



Connecticut Healthy Homes Inter-Organizational Full Partners Meeting
Department of Transportation, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington
January 17, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Mark Aschenbach, Healthy Homes Workgroup #3 Facilitator, and Francesca Provenzano called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM. Thirty-two attended that included new partners Jack Starr, Wesson Energy, Anjuli Bodyk, Yale, Brandy Angell, EPA, and Deb Dozier, Naugatuck Valley Health Department. Following introductions, Mark briefly reviewed the agenda items. Francesca Provenzano, Healthy Homes Coordinator, welcomed the group and provided a status update and current overview of the Healthy Homes program. The following agenda items were reviewed and discussed:

- **Workgroup Updates:**

- a. Fran provided an update on the **Workforce Development** group goal of creating a CT specific code enforcement training course which could include HH assessment, existing regulations, code enforcement, education, and resources. The Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines Workgroup and sub-committee can provide technical support to the group as needed. Fran also informed the group that the HH database/assessment form will be in electronic format soon enabling the collection of all data to measure trends. When ready, DPH staff member Krista Veneziano will show interested parties how the system works.
- b. Anjuli Bodyk, who is now managing the webinars, gave a brief review of upcoming webinars (IPM, Asthma) and asked that any suggestions be sent to her or Kathi Traugh.
- c. DECD 2013-2014 Action Plan and NOFA: Mike Santoro provided an overview of the DECD 2013-2014 Action Plan and thanked the DPH for its input regarding Lead, Healthy Homes, and RRP language inserts. Mike provided an update on the NOFA. Seven to ten applicants to be interviewed. Decision forthcoming in March. New HUD regulations are coming in March
- d. Workgroup #2 Public Awareness: Joan Simpson, workgroup 2 facilitator, informed the group that committee members continue to incorporate healthy home information into their activities, for example, at a Wellness & Fun Fair at Connecticut College and at all “Putting on AIRS” visits. There was a HH display at the CT Housing Coalition conference where the HH fact sheets, the HH data book and smoke free housing information was provided. The Susie & Jerome book has been distributed to all state libraries and given to the school nurses. Distribution is in the works to day care associations and directors. The HH banner was displayed at the CPHA meeting. The CT Healthy Home data book was being sent to the public health, housing and environment legislative committees.

- **Partnerships/Initiatives:**

- a. Amy McLean Salls provided an update of the Health Impact Assessment (HIA). “Weatherization Plus Health” initiative. The CT rapid HIA report will provide analysis to help inform decision-makers and other stakeholders about potential health impacts of specific health and safety upgrades when combined with energy upgrades. The HIA team has conducted an assessment of weatherization and healthy homes in Connecticut, developing a profile of health risks and conditions related to housing for state residents, applying findings from peer-reviewed studies to predict the likely impacts of selected health and safety measures on residents of weatherized home, and developing a set of findings that focus on key policy and program issues for weatherization within Connecticut. The report will include all findings and recommendations and is expected to be released in early 2013. Next steps require decisions by PURA, DEEP, and the Energy Efficiency Board in order to enable and incorporate health and safety into energy efficiency measures. Michael Gurecka, New Opportunities, informed the group that DOE fully awarded CAFCA.
- b. Cal Vinal (CHIF) briefly reiterated that CHIF is an applicant and is pursuing the DECD CHAMP funding.
- c. Chris Corcoran, LAMPP, has also applied for DECD funding. At present, LAMPP can still do lead inspections, risk assessments, and abatement plans for properties with an abatement in order in towns they cover. They can also offer healthy homes assessments and free safety device installation for any property owner/tenant in those towns. LAMPP is heavily involved in other HH coalitions.
- d. Jack Starr, Wesson Energy, gave a power point presentation to the group on “Health and Safety Concerns During Energy Efficiency Audits”. It was well received (thank you, Jack).
- e. Evan Seretan, United Illuminating, reviewed the process that UI follows when partnering and performing an energy efficiency/weatherization audit, partner HS assessment, then performing weatherization fixes and correcting health and safety items. An example was provided when LAMPP and UI partnered on a West Haven residence that abated lead, mold, and other health and safety items while performing energy saving measures.
- f. Judith Dicine, Supervisory Prosecutor for Housing Matters from the Chief State’s Attorney and workgroup #3 member, presented an update on the “Broken Windows” plan to the group. This effort plans on training code enforcement officials to perform inspections along with police departments responding to blight and other exterior complaints. This will produce inspections that include not only health and housing code violations (including fire and building codes) but exterior violations affecting quality of life issues, also spot potential “crime” problems in the vicinity, on the property or in the immediate neighborhood. Ultimate goal would be to team up the multi-department officials with the neighborhoods, make it safer, and upgrade housing (and promote health) and reduce crime.

g. Hilary Norcia, Central CT Health District, Region II Asthma Coalition of CT provided an update on the 2013 Draft Asthma Plan and distributed a summary sheet on the Region II Asthma Coalition's mission, goals, and 2013-2015 strategic plan summary.

- **Wrap-up and Adjournment:**
The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM
- **Upcoming Meetings/Activities:**
The next full HH partners meeting TBD.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Aschenbach