

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

SARA INNAMORATO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**Meeting of the Allegheny County Board of Health
January 17, 2024**

1. Call to Order
 2. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of November 1, 2023
 3. Election of Officers
 4. Public Comments on Agenda Items
 5. Director's Report
 6. New Business Action Items
- For Final Approval**
- a. Annual Environmental Health Fund Request for Larvicide
7. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
 8. Adjournment



ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
542 FOURTH AVENUE • PITTSBURGH, PA 15219
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CONDADO DE



ALLEGHENY

SARA INNAMORATO
EJECUTIVA DEL CONDADO

**Asamblea de la Comisión de Salud del condado de Allegheny
17 de enero de 2024**

1. Apertura de la asamblea
2. Aprobación de las actas de la asamblea del 1 de noviembre de 2023
3. Elección de los miembros de la Mesa
4. Observaciones del público sobre los temas del orden del día
5. Informe del Director
6. Acciones a ejecutar en asuntos nuevos

Para su aprobación final

- a. Solicitud anual de larvicida al Fondo para la Salud Ambiental
7. Observaciones del público sobre temas fuera del orden del día
8. Cierre de la asamblea



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**Allegheny County Board of Health
November 1, 2023
Minutes**

Present: Dr. Lee Harrison, Chairman
William Youngblood, Vice Chair
Dr. Donald Burke
Anthony Ferraro
Caroline Mitchell
Dr. Joylette Portlock
Dr. Edie Shapira
Dr. Ellen Stewart

Absent: Dr. Kotayya Kondaveeti
Dr. Joylette Portlock

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Dr. Lee Harrison welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Allegheny County Board of Health. He announced that the Board of Health had met in executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters.

2. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Harrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Ferraro suggested edits to the minutes as drafted.

Action: Mr. Ferraro moved to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2023 meeting with amendments as discussed. Dr. Edie Shapira seconded the motion. **Members approved the motion unanimously.**

3. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Kim Joyce then said there were no written comments to be added.

Acting Director and Chief Operating Officer Patrick Dowd reported there were no registered speakers for agenda items.



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4. Director's Report

Mr. Dowd thanked the Board of Health for their expression of gratitude for serving as Acting Director. He explained that this has been a successful year of work for the Allegheny County Health Department because of the leadership and dedication provided by the Deputy Directors.

To that end, the Director's Report highlights the work of each of the bureaus.

The Bureau of Administration, which is led by Deputy Director Kim Joyce has successfully managed the budget of the department which includes the grants that the team has applied for. In 2023, the ACHD team submitted and was award 11 of 12 grant applications for a total of \$34 million. Ms. Joyce and her bureau have also led efforts to improve the hearing docket, upgrade are technology infrastructure across multiple programs, and manage the movement of facilities. In addition, under her careful guidance the Human Resources Program has had another very successful year.

The Bureau of Clinical Services, which is led by Dr. Barbara Nightingale, has made significant progress this year expanding the access to their services. Most obviously, she and her team implemented a new home testing initiative for STI's. Though it has had a few bumps in the implementation, this has been a very successful initiative and will continue to grow and expand. Dr. Nightingale has also worked to restructure the practices of the clinical services with an eye to improving still further the quality of care and expanding the access to those core services. Dr. Nightingale continues to work with the Dental Program to improve its offerings and making it easy for patients to access care.

Dannai Wilson leads the Bureau of Community and Family Health. This has been an exciting year for her and her team. They successfully applied for a new CDC grant, Building Our Largest Dementia Infrastructure grant as well as a renewal of the CDC Reach grant, Racial and Ethnic Community Health grant. Dannai and her team have been busy improving our WIC participation and have led a couple of important new initiatives, including a new WIC office at UPMC Magee and a new mobile WIC van.

LuAnn Brink heads up the Bureau of Data, Reporting and Disease Control. This has been an extremely busy year for them. Late last year they received the prestigious Lucchino Award for Excellence in Public Service. They earned this award for tireless working with and reporting to the public during the pandemic. At the beginning of the year, they completed the 2022 Community Health Assessment for Allegheny County, which served as a foundation for the Plan for a Healthier Allegheny, 2023-2027 which the department unveiled just as Dr.



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Bogen became Pennsylvania's Secretary of Health. Dr. Brink and her team has develop a couple of new and innovative approaches to data collection which will support that work. They have also piloted new approaches to evaluation, which have a positive long-term impact on our department's ability to serve the public.

The Bureau of Environmental Health, which is led by Geoffrey Rabinowitz, has also had a very successful year. Last November, the Air Quality Program submitted to the EPA a request to redesignate Allegheny County as an area of attainment, one that has met the requirements of the Clean Air Act. In September, the program submitted a similar request for SO2. This is only possible because of the tremendous work of this team coupled with the community and the industries regulated by the Article XXI. The team also produced two new dashboards, one showing near real-time updates on H2S emissions and the Emissions Inventory, which shows all emissions dating back to 2010. The Air Quality Program successfully brought a \$10 million Targeted Airshed Grant to Allegheny County insupport of electric buses to be used in the Mon Valley. At the same time, they distributed \$2.3 million to Mon Valley communities in support of electrification of municipal vehicles and tree plantings. Virtual inspections are having a big impact on the Plumbing Program's ability to better serve residents and they are on track again for more than 22,000 inspections in 2023.

Otis Pitts leads the Bureau of Food, Housing and Policy. Under Mr. Pitt's leadership, the Food Safety Program has very successfully implemented the repeal and replace of Article III: Food Safety. The team will be the first to implement a new software package in 2024. The Housing and Community Environment Program has successfully led outreach efforts this year to make residents more aware of their services and to increase their call volume. At the same time, they have expanded the work of vector control. The Overdose Program continues to make progress expanding harm reduction strategies.

Robert Wadowsky leads our Public Health Laboratory. As you know, he and the team have been focused on the design and now the construction of a new public health laboratory. Some of you were able to attend the "Wall Breaking" in September with County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Pennsylvania Secretary of Health Dr. Bogen. At the same time, they have had successful inspections of Middle Hill District Laboratory.

Mr. Dowd turned the presentation over to Dr. Nightingale who provided the Board of Health with updates on important grant work that ACHD has been doing.

Dr. Nightingale grounded her presentation in the goals of the Plan for a Healthier Allegheny. Those goals include physical, behavioral and environmental health and under each of those



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are specific and measurable goals. Each of the grants mentioned in her presentation tie directly to these goals.

The first grant is the CDC's Community Health Worker Grant. In this grant, ACHD has partnered with more than 22 organization and together we seek to train community health workers, deploy those community health workers across the community but especially in communities that would most benefit from them and supporting community health workers in their work. Dr. Nightingale provided a number of metrics used by the organizations to measure their success.

The second grant is one provided by the Allegheny County Health Department to local school districts and universities. Project SEEKS, which stands for Supporting Expansion and Enhancement of K-12 Based Social and Emotional Learning Supports, is designed to expand the social and emotional learning supports in schools to help students and, at the same time to build the pipeline of professionals seeking to work with student to improve behavioral health. The ACHD has partnered with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit which has brought together more than ten school districts and most of the high education institutions in Allegheny County.

The third grant is one from the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) in partnership with the Allegheny County Department of Children Initiatives (DCI) designed to provide improved indoor air quality to child care facilities primarily in the Mon Valley. Together, DCI and ACHD have partnered with Stantec, a reputable engineering firm which will assess facilities and determine the best strategies for improving indoor air quality. DCI launched an application process in 2023 and received more than 80 applications. They are currently working with the first group of 25 providers and will be providing ACHD with updates as the work proceeds in 2024.

These three grants are closely related to goals spelled out in the Plan for a Healthier Allegheny.

The members of the Board of Health asked questions about indoor cooking fuels and metrics related to some of the grant work, including Project SEEKS.

5. Action Items

Mr. Rabinowitz presented a Clean Air Fund request for \$24,000 to provide education opportunities for school age children to engage in STEM activities.

Board members asked for a report on these activities when completed.



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Action: Mr. Tony Ferraro moved to approve the Clean Air Fund request. Dr. Burke seconded the motion. **The Board of Health voted unanimously to approve the motion.**

6. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Ms. Joyce announced there were no written comments on non-agenda items.

The following individuals share comments during the meeting:

- Robert Kricos – Riverside Concrete
- Robert Damewood – Proposed Revisions to Article VI
- Angelo Taranto – Riverside Concrete
- Colin Schreiber – Riverside Concrete
- Patrick Campbell – Air Quality



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Allegheny County Health Department Environmental Health Fund Application

Allegheny County Health Department Rules and Regulations Article XVI, Environmental Health Civil Penalties, §1608, defines how the Environmental Health Fund may be used to support activities related to improving environmental health in Allegheny County:

§1608 ALLEGHENY COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FUND

- a. The purpose of Allegheny County Environmental Health Fund is to support activities related to the improvement of environmental health within Allegheny County and to support activities which will increase or improve knowledge of the environment as it related to public health and its control so as to benefit public health.

Proposals requesting Environmental Health funding will be limited to those purposes listed below:

- A. Projects with direct and measurable environmental health benefits to Allegheny County;
- B. The support of research and development;
- C. Health effects studies and surveys concerning environmental health;
- D. Public/staff education and professional development concerning environmental Health;
- E. The acquisition of consulting or other services from persons with special experience and/or expertise; or
- F. The purchase of equipment, materials, or services to supplement the County's environmental health enforcement programs.

All applicants must be in good standing with the ACHD and follow all relevant Federal, State, and local regulations. The fund cannot be used to cover indirect costs. Submission of an application does not guarantee funding. Only a limited number of projects will be funded per year.

Please submit completed applications to:

Deputy Director of Environmental Health
Allegheny County Health Department
542 Fourth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Fax: 412-578-8325

Allegheny County Health Department Environmental Health Fund Application

Please fill out this form in its entirety.

Applicant Contact Information:

Agency:			
Contact Person:			
Street Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	Phone:
Email:		Fax:	

Type of project: Check all project categories that apply

<input type="checkbox"/> Support for research and development	<input type="checkbox"/> Health effects studies and surveys concerning environmental health	<input type="checkbox"/> Public/staff education and professional development concerning environmental health
<input type="checkbox"/> Consulting or other services from persons with special experience and/or expertise	<input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing of equipment, materials, or services to supplement the County's environmental health enforcement programs	

Funding Request:

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Project Description: Please provide a brief description of the candidate project or program. If you need additional space, use and attach as many "Additional Information" forms as needed.

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Allegheny County Health Department
Environmental Health Fund Application

Quantifiable Results: Please describe how the success of this project or program will be measured. Attach any documentation of calculated pollutant reductions expected, health benefits, and/or other metrics that will be used to measure outcomes and evaluate success.

Describe the project location and/or coverage area: Please identify where this project or program will take place, and where improvements will be measured (if applicable)

Have you been funded through the Environmental Health Fund in the past? If so, please describe the project and amount funded.

Allegheny County Health Department
Environmental Health Fund Application

Additional Information: Include as many forms as needed

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the majority of the page below the header and instruction. It is intended for the applicant to provide additional information or attach forms as needed.