

Attendees:

Members (marked box indicates Present):

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| ☒ Ann Bajari (Remote) | ☐ Jeanne Holland (Excused) |
| ☒ Ann Gonderinger | ☒ Dr. Kim Tjaden (Remote) |
| ☒ Bonita Bryant (Vice Chair)(Remote) | ☒ Linda Carlson |
| ☒ Dave Nelson | ☒ Marlene Kittock (Remote) |
| ☐ Emmanuel Ngabire (Unexcused) | ☒ Melissa Pribyl (Remote) |
| ☒ Jacquelyn Bergo (Remote) | ☒ Mona Volden |
| ☒ Jamie Stang (Remote) | ☒ Toni Seroshek (Chair) |

HHS Staff Attendees:

Jon Young	Megan Coleman
Keith Bennett	Patty Larson
Kelsey Collier	Patty Malecek
Laura Walter	Sarah Grosshuesch

Guests/Other:

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1. Call to Order—The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chair, Toni Seroshek
 2. Introductions were made.
 3. Approval of the Agenda and the November minutes
 - a. Motion to approve Agenda and November minutes by Ann Bajari, second by Melissa Pribyl.
 - b. Vote-All members approve of Agenda and October minutes.
 4. Presentation and Discussion Items
 - a. Dental Center-*Megan Coleman*
 - As of December 32, 2024, Wright County is no longer the fiscal host of the BCBS Dental Innovation Coordinator position for the 7W Region (Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, Wright). Benton County Public Health is in the process to finalize the BCBS contract to become the fiscal host for this position in 2025.
 - Dental Innovation Coordinator 2024 Report Summary:
 - (a) 2024 total reach of oral health initiatives: 8,516
 - ◆ Oral health education in schools – 70%
 - (b) Direct referrals submitted via online form: 106
 - ◆ 44% Wright County Residents.
 - ◆ 37% Sherburne County Residents.
 - PHTF Dental Workgroup: Community Dental Care 2024 Statistics

- (a) 2024 total patient visits: 15,053
 - ◆ 45% Wright County.
 - ◆ 18% Sherburne County.
 - ◆ 13% Stearns County.
- (b) Unique patients: 6,190.
- (c) 88% public programs.
- (d) 6% uninsured.
- (e) 52% children under 21.
- (f) 1965 emergency/urgent visits.
- b. Injury Prevention Update-*Kai Sin*
 - Tabled for next meeting.
- c. Radon-*Patty Malecek, Laura Walter*
 - Radon is a colorless odorless gas that is produced from the natural decay of uranium and radium, found in rocks and soil. It enters the home through various pathways.
 - Radon gas decays into small radioactive particles that can damage lung tissue, overtime this damage can lead to lung cancer.
 - It is estimated that 21,000 people die each year in the United States from lung cancer due to radon exposure.
 - It is the number one cause of lung cancer for non-smokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer in smokers. Your risk for lung cancer increases with higher levels of radon and longer periods of exposure. If you smoke, the combined risk of smoking and radon exposure is much higher.
 - In Minnesota, 2 in 5 homes have high radon. In Wright County closer to 2 in 4 homes (47%) have high radon.
 - Short-term test kits are available for purchase at Wright County Health & Human Services front desk for \$5 as well as on the WOW van.
 - Around 125 kits distributed in 2024.
 - Focus future outreach on target populations and common questions or misconceptions we get from Wright County residents.
 - New Construction:
 - (a) New construction is radon resistant but can still have high radon.
 - ◆ Close to ¼ of new builds have high radon.
 - ◆ Young families are more likely to live in new builds.
 - Multifamily Housing:
 - (a) Rental units are not required to be tested for radon.
 - Houses without Basements:
 - (a) Slab on grade.
 - (b) Manufactured homes.

(c) Still have radon risk and should be tested.

d. *SHIP-Keith Bennett*

- Wright County SHIP website was shared.
- We partner with communities, work hand and hand helping them reach their goal.
- SHIP is a comprehensive health strategy coordinated across all of Minnesota's 87 counties and 10 tribal nations. SHIP is statewide, with the Minnesota legislature providing \$17.5 million in funding per year to support critical primary prevention activities led by local public and tribal health partners. The context areas for this round of funding including MN Eats, MN Moves, MN Breathes, and MN Well-being.
- Annual reports are available on the website.
- SHIP interest form is available as well on the website. The information on the form helps the SHIP staff understand your interest in partnering on a project.
- Some examples of past projects were reviewed.
- Asthma Program is a newer program that SHIP and Wright County Public Health partnered on.

(a) Began in late 2023.

(b) Between home visits, school engagement, and clinic partnerships, the Asthma Program offers ways to reduce asthma triggers and prevent symptoms.

5. New Business

a. Rural Collective Policy Leadership Cohort opening for Project REACH.

- The Rural Health Program is now recruiting for our next cohort of Project REACH participants. This is an exciting opportunity for people in rural Minnesota who are passionate about making a difference in their community. Project REACH is a year-long health policy and leadership training program for community members and leader in rural Minnesota. Interest forms are due by March 17, 2025, and the next cohort begins in August 2025.

6. Old Business

a. PIT (Point in Time) Count: This years' PIT count will be on January 22nd.

7. Other

a. Dave Nelson is retiring from the Task Force. We thank him for his service to the Wright County community.

8. Agenda Items for the next meeting, February 10, 2025

a. Injury Prevention Update

9. Adjourn

a. Motion to adjourn by Mona Volden, second by Ann Bajari.

b. Adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

pl/sg