



Caring Community Network of the Twin Rivers
Working Together to Promote Public Health

Greater Franklin-Bristol Regional Coordinating Council

April 5, 2011

In attendance: Jim Richardson, Maren Bicknell, Rick Silverberg, Lee Kimball, George Whitaker, Donna Quinn, Pat Wentworth, Chief Sullivan, Dan Rossner, Carol Plumb, Christie Phelps, Chief Salmon

- Rick welcomed everyone and the meeting began at 9:10
- Jim gave an update on the status of the PHER funds and of recent purchase. Those purchases included bar code scanners, laptop, and the conference in Atlanta in February. A portion of the money is being held for the “smart board” purchases till the match from the EMP grant is received. With some of these savings we will be able to make additional purchases. Jim also discussed sharing of the scanners and the web-based system
- Lee spoke of the POD updates, there are two PODs to review and the state provided us standard documents to work from. The processes are moving forward and much of the documentation is close to completion. We still need some additional information. Deadline for this project is June 30. Jim thanked the sub-committee’s for all of their hard work
- Maren gave the final update on the program, as it comes to an end, June 30th. Maren will leave May 10th. Over the time since this program began at CCNTR we have vaccinated 1,545 students vaccinated, delivered seasonal flu vouchers, participated in 4 CDC awareness campaigns, 1 national immunization month, been to 13 venues within the community for Old Home Day and other community celebrations, provided information for 13 newspaper articles, participated in several radio spots, spoke with adult service organizations, CCNTR collaborated with 3 other PHN regions to provide Day Care immunization initiatives, created a K-12 tool-kit for all Science teachers in this region, create 300 tote bags to be given out during post-partum visits in conjunction with the VNA’s, the bags have information on vaccinations. Maren thanked all the partners in this region. Jim and Rick thanked Maren for all her efforts, she will be missed.
- Donna spoke of Heather’s community campaigns around CERT/MRC. The goal is to have at least 15 new members by June 30th. We will have a list of open orientations posted on the web-site www.gfbcertmrc.com. Additionally, the new training calendar has been updated and we have several trainings coming up. Chief Sullivan offered to do a “real life” traffic training with volunteers before the Choose Franklin event in May. We are also looking for EMD’s to participate in a group to look at sustainability for these volunteer programs.
- Jim mentioned the drug take back program that several communities are participating in. It is on April 30th, we will look to see if the MRC can assist with this.
- Rick spoke of the Regional needs assessment. This assessment is done every 3-5 years. The committee will use several methods, including survey monkey, mailings of random sample, copies available in the town offices, (CERT and MRC drop off), and possibly high schools too.



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Part of doing this needs assessment will be asking questions in a facilitated manner at community meetings that are already in the works. The process will not be conducted by outside methods; it will be an internal process. From all this we can put together a community health plan; that plan is then broken down into teams by areas of service, such as EP, Environmental Health etc. This is the 6th cycle of needs assessments since CCNTR began.

- Jim spoke of several of the other PHN tasks he has been working on including :
- An accreditation tool that the state requested we complete and a Harvard Survey about the competency/skills of those who work on public health in this state. The Plan is also being reformatted at this time to come in-line with the format of local EOP's.
- Recently the House of Representatives voted to send a budget proposal to the Senate. In that proposal funding cuts have been recommended that deals with Public Health Preparedness. If this passes it would affect the next round of funding at both the State and regional levels.
- Jim recently completed the public health course at Manchester Health Department.
- Select board meetings are still ongoing at this time, 4 more are scheduled within the next 2 weeks
- Jim spoke of the RFP for 215,000 per year with 2 years renewable. CCNTR will be bidding for this RFP, much of this work will be as a fiscal agent as a pass through. Training component would be for the entire state, all 15 public health regions. (95,000 is a pass through). The scope would be around logistical support for the annual training conference. The training piece would be around Emergency Preparedness and some of these trainings have already been created.
- Table top: Lee Kimball of LMK Planning Associates discussed how he got involved and the scenario. There was a Homeland Security Grant that allowed for the funding of this. Due to the scenario scope it took some time for the public health aspects to be clear during the exercise. It was a very valuable experience for all. The biggest needs are in regards to MACE what are public health regions, protocols for communication information. Chief Salmon mentioned that within their own town's LEOP need to be re-written a bit and that became clear that day. Rick and Carol mentioned how impressive it was to hear about how people had discussion and took action and assumed roles quickly.
- Jim spoke of the challenge about not working for a municipality, and that Public Health Regions are not recognized entities. This keeps PHN's from participating in some trainings offered, such as Center for Domestic Preparedness and EMI, all trainings are free but not accessible to those who work for private entities.
- Meeting was adjourned at 10:35 and next meeting at Newfound High School May 24th 9 a.m.-11 a.m.