



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 09/23/13)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 12/11/14
Agenda Item #: R.1
Est. Start Time: 9:30 am
Date Submitted: 11/21/14

Agenda Title: Informational Board Briefing on 2014 MCHD Report Card on Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date: 12/11/2014
Time Needed: 60 minutes
Department: Health
Division: Office of the Director
Contact(s): Joanne Fuller
Phone: 503-988-5599 **Ext.:** **I/O Address:** 160/8
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Joanne Fuller, Health Department Director; Julie Maher, Program Design & Evaluation Services Director; Rachael Banks, Healthy Birth Initiatives Director; Jessica Guernsey, Maternal & Child Health Director; Rujuta Gaonkar, Health Equity Initiative Manager; Gerald Deloney, Coalition of Communities of Color; and, Suzanne Hansche, Oregon Health Equity Alliance

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

The Health Department is presenting key findings from our new report on health disparities in our community, information on the Health Department's role in efforts to reduce disparities, and a call to action for County-wide efforts to reduce disparities.

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

We will share findings from the 2014 Multnomah County Health Department Report Card on Racial and Ethnic Disparities. This report examines both health outcomes and social factors in an effort to better define the health disparities experienced by different racial and ethnic groups in Multnomah County. Health disparities mean more illness and disability, shorter life spans, and lost opportunities that put specific communities, and our entire county, at a disadvantage.

Creating and disseminating this report fulfills one of the core public health functions of the Health Department: monitoring health status to identify and solve community health problems.

Though this is the fifth release of a racial and ethnic health disparities report for Multnomah County, it is the first to look at health disparities more holistically. This report includes indicators that reflect how a person's health status is shaped by more than genetics and behavior choices, but also by social, economic, and environmental conditions where we live, work, learn, and play.

The report presents comparisons between five racial and ethnic groups – non-Latino Whites, non-Latino Black/African Americans, non-Latino Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Latino American Indian/Alaska Native, and Latinos – for 31 indicators. The indicators fall into six

categories, including: 1) Physical environment, 2) Social and economic factors, 3) Health behaviors, 4) Clinical care, 5) Morbidity (experiencing a health or social condition), and 6) Mortality (death caused by a health or social condition). These categories and their associated indicators are presented from the most “upstream” or root causes of health to more “downstream” or individual behavior-level indicators.

In Multnomah County, the wellness gap between communities of color and the non-Latino White population is significant and, in some instances, is growing. All racial and ethnic groups examined in this report are experiencing disparities relative to their non-Latino White counterparts.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

This briefing does not have a fiscal impact related to a specific program offer.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

None determined at this time.

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

Findings from the Report Card on Racial and Ethnic Disparities have been shared with internal Health Department and County stakeholders including Senior Leadership of Integrated Clinical Services, Multnomah County Managers of Color, MCHD Managers and Supervisors, MCHD Diversity and Quality Team, and MCHD Department Leadership Team. Findings have also been shared with community coalitions, including the Oregon Health Equity Coalition, the Healthy Birth Initiative's Community Action Network, and the Coalition of Communities of Color.

Required Signature

Elected Official

or Department/

Agency Director:

Joanne Fuller /s/

11/17/14

Date:

Note: Please submit electronically. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/ - we no longer use actual signatures. Please insert date approved.”