

UW-Population Health Institute
Director's Report to Advisory Board and Executive Committees
Summary of Activities since June 2006 Meetings
November 10, 2006

Health Policy Unit

- Lead staff, in partnership with WI DHFS, in developing Wisconsin's 5-year Action plan for **eHealth Quality and Patient Safety**.
- Prepared final reports for Finance and for Consumer Interests Work Group.
- Convened a **Consumer Interests Listening Session** in Oconomowoc, attended by 70 participants.
- Lead staff on the **Health Insurance Privacy and Security Collaborative** (HIPSC) focusing on HIPAA and other matters relevant to the exchange of electronic health records. (Final report due March 30, 2007)
- Producing WI **eHealth Implementation Summit**, scheduled for March 15, 2007.
- Secured funding for the **Evidence-Based Health Policy Project**, a collaborative among the UW Population Health Institute, La Follette, and WI Legislative Council, in partnership with the Family Impact Seminars program. (\$300K through March 2009)
- Delivered presentation at the National Academy for State Health Policy, on "Data Initiatives to Help Consumers Purchase for Price and Quality"
- Participated in **BadgerCare Plus Advisory Committee** and helped concept design for DHFS' federal Medical Transformation Grant.

Outreach Education Unit

- **Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute activity:**
 - Community Teams Program – Thirty six participants in five communities (Barron, Portage, Milwaukee, La Crosse, and a statewide team) are implementing community health improvement projects with program support.
 - Health Policy Program – Launched distance-based health policy program that provides the fundamentals on policy approaches to improving health.
 - Lifelong learning and Mentoring Program – Held a pre-WPHA workshop "Coaching and Mentoring: Tomorrow's Collaborative Leaders."
 - Presented Leadership Institute model and evaluation plan at 2006 APHA meeting.
- **Population Health Fellowship**
 - Nine fellows currently in the field in Milwaukee, Madison, and La Crosse (see activity summary).
 - Recruitment for next class is underway; deadline is December 15, 2006.
 - A monthly on-campus training session for Fellows has been added.
 - Barbara Beck has been hired as the Milwaukee Education and Training Coordinator to oversee MPH students and Fellows serving in the Milwaukee area.
 - A relationship has been developed with the UWSMPH's Office of Continuing Professional Development to incorporate improved educational technologies, provide credits as incentives for participation in training programs, and develop online resources that will support lifelong learning for the public health workforce in Wisconsin.

Population Health Research Unit

- Released Brief Reports on "The Causes of Excess Deaths by Life Stage" and "Using Measures of Disparities as Indicators of the Health of Wisconsin" based on findings from the **Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State** project.
- Began the process of synthesizing evidence and gathering expert input by life stage on the most effective interventions and policies to improve the current and future health of Wisconsin residents.
- Released a Brief Report summarizing the "Results from the **2005 Wisconsin County Health Rankings User Survey**" and conducted a series of four monthly teleconferences with local health officers to gather input for the 2006 Rankings.
- Continued ongoing population health research focusing on the forthcoming publication of the **2006 Wisconsin County Health Rankings**.

Evaluation Research Unit

- Continued federally-funded projects in the areas of **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome** prevention and intervention and **Continuing Care for High School Students with Drug Abuse**.
- Obtained final claims data set and continued data analysis of the **Dane County Healthcare Access Pilot**.
- Continued to support WI DPI on a US Department of Education funded project to improve data systems and their use in the **Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities** program.
- Continued consultation with **Injury Prevention Coalitions** in collaboration with the Medical College of Wisconsin.
- Continued to provide epidemiological support to the **State Epidemiology Outcomes Workgroup** funded by SAMHSA through DHFS Bureau of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (BMHSAS).
- Received notice of federal (SAMHSA) funding of two collaborative five year projects with BMHSAS:
 - **Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment (SBIRT)** program to implement screening for risky alcohol and other drug use in primary care settings throughout Wisconsin.
 - **Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentives Grant** to improve and fund community based prevention programs throughout Wisconsin.
- Began developing the program evaluation plan for the UW's NIH infrastructure proposal for a **Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA)**.
- Continued to assist the **First Step Drug Court** with a process and outcome evaluation of a drug treatment court in Hayward
- Department of Corrections (DOC) **Earned Release Program** -- Process and outcome evaluation of two prison-based residential AODA treatment programs.
- Began assisting the DOC's **Treatment and Diversion Program**, developing a process and outcome evaluation for six drug court sites in WI.
- Continued evaluation research for the **Wisconsin Diabetes Prevention and Control Program's Diabetes Quality Improvement Project**.
- Continued program evaluation with Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, including the **Honoring Our Children** (Healthy Start) program and two Wisconsin partnership fund projects.
- Disseminated results of background interviews and midcourse survey related to the transformation goal of the **State Health Plan**.