

Health Director's Report

September, 2014

Staff

- We're down to just two vacancies, a Public Health Nurse III (rare as hen's teeth) and a Finance Director. The Finance Director position is posted and will close on September 23rd. My goal is to have the position filled by December 1st.
- I'm proud to announce that Amanda Bartolomeo was selected as one of 10 statewide winners of the North Carolina Public Health All Star award.

BOH Priorities

- The final set of recommendations from the "Town and Gown Alcohol Misuse Prevention Taskforce" was approved. Next we will develop a timeline for sharing these recommendations with the Town of Chapel Hill and UNC Chapel Hill leadership. We will also be seeking funding for a full-time position to oversee the implementation of these recommendations. More to come in the next couple weeks.
- I was invited to speak at the United Way's CEO sleep out on the link between childhood poverty and poor adult health. It was energizing to see the private sector engaged in understanding and committed to contributing to a solution to this problem.
- Work continues with the "Child Village Project". Meredith, Meredith and Melvin have been very busy getting to know the 6 zones and talking with leaders in those zones about the project.
- We've also submitted a funding request to the state for the development of a family planning module for adolescents via "Ana the Avatar". If funded, we should have a product ready for use this spring.

Various

- The CD work continues with continued follow up for Ebola (we had one suspect case that was ruled out), as well as working with both school systems to educate and prepare for EV D68. We've had a couple suspect cases so far, but none have been lab confirmed and none of the suspects have been involved in a cluster.
- I typically issue a "Health Director Order" less than one time a year. Last week, however, I issued three in one day. The only one that resulted in follow up criminal action was a pet owner's failure to surrender her dog after that dog bit a woman. The pet owner absconded with the dog while Animal Services was there to take him in for the state-mandated 10 day quarantine. After she failed to respond to the Order for Surrender, the Judge agreed to issue a warrant for her arrest. As I write this, she has not been arrested. More on that next week.