

Minutes: July 11, 2005
Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council
Maryland Department of Environment, 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, MD

Members Present:

Jacqueline Phillips, Maureen Edwards, Phil Heard, David Jett, Christopher Loffredo, Mary Ellen Setting, Vicki Tailaferro.

Guests: Marie Erickson. **Staff:** Mary Johnson, Betty Dabney, Audrey Reagan, Roy Hoffman, Julia Brown, MDE.

Opening of Meeting:

Dr. Edwards, Chair, called the meeting to order. Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

Presentations: Topic: "Asthma in Maryland"

Audrey Regan, Center for Maternal and Child Health

Maryland Asthma Control Program (MACP) - "Addressing Asthma in Maryland" -

Ms. Audrey Reagan gave a powerpoint presentation on asthma issues in Maryland. The main point of the presentation was to inform others of the efforts that the MACP is doing to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities among Marylanders with asthma.

Ms. Reagan included in her presentation MACP goals and its strategies. She also gave an overview of the Maryland Asthma Plan (see attached), which included viewpoints on surveillance, interventions, and the efforts of the Maryland Asthma Coalition (see attached).

Ms. Reagan concluded her presentation with comments and questions. The Council members were concerned with identifying asthma triggers, academic performances in children with asthma, strategies for educating parents. Other comments included reporting requirements for children diagnosed with asthma. She also discussed childhood prevalence as it relates to health disparities, environmental justice, and geographical mapping.

Phil Heard, Maryland Department of the Environment

"Environmental Public Health and Tracking" – Dr. Heard talked about the health and environmental data tracking measures in Maryland. He gave an overview of the current measures and findings. He made comparisons of Maryland findings to California's efforts. (see attached handouts for more details). Dr. Heard reviewed with the Council and guests the handouts on tracking and MDE's efforts in reporting its findings.

Dr. Heard mentioned a Cancer Control Conference, which was coming soon. The conference is to include a topic area on environmental factors; as mentioned in this presentation. He told the Council, that continuing education credits were being offered and that he would have more details on this conference, at a later date.

Brief Updates:

Indicator Report – Dr. Edwards confirmed with the group that they are working with the EPA on getting the template completed. She assured the Council that she would keep them abreast of any future updates.

Article Review: “Pediatric Environmental History Primer” – Dr. Edwards reviewed the article on pediatric environmental history primers with the Council. She talked about the role of the health care provider and the preventive measures Maryland is taking in making the environment screening factors, better.

The primer lists several questions, as they pertain to a child’s environment. The primer was designed to give the provider a better idea of a child’s environment and the environmental hazards in its surroundings. (see attached article and questionnaire for more details).

Conference 2005 –

The 2005 Children’s Environmental Health Conference is planned with the Mid-Atlantic Center for Children’s Health and the Environment scheduled for October 1, 2005. The Conference takes place in Baltimore, Maryland at the Marriott, Camden Yards.

The SHIP Conference is scheduled for August 1-4, 2005. CEHPAC Members are participating in sessions on lead and presenting a general session on children’s environment and health.

Announcements: None.

Guest Comments: None.

Next Meeting: September 12, 2005

Meeting Adjourned.