

Okanogan County Coalition for Health Improvement
Meeting Notes
January 30, 2020, 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Attendance- SEE SIGN IN SHEET

Networking Lunch-All

- Public Health Updates: A child has died from complications of Influenza Virus in Okanogan County this season. Influenza cases have been earlier this season. Stay home if you are sick.

Other Updates:

- Housing Authority: Secured 75 vouchers for section 8 and awarded 16 units for seniors.
- Okanogan Behavioral Healthcare: Okanogan Behavioral Healthcare has a new Executive Director, Bill Snyder.
 - What attracted you to Okanogan County?
 - Bill worked 5 year in Inpatient Behavioral Health and wanted to transition to Community Behavioral Health. He loves the beauty of Okanogan County and being outside.
- Room One: Working homeless youth.
- Family Health Center: Advocating for cross sectors around Opioids.

Survey Results:

- In December 2019, two surveys were emailed to the CHI members. The survey topics were Day, Time and Location, along with the NCACH Board Seat Representative for Okanogan County CHI.
- The results show that the last Thursday of the month (every other month), 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM in Omak works best for Okanogan CHI Members.
 - Traci Miller was voted to be the NCACH Board Seat Representative for Okanogan County CHI, with Peter Morgan being the non-voting alternate.
 - Traci attended the NCACH Board Retreat and told the CHI members that the Board is engaged and involved in the work.
- CHI members took a moment to thank Mike Beaver for serving as the prior NCACH Board Seat Representative for Okanogan County CHI.

Meeting Activity:

- This is a record number for those in attendance. Those in the room are dedicated to improving the health of Okanogan County. This coalition brings people together on the local level, to figure out solutions.

In November, the Okanogan County CHI Leadership Council asked members what areas to focus on for 2020. Also, what is the primary function of the CHI; there is no other forum equivalent in Okanogan County. This is a forum for networking and sectors to come together.
- Leadership Council Members developed a small group activity: We have those who are working closely with the community. We do not think the CHI should make new initiatives, but to support and accelerate the work that is already being done. Attendees broke into small groups

and picked one focus area to make a small group. What we are hoping for is commonality vision and goals. Common understanding, collaboration and to move towards actionable steps. To have these break out groups discussion solutions and accelerate work. Facilitating leaders were at each of the focus areas. Groups reviewed, discussed and answered questions.

- After the initial time with the small groups, members were able to float to other focus areas and add suggestions.

Focus Areas:

- Access to Care (Physical and Behavioral)
- Affordable Housing
- Chronic Disease
- Reproductive Health
- Substance Use
- Adverse Childhood Experiences

Small group breakout questions:

- Describe the problem we are trying to solve in one sentence (be as possible)
- What work is already underway or planned in this area?
- Who needs to be a part of this conversation?
 - Organization, groups, or individuals already involved in this work
 - People impacted by this issue
 - Other outside experts
 - Other community members or groups
 - Elected officials
 - Private sector
 - Economic alliances
- Are there additional resources we need to better understand this issue in Okanogan County?
 - Technical support
 - Data/information
 - Funding
 - Dedicated staff
 - Other support
- What do you think the next step would be if we were to take collective action on this problem or need? How could we learn from and/or support it through the CHI?
- What would successful outcomes of addressing this problem or need be?
- Is this issue closely related to another health issue or a symptom of a larger health issue?

Debrief:

- How was the quality of discussion?
 - Could have used more time to dive in deeper in discussion, but all around a good activity.
- Something you learned that you are walking away with?

- Did not know about some of the similar work that other organizations and coalitions are working on.
- How do we locally connect everyone?
 - People only know about 20% of local resources, so connectivity could be enhanced.
- Take away: The amount of wealth of knowledge in the room.
 - Identified approach for strategic planning.
- As organizations, we end up following the money and grant opportunities. But if we did not have to we could move the needle more.
- Reflection: How many of us are nonprofit and for-profit? Is there a self-sustaining model?
- Specific focus: Same social issues and redundancy that we provide. The more you learn and collaborate, it creates relationships and ficiate action.

Anything else?

- All of the focus areas are linked and intertwined, but from grant funding we have to work siloed.

Closing Thoughts:

- This is ongoing work and will not solve all of the problems in one CHI meeting. The goal is for collaboration and breaking down barriers.
- The Okanogan CHI leadership Council will use the information as a roadmap and direction us on moving forward. It is a possibility to create a landscape assessment.
- Kelsey Gust will collecte the flip charts and notes taken at this meeting. She will type the information and send it to the small group facilitators and Leadership Council. From there the Leadership Council will assess the interest and feasibility of the small groups. Then follow-up at the March CHI Meeting. We may ask you to meet again in the small groups to pilot the model.
- The information will be condensed and the CHI members will be relied on to keep the work going. Solutions and answers are in the room and communities. The fact that everyone took the time and collaborated in small groups, shows the interest.

Thank you for attending the Okanogan County CHI Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned