

**Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District Health Advisory Board**  
**February 19, 2015**  
**Location: M.E.R.C.Y. Healthcare Center**

The Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District's Health Advisory Board convened on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 1:00 p.m., and the meeting was held at the M.E.R.C.Y. Healthcare Center. The following board members were present: Dr. Hawley, Shane Price, James McCoy, Randy Williams, Dr. McKnight, and Tom Perini. Attendees representing the ATCPHD were Derrick L. Neal, Santos Navarrette, James Childers, Lesli Andrews, Dr. Peter Norton, Stanley Smith, Kay Durilla, Mattie Pierre, Thaddee Uwimana, Dianne Tyler, and Nike Neuenheim.

**I. Call to order**

Dr. Hawley called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**II. Review & Approval of the minutes from the November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 meeting.** Dr. Hawley made a motion to accept the minutes, all were in favor.

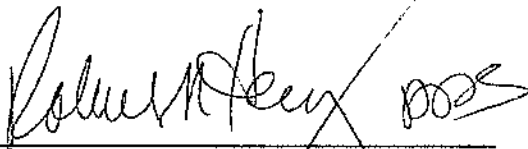
**III. Nursing program updates (regional trend data)**

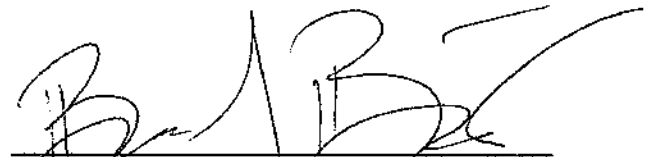
Report by Kay Durilla, ATCPHD Nursing Programs Manager,

- The immunization staff attended a mandatory DSHS training in Austin. At the training the following items were discussed: the importance of purchasing new refrigerators every ten years; maintenance of the thermometers, data loggers, three refrigerators, and one freezer.
- M.E.R.C.Y. Healthcare Center is comprised of the following programs: STD, Family Planning, Primary Health Care, and Expanded Primary Health Care. Currently, twelve to fifteen patients per day are seen at the clinic. Eric Hargett is the current Nurse Practitioner for the Primary Health Care program. This is a contractual position through the MedCare Staffing agency.
- In March, the ATCPHD is considering changing the STD clinic from scheduled appointments to walk-in appointments.
- The Texas DSHS is considering combining the Primary Health Care program, the Texas Women's Health Program, and the Expanded Primary Health Care program. There has been an increase in the number of male clients utilizing the Primary Health Care program.
- The Refugee program has seen a total of 185 patients this year. Clients are coming from Midland to utilize this program.
- Tuberculosis State & Federal Program, there was one documented active case this year and the ATCPHD does not anticipate using all of the funding. In response to Mr. Perini's question regarding which cities have a large number of active tuberculosis cases, Ms. Durilla responded that larger cities such as Houston and Dallas tend to have a higher number of cases.
- Pregnancy tests: 20-25 per month. The staff provides clients with information pertaining to the Medicaid and Hendrick Pregnancy Program.
- In response to Mr. Price's question regarding if the costs of the data loggers has been built into the budget, Ms. Durilla stated that this was a new mandate by the state and was not in the current budget. In response to Mr. Price's second question

regarding who oversees the Providers, Ms. Durilla stated that Christina Evans audits the providers regularly.

- Mr. Navarrette stated that the EPHC budget is now 50% categorical and 50% fee for service. The Primary Health Care program will have to submit a new grant application this year. The program is now in the fifth year of a five year renewable term.
- IV. **Thaddee Uwimanna**, Public Health Nurse III, oversees the Tuberculosis Program, Texas Health Steps, and Refugee program. He also fills in when other program areas are short staffed. He is originally from Africa and enjoys working at the health department. He also assists with the City lunch and learn.
- V. **Nike Neuenheim**, Health Management Coordinator, discussed the ATCPHD Organizational Strategic Planning Process. The health department has adopted new Mission, Vision, and Value statements, and has established strategic priorities, goals, objectives, and measures (specified time frames in which these will be completed). The draft of the strategic plan is currently being reviewed by NACCHO.
- VI. **Dianne Tyler**, Customer Service III, oversees purchasing, check requests, travel, employee payroll, and provides a variety of other services within the health department. She has been with the health department for over 17 years.
- VII. **Dental Clinic update**  
Report by Mr. Navarrette, Assistant Health Administrator,
  - In the months of December 2014 and January 2015, the Dentist and Registered Dental Assistant provided services to 78-80 patients per month. The program is on target for meeting the fiscal numbers they had predicted. Mr. Navarrette and Mrs. Neuenheim completed a grant application through the Community Foundation of Abilene, which would allow the Dentist and Dental Assistant to provide oral healthcare education to students within Ortiz, Jane-Long, and Martinez Elementary Schools within the AISD school district. Mr. Navarrette has requested \$30,000.00 from the Community Foundation of Abilene for the completion of the oral healthcare educational program for the AISD students. ATCPHD has a contract in place to provide oral healthcare services for Big Country Aids Resource (BCAR) clients at a rate of \$2,700.00 per month. In October the dental program will provide services at the Civic Center during their annual event.
- VIII. The Board Members were invited to complete a tour of the M.E.R.C.Y. Health Care Center following the adjournment of the meeting.
- IX. Meeting adjourned by Dr. Hawley at 2:10 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary