



Robert Stephens, MS, Health Officer  
1025 Memorial Drive  
Oakland, Maryland 21550

# Garrett County Health Department

## ADOLESCENT WELL-CHILD WORKGROUP

January 3, 2019



**Public Health**

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**THOSE PRESENT:** Dr. Karl Schwalm, Rebecca Aiken, Dr. Jenny Corder, Shelley Argabrite, Laura Schroyer, Rick DeWitt, Dr. Robert Phares, Kendra McLaughlin, Phil Lauver

### A. Providers

**1. Coverage for teen physicals** – It appears that all insurance, private and Medicaid, covers well-child visits once every 365 days.

**2. Grand Rounds** – Grand rounds is an educational seminar on the second and fourth Fridays at Garrett Regional Medical Center (GRMC). Dr. Schwalm would like to present the data we have on drugs, suicide, and sexually transmitted infections along with the results of the survey. He would also like to present this at the medical staff meetings that are better attended than grand rounds.

**a. Present statistics in depth, possibly with Medicaid rep** - Dennis Schrader is the State Director for Medicaid. Dr. Schwalm would like to contact him to discuss ways to reach persons with MA for well-child visits.

It may be beneficial to also contact top insurance companies to make them aware of the lack of response to wellness checks for their insured and the possible consequences, to see if they can step in.

### B. Board of Education

Dr. Corder will forward the curriculum information to the group that was provided to her. The health curriculum is taught by the teachers in the elementary schools and the nurses do family life and maturation for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. The middle and high schools have health teachers and the subject is only taught one-fourth of each school year. When a teacher is covering a topic, the approved resources need to be followed.

The Board of Education meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. with public comments at 6:00 p.m. The agenda is on their webpage. Public comments are limited to five minutes. Dr. Phares has agreed to attend January's meeting to give an overview of the group and highlights of the data. He will then get on the agenda to present at February's meeting.

In order to make changes to the curriculum, the first step would be to contact Penny Proudfoot and Karen Devore. An idea would be to incorporate health into science, math, etc. classes and not have a specific health class. All teachers share the load. It would be difficult to get more health class time. Becky will contact Karen to discuss this.

Atlantic General can assist in presentations to middle and high schools. It is time consuming to develop curriculum and would need to be worked on during the summer. Funding would need to be provided to pay the stipend for the teachers. Shelley will contact Atlantic General for specifics. This can be added to the agenda for the meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup> with the health educators, in conjunction with Health Planning Council.

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Becky Aiken presented and detailed Power School. Pre K students and new students need to have physicals. There are also required sports and band physicals, but many times they are done quickly. There could be a rule change that would require a yearly physical.

Transportation can be a big issue. Parents cannot come pick up a sick child let alone take them to the doctor for a well-child visit.

### **Summarize**

Dr. Schwalm and Dr. Corder will work on contacting Dennis Schrader to pursue Medical Assistance. Dr. Schwalm will also attend grand rounds for practitioners and nurse practitioners

Dr. Phares will attend next week's Board of Education meeting to introduce this workgroup during the public comment time and then he will get on February's meeting agenda.

What agencies do we need to get onboard to achieve annual well visits? Within the Health Department there is Family Planning and WIC, any others? Think about this for future meetings. Health Education and Outreach could possibly assist because they do programs within the schools.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Conference Room at the Health Department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth A. Brenneman

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