

Minutes for the Immunize Kansas Kids
Steering Committee Meeting
June 14, 2006
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Immunization Steering Committee met on June 14, 2006, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka. Gianfranco Pezzino called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Present at the meeting were Mary Baskett, Roderick Bremby, Gary Brunk, Deborah Bumgardner, Dennis Cooley, Judy Darting, Linda Davis, Whitney Evans, Martha Froetschner, Lisa Ganz, Laura Harrington, JoAnn Harris, Julie Holmes, Tom Kean, Kay Kent, Brenda Kuder, Jim McLean, Bruce Miyahara, Kimberly Murphy, Adam Obley, Sandy Perkins, Gianfranco Pezzino, Terri Roberts, John Rule, Jean Rumbaugh, Michael Runau, Laura Sanchez, Elaine Schwartz, Judy Seltzer, Edie Snethen, Chris Steege, Shannon Steinbauer, Malika Sterling, Nancy Tausz, Bertha Thomas, Dave Thompson, Chris Tuck, Marlou Wegener, Sheldon Weisgrau, and Carolyn Williams.

Gianfranco Pezzino welcomed participants and led them in introductions. Tom Kean reviewed the agenda for the day.

Gianfranco Pezzino provided an update of activities occurring since the previous meeting, including:

- Created work groups, assigning facilitators and identifying support staff.
- Updated the proposed strategies for the action plan.
- Continued research activities.

Jim McLean discussed progress on the Immunize Kansas Kids Web site. He invited the steering committee to e-mail him with any suggestions or corrections. Major points of his presentation included:

- The logo and Web site are being created to give the steering committee an independent identity.
- Based on discussions from the previous meeting, changes were made to the language on the “about” and “reports” page to let the public know that the materials on the site are a work-in-progress instead of official positions, and that the project is independent from KDHE’s immunization program.
- Two informational items were added to the “learn more” page, in response to comments received in the last meeting. Those items are the school entrance statute (KSA 72-5209) and the 2006 Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule.
- An e-mail will be sent to the committee when the site is live, and it will include a note reminding people how to get to the Steering Committee section of the site, which will include future agendas, minutes, and other documents.

Discussion: Sheldon Weisgrau expressed concern that the PowerPoints on the “Reports Page” may not convey their complete meaning independent of the verbal

presentation. Jim McLean suggested that a note could be added to the page that would direct people to e-mail the committee for further information.

Sheldon Weisgrau updated the steering committee with new information about immunization financing. He presented seven categories of funding sources, then attached annual expenditures to those categories in both dollars and overall percentages. For more information on this presentation, see the PowerPoint slides. Discussion: A steering committee member suggested including information on combination vaccines. Another suggested getting comparative information from other states. Sheldon Weisgrau agreed to try to find out if the requested information was available. There were general comments about the national annual expenditure for vaccines, \$1.5 billion dollars, and the lack of information on how that money is actually spent.

Gianfranco Pezzino told the committee that preliminary results will be provided at the next meeting on the following research.

- Description of the provider network.
- Description of the barriers to children receiving immunizations.
- Comparison of the immunization coverage rates at clinics where immunizations are provided on site with clinics where they are referred to another provider.

Pam Shaw led a discussion about medical homes, which she described as providers who care for all the medical needs of their patients. She stated that health indicators are better overall, according to research, when a child has a medical home. That medical home could be a private doctor or a public health department.

Edie Snethen presented a scatter plot that showed the percentage of private vs. public immunization providers did not affect a state's overall immunization ranking. Instead, research indicates that important factors contributing to increased immunization rates are improving access and funding.

Discussion: Gianfranco Pezzino stated that he is reassured by the above discussion, because children shouldn't be taken away from where they are successfully and timely immunized. A steering committee member stated that undocumented children without HealthWave or Medicaid were a particular concern, and there should be ways to make sure they receive care. Another stated that sustainability is very important and that medical homes are important because they provide a place where a child is seen on a regular basis, however, there still must be a safety net. Still another suggested that both health departments and physicians should be held accountable for the children they see. Tom Kean provided a summary, stating that the underlying issue is a fragmented health care system and that there are people outside the system. He stated that the work groups should keep that in mind and look at the entire system.

Tom Kean summarized the small group process:

- The Work Group Guide Book should be completed by each group before August 14.

- The work groups should follow the eight steps on page three. See the workbook for a list of those steps.
- Work groups may need to have conference calls or follow up meetings to finish their work.
- At a future steering committee meeting, the group will bring all of the recommendations together in a single matrix.
- IKK Project Management Team can help access data that has not already been presented.

The meeting adjourned into workgroups, then reconvened. Tom Kean asked for comments on the work group discussions. All comments were positive. Some groups asked for specific data that would help them proceed. That data included information on the interface of the registry with other information systems in the private and public sector. It also included immunization rates by ethnic groups. The individual work groups may have additional requests.

Tom Kean gave an overview of future meetings, including:

- August 23, 2006, is the date for the fourth steering committee meeting, which will occur at the Capital Plaza Hotel. The major agenda items are:
 - Each work group will give recommendations on action steps to achieve their strategy. They will get a template to help them prepare. There will be discussion following each presentation.
 - Work Groups will meet after the presentations to discuss incorporating suggestions into their recommendations.
 - Accountability structures for monitoring progress will be discussed.
- October 12, 2006, is the date for the fifth steering committee meeting.

Mike Parsons gave a demo of the immunization registry. There are currently 65 active providers using the system and more providers are added every day.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00.