**Conference of Local Health Officials**

**Annual Committee Report of Activities - 2018**

*Please complete the following form and return to Morgan (*[*morgan@oregonclho.org*](mailto:morgan@oregonclho.org)*) by October 12, 2018*

***Please plan on having someone from your committee present at the October18th, 2018 CLHO meeting to present your Annual Report****. Thank you!*

**Committee: Emergency Preparedness and Response**

**Chair/Co-Chair**: Emily Wegener and Selene Jaramillo

**What is the purpose of your committee (please include the issues that are within your committee’s purview)?**

The Preparedness and Response committee would provide guidance and recommendations for existing and new areas of work as it relates to preparing for emergencies, responding to emergencies, and coordinating and communicating before and during an emergency,

Areas of work to be addressed by the committee:

* Public Health Emergency Preparedness
* Response to an Emerging Event
* Administrative Functions

Our purpose is to promote and facilitate Local and State Public Health to work effectively and efficiently together for planning, implementing and aligning action for Public Health Emergency Preparedness Programs. Issues include equitable funding, reviewing Program Element 12 wording and requirements, hearing the concerns and feedback of PHEP coordinators and bringing those thoughts or suggestions to OHA representatives or other state agencies, and making recommendations on items affecting PHEP work in Oregon.

**What are the objectives of your committee?**

* Advocate for LPHA and Tribes needs in the Program Element 12 Contract that sets out requirements of PHEP Coordinators throughout the state
* Ensure a fair and transparent budgeting and grant award process by the state for awarded PHEP and HPP funds
* To be a source of support and guidance for preparedness and response work in the state for LPHAs and Tribes
* Provide input into state led activities, guidance, documentation, training, and other items
* Recognize the good work going on around the state by LPHAs/Tribes, OHA staff, and partner agencies and organizations around preparedness and response work
* Inform policy at the state and help drive innovative approaches to preparedness and response work by providing input on legislation and pushing forward best practices for PHEP work

**What specific issues did your committee work on in 2018 (please be sure to include Program Element and Funding changes in addition to other topics)?**

* Made large scale changes and updates to PE-12 requirements for PHEP coordinators
* Approved budget formulas and helped ensure that a potential cut to funding was equitably absorbed by each jurisdiction
* Developed a work plan centered on informing OHA developed workshops that will be offered to PHEP coordinators, emergency managers, and partners throughout the state over the next fiscal year
* Developed a policy statement to be used by the CLHO Legislative committee to guide their positions on potential legislation
* We had in-depth discussions on requirements for counties and if funding levels allow needed work to be completed
* We offered feedback to the OHA around Wildfire Smoke Events messaging and the gaps and updates that need to be made to make it more effective
* We discussed best practices for flu season including using Essence to monitor hospital and clinic visits, email/fax blasts to providers and other partners to update on levels of flu, and how to keep LPHAs, hospitals, and clinics more engaged in information sharing including weekly phone calls/setting positive flu test limits for masking in hospitals, etc.
* We again did our CLHO EPR Awards. Our awardees are:
  + Lifetime Achievement Award: Sue Mohnkern, RN, MPH (Sue was a long-time Co-Chair and member of the EPR committee and recently retired from Washington County)
  + Outstanding Individual Service Award: Sarah Bates (former Linn County PHEP)
  + Outstanding Response Support Team Award: HSPR PHEP Liaison Team - (This includes Kris Hansen from her prior work as PHEP before transferring to HPP)
  + Outstanding Partner Award: Tillamook Regional Medical Center
  + Outstanding Group Award: Oregon 9 Tribal Emergency Manager’s Coalition

**Were there any specific issue challenges or structural challenges your committee encountered this year?**

The biggest challenge to our committee this year involved working through all of the new requirements such as the workplan, updating the charter, and the policy statement. This was made even more difficult due to Emily chairing the committee herself after the new co-chair was unable to fulfill her duties because of things ongoing in their county for half of the year. Now Selene is on board and really stepping up and this is making things run more smoothly.

**How has your committee discussed or incorporated Public Health Modernization as it pertains to your committee’s objectives?**

The committee has discussed modernization requirements and how the addition of them would affect our current work. The committee was in agreement that implementing modernization requirements would be difficult under the current funding levels and that additional funding would be necessary at the county level. It should not add too much of a burden on to the committee, at least that the committee can foresee except for budget and PE-12 discussions that are longer due to additional requirements and those needing to be discussed.

**The CLHO Board has restructured the committees starting in January and conducted a six-month review which has the committees continuing in their current structure. What, if anything, do you need from the CLHO Board to ensure your committee’s success?**

There isn’t anything that the EPR committee can think of that it needs for success except for the fact that we appear to be losing our scribe. Getting people to step up to take notes is difficult since they want to be a part of the discussion and facilitating a discussion and taking notes is hard for the chairs. If there is a way to remedy this, it would help out immensely.

**Any thing else you’d like to share with other Committees or the CLHO Board?**

Not that we can think of at the moment.

**Please list your committee members. Please note if you need any additional members from small, medium or large LPHAs, or Administrators. (please indicate)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
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