1-29-2015 Lead Group Notes:

Here are my notes on the action items from today’s Design Grant meeting. Please let me know if I’ve missed or misunderstood anything important:

1.       There was general agreement that we need to move ahead very quickly to establish a governance structure. Barry will convene a subcommittee of David, Bruce, Jeff and Peter to develop the next iteration of a governance proposal, starting with David’s draft, and circulate it to the group next week for further discussion at our next meeting.

2.       We discussed the role of elected officials. There seemed to be consensus on two points. First, this process will not work if every decision must be vetted by all the county commissions. At the same time, we will also run into problems if county commissioners and other elected officials are not comfortable with the way the process is working. So it will be important to spend time working with them and assuring that they are heard and feel involved. A seat for elected officials on the governing board is probably needed.

3.       We will invite partners who attended last year’s COH meetings to volunteer to be involved in planning the diabetes health improvement initiatives (clinical and community). Our objective is to form during February two initial planning groups, one for the clinical initiative and one for the community-based prevention initiative. We will then convene each group to further define each initiative. One important consideration will be to avoid initiatives too broad in scope to be manageable. Barry will work with Deb to get this invitation to the partners.

 4.       We agreed on the objective of reconvening partner meetings in each county/jurisdiction soon, hopefully by mid or late March. These would become the Coalitions for Health Improvement envisioned in the grant proposal. Jesus, Deb, Nancy and Laurel (or her designee) will work on this and have a more specific plan ready for discussion at our next meeting.

5.       We discussed the possibility of having Spanish language meetings as a way to reach out to the Hispanic community. This is one of our key goals for 2015. We will return to this concept in future meetings. Tribal engagement is also an important objective.

6.       Deb has developed and has been using a PowerPoint presentation designed to engage partners in the COH process. Early reviews have been very positive. She will share it with this group, we will provide feedback and suggestions, and she will provide a revised version at our next meeting. This will be an important tool for the engagement work on our agenda. At the next meeting we will make further plans for that work.

7.       We agreed to schedule these meetings at 2-week intervals for the next 3 months. Deb will get out a meeting notice. We will hold them at various locations around the region. Barry asked members who would like to host a meeting to contact him or Deb about that.