

**Meeting Minutes, County Health Rankings Teleconference
July 11th, 2008 9:00AM**

Call Participants:

Local health department and regional staff

Pam Rainwater, Monroe County
Gina Egan, Vilas County
Barb Feltz, intern from Bayfield County
Chris Dobbe, NW consortium of regional epidemiologists
Linda Walters, Washington County
Vinnie Teneja, Brown County
Kim Gearin, Western Region Partnership, Polk County

UWPHI

Pat Remington
Bridget Booske
Jessica Athens
Kyla Taylor

Suggestions and feedback from Health Officers on last year's Rankings

- Difficulty finding County Snapshots and Full Report on PHI Web site: the current link on UWPHI home page goes only to the PDF version of the 16-page report. The Full Report and County Snapshots for each year are available from the Wisconsin County Health Rankings pages which are accessible under the Publications or Research sections. The UWPHI site will be revised before the release of the 2008 Rankings to make it easier access all of the Rankings materials.

Planned content for the 2008 Rankings

- We'll have minimal changes in metrics.
- The 2 special features will address
 - Leading causes of death
 - Educational disparities in health-related quality of life
- Questions regarding BRFSS oversample and SHOW data – will we be using those in the next edition of the Rankings?
 - We will be using the BRFSS oversample for 2006 and 2007 data. The BRFSS oversampling provides greater sample size in less-populated counties and was made possible by a grant to DHS from the UWSMPH Partnership Program. This 3-year grant has now ended and so these oversamples will not necessarily be available in future years.
 - Although the SHOW data will be very useful at the state level, it will have insufficient coverage to provide county-level estimates.

Tentative schedule for the Rankings

- Draft document finalized by end of September
- Design and revisions October 2007
- Release week of November 17th
 - *This timing is somewhat flexible and so PHI is soliciting information on any events this week that would conflict with the release of the Rankings*
- Print copies will follow the release of the electronic PDF version and should be available not later than November 30.
- Two more conference calls will be held:
 - Wednesday, 9/10, 11 AM–noon (more specific discussion of content)

- Thursday, 10/23, 11 AM-noon (review of draft and discussion of plans for release)

Other business

- CATCH project—2-yr. project working with 10 intervention counties on using the Rankings and then comparing results in these counties with 10 control counties in terms of media coverage and involvement in community health improvement
- Environmental health paper in WMJ just released
 - Print, radio, and TV coverage in: Madison, Marshfield, Wausau, Rhinelander, Stevens Point, Green Bay, Ashland, Bayfield
 - Article available on the WMJ Web site:
http://www.wisconsinmedicalsociety.org/_WMS/publications/wmj/issues/wmj_v107n4/107no4_athens.pdf