

# OKANOGAN COALITION FOR HEALTH IMPROVEMENT (CHI)

## MEETING MINUTES

MAY 23, 2020

### AGENDA:

1. Okanogan County Census Push - Chris Branch
2. Covid Variance Plan - Laurie Jones
3. CHI Leadership - Peter Morgan & Elana Mainer
4. SB 5395 - Keri Moore
5. Discussion & General Announcements

### 1. Okanogan County Census Push:

- Okanogan County has a census response rate of 28.8% - the lowest response rate in the state
- Accurate census data plays a significant role in our ability to receive grant and state funding. Many allocations of resources is determined by state and county census data
- Having a severe undercount poses the risk of losing important funding
- Tonasket's food bank is doing a "Get It Done" campaign that makes filling out the census more accessible for the folks that they serve
  - 10 questions, 10 minutes, 10 years
  - Offering a reward raffle and other incentives for folks to fill out the census
  - 400 grocery bags being handed out that advertise the census
  - Working to make sure "hard to count" groups are reached
- OCCAC is also working to better advertise the census
  - Providing flyers to food banks and putting them in pre made boxes
  - Hoping to hang signs across the county
  - If anyone would like pre-made signs that advertise the census please contact Jen Short ([jennifers@occac.com](mailto:jennifers@occac.com))
- Latinx Outreach
  - Nancy Nash has helped develop a Latino outreach group that meets via zoom once a week at noon
  - The purpose of the meeting is to find creative ways to reach the latinx population and encourage the census
  - Please email Nancy if you would like to join the next zoom call, Fridays at noon, [nancy@okanoganhousing.org](mailto:nancy@okanoganhousing.org)

### 2. Covid Variance Plan

- A reminder to Okanogan County that we are still in phase 1, which is very limited. Masks are still strongly encouraged
- We have submitted a request to enter a partial phase 2, which would allow us to responsibly open more businesses - though we still feel it is not safe enough to open restaurants

- We hope to show the governor our robust network of people with contact tracing and testing. We now have an excess of test kits
- Please reach out if you or someone you know would like to be tested for covid

### **3. CHI Leadership**

- The CHI is working to support public health in their public messaging and helping make sure the communication tools we are using are effective
- Right now we know that misinformation is impacting health outcomes in a serious way
- We aim to get leadership buy in and key stakeholders on the same page regarding messaging to alleviate public confusion regarding the status of covid
- We want to make sure that people understand what we are asking of them and why. It needs to be clear and a good pitch - we believe this will improve public safety precautions

### **4. Senate Bill 5395**

- SB 5395 ensures that all schools will be providing comprehensive sexual health education to their students
- SB 5395 plays a critical role in reducing dating violence and sexual abuse and harassment. It also covers important topics such as consent, healthy relationships, boundaries, etc.
- We know many youth are not receiving this education at home and it is deeply needed
- Immediately after the passing of SB 5395, Referendum 90 was created in an attempt to repeal the passing of SB 5395
- There are campaigns across the state encouraging Ref 90 signatures. Ref 90 needs 129,811 signatures by June 10th in order to be on the November ballot
- With Ref 90 we are seeing two very publicized misinformation campaign sharing harmful and inaccurate information about SB 5395
- We encourage folks to look at OSPI's website to find factual information regarding the bill
- FLASH is a free, comprehensive curriculum developed in King County that folks can look up and review for a better understanding of what comprehensive sex ed could look like
- Important reminders: Parents have the right to opt their child out of all or some lessons and schools do not have to teach a one specific curriculum

### **5. Discussion & General Announcements**

- DCYF intake numbers are down due to schools and healthcare appointments being cancelled. Please remain vigilant and do not hesitate to call intake if you suspect a child is experiencing neglect or abuse
- Please add Michelle Sandoval and Elana Mainer's email contacts to your account, this will help us avoid technical difficulties