs
- Use After Action Reports from exercise activities to identify needs and make improvements to plans and procedures
- Monitor the HAN and perform testing as required by PE12

5. Other Issues

Nothing is listed on the annual plan on the website under other issues.

IV. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

A. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

See Attached

B. BOARD OF HEALTH

The Grant County Board of Health Consists of the Grant County Court. The Court discusses GCHD issues/concerns/topics as needed at their weekly county court meetings. However, they do not formally announce and sit as the Board of Health. We will

educate the court on their responsibility in this area and work with them to achieve this end.

- C. It was brought to the attention of CCS that the GCHD does not have an active advisory board. We will formally address this issue in January of 2013 and will have a functional advisory board by no later than March of 2013.
- D. Unfortunately the GCHD had an identical fiscal finding in 2009 and 2012. Specifically, we need to keep clear accounting records which identify the sources and applications of the funds for each grant as well as cost centers. This fiscal issue will be resolved January of 2013 when CCS formally takes over the operation of the GCHD.

V. UNMET NEEDS

- Our ability to maintain staffing and provide a high level of service continues to be a constant struggle with a steady decline in state funding for our programs. We have become very creative in operating the department as efficiently as possible, but we continue to be concerned about staff workloads and the associated stressors that coincide with that.
- Alcohol and drug use among the youth and adult population within the community.
- The poor state of the local economy and the high unemployment rate in the county create a multitude of risk factors.
- Even with the terrific progress over the past few years, tobacco use remains a very significant problem for the overall health of the population as well as the impact it has on the cost of healthcare.
- The GCHD has not begun work on accreditation
- The Health Smiles Dental Program needs to become self-sustaining by looking at grant opportunities.

VI. BUDGET

For budget information contact;

Kimberly Lindsay
Administrator
P.O. Box 469
Heppner, OR 97836

VII. LHD SURVERY INDICATORS

A. HEALTH DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS

Administrator name: Kimberly Lindsay

- Does the Administrator have a Bachelor degree? Yes No
- Does the Administrator have at least 3 years experience in public health or a related field? Yes No
- Has the Administrator taken a graduate level course in biostatistics? Yes No
- Has the Administrator taken a graduate level course in epidemiology? Yes No
- Has the Administrator taken a graduate level course in environmental health? Yes No
- Has the Administrator taken a graduate level course in health services administration? Yes No
- Has the Administrator taken a graduate level course in social and behavioral sciences relevant to public health problems? Yes No

a. Yes No The local health department Health Administrator meets minimum qualifications:

In the next 4 years the administrator will take a graduate level course in epidemiology environmental health.

b. Yes No The local health department Supervising Public Health Nurse meets minimum qualifications:

Licensure as a registered nurse in the State of Oregon, progressively responsible experience in a public health agency;

AND

Baccalaureate degree in nursing, with preference for a Master's degree in nursing, public health or public administration or related field, with progressively responsible experience in a public health agency.

If the answer is “No”, submit an attachment that describes your plan to meet the minimum qualifications.

b. Yes No The local health department Environmental Health Supervisor meets minimum qualifications:

Registration as a sanitarian in the State of Oregon, pursuant to ORS 700.030, with progressively responsible experience in a public health agency

OR

a Master's degree in an environmental science, public health, public administration or related field with two years progressively responsible experience in a public health agency.

If the answer is “No”, submit an attachment that describes your plan to meet the minimum qualifications.

d. Yes x No The local health department Health Officer meets minimum qualifications:

Licensed in the State of Oregon as M.D. or D.O. Two years of practice as licensed physician (two years after internship and/or residency). Training and/or experience in epidemiology and public health.

If the answer is “No”, submit an attachment that describes your plan to meet the minimum qualifications.

The local public health authority is submitting the Annual Plan pursuant to ORS 431.385, and assures that the activities defined in ORS 431.375-431.385 and ORS 431.416 are performed.

Local Public Health Authority

County

Date

a Master's degree in an environmental science, public health, public administration or related field with two years progressively responsible experience in a public health agency.

If the answer is "No", submit an attachment that describes your plan to meet the minimum qualifications.

d. Yes No The local health department Health Officer meets minimum qualifications:

Licensed in the State of Oregon as M.D. or D.O. Two years of practice as licensed physician (two years after internship and/or residency). Training and/or experience in epidemiology and public health.

If the answer is "No", submit an attachment that describes your plan to meet the minimum qualifications.

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Mark R. Webb
Local Public Health Authority

Grant
County

12-19-12
Date