

Oklahoma Injury Prevention Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2012

Members Present:

David Bates, Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Dr. Mark Brandenburg, Chair
Shelly Collins, Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Michael Echelle, County Health Department Administrator
Lauren Farrah, Safe Kids Oklahoma
Virgil Green for Phil Cotten, Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police
Alan Grubb, Cleveland County Board of Health
Jeff Hamilton, Interfaith Alliance Foundation of Oklahoma
Annette Jacobi, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Family Support and Prevention Services
Gayle Jones, Independent Contractor
Dave Koeneke, Oklahoma Safety Council
Jeff McKibbin, UCO, Graduate Athletic Training Education Program
Jamie Piatt for Jessica Hawkins, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
Kevin Pipes, Independent Contractor
Scott Schaeffer, Oklahoma Poison Control Center
Toni Short, Caddo Nation
Scott Sproat, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Emergency Preparedness and Response
David Teague, OU Medical Center
Garry Thomas, Oklahoma Highway Safety Office
Don Vogt, Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control
Chris West, Oklahoma Highway Patrol
Ines Yacoub, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Guests:

J. Kevin Behrens – Oklahoma Highway Safety Office
Susan Hoover – Oklahoma Dental Association
Dawod Dawod - Oklahoma Poison Control Center

Staff:

Pam Archer, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Prevention Service
Sheryll Brown, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Prevention Service
Tracy Wendling, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Prevention Service
Regina McCurdy, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Prevention Service

Welcome/Introduction

Dr. Mark Brandenburg called the meeting to order, and members introduced themselves. Minutes from the previous meeting on January 27, 2012 were approved.

Pam asked that everyone review the "Terms of Reference" document that was similar to the by-laws, but required by the grant. She also discussed the vision and mission statements that were included. She said membership for

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the Fire Marshal's office will not be filled, after being vacated by longtime member, Jerry Lojka, because the CDC is no longer funding smoke alarm grants. The Trauma Division will also not be replaced, because Ken Stewart is now part of the Injury Prevention staff. OIPAC members can send a proxy if unable to attend. (Please make the Injury Prevention office aware of who will be attending so that an appropriate name plate can be prepared. Also, guests are welcome, but it is necessary to ask beforehand because there is limited seating.) Also, face-to-face, conference calls or e-mail meeting may take place. The document also adds the Oklahoma Violent Death Reporting System subcommittee under the OIPAC as approved at the last meeting. The "Terms of Reference" document was approved.

Discussion on Please be Seated Program

Garry Thomas with the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office led a discussion about the "Please Be Seated" program. He wanted to know if people would be interested in reviving the program. The program involves citizens observing child passenger safety violations and reporting them by submitting the vehicle's tag number and description, the location and time of the violation, and a rough description of the violation. The information is forwarded to the agency in charge of it and the Tax Commission supplies the vehicle owner information. A letter is sent stating what was observed, what the fine is and where assistance can be obtained. Some of the problems with the program include difficulties with evaluation and a variety of public complaints. Garry read a letter from someone who had received one of the letters regarding their poodle not being restrained. Garry asked everyone to look at the program and consider whether or not there is an interest in bringing it back with modifications. Send comments through the Highway Safety Office website: www.ohso.gov. If there is interest in doing the program, they will evaluate whether they will fund it again.

Mark Brandenburg said he was a fan of the program. There had been calls about where the program had gone. They used the program to report kids in the back of pickup trucks. It is hard to determine behavior change after the letters are sent. Benefit can be determined by how many cards are distributed and used.

Annette Jacobi said that at least people who got the cards had an opportunity to talk with people about child passenger safety.

Jeff Hamilton said with cell phones now that people could take pictures and report through the internet. Chris West brought up the fact that since 1992, the total environment has changed and that it could be very positive. Pam Archer said that all county health departments have car seats to provide to low income families free of charge. Virgil Green asked if there was an issue with a letter being sent from the Tax Commission. Garry said that the letters came from Safe Kids. Scott Schaeffer said he received a card on a vehicle that had been sold and not re-registered. Garry said that was also one of the problems they had before. Garry asked members to send ideas on how the program could be conducted to address those types of issues to Sabrina Mackey.

Legislative Update 2012

All texting while driving bills failed this session.

Dave Koeneke – The Oklahoma Distracted Driving Task Force was created to work on this issue in absence of legislation. They may do a large event like the Crystal Meth campaign and see where it leads. Or they may do a public education campaign.

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Sheryll Brown asked about possibly using strategies to enforce the distracted driving law. Chris West said they only enforce it now when there is a crash or other moving violations.

Scott Schaeffer asked what the legislators thought about this legislation. Annette said the legislature was focused on ideologies. Kevin Pipes said the state is very conservative right now, but, he said to keep the ball in motion and put the evidence out there for legislators. Scott asked if the public's attitude might change similar to how the public's attitude has changed about DUI. It does affect others and endangers other. Chris said that from a law enforcement point of view it is not at the level of DUI right now.

Rep. Morrisette's bill to move hydrocodone to a Schedule II drug failed. The Oklahoma State Medical Association was against the bill. The legislation would have also shared data with other states and required doctors to check every prescription (not good). Don Vogt said that if the bill gets resurrected he recommends moving hydrocodone to Schedule II. Mark said there could be a long-acting hydrocodone (Zohydro) on the market soon and that many more deaths could result. There will be increased problems with diversion. Alan Grubb said that people on the streets will not know the dosage they are getting.

Garry said that the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office (OHSO) tried to move the child passenger safety age requirement up to 8 years this session. The bill did not move out of committee. The legislature will not talk about why the legislation did not move. OHSO will be trying to pass this again in the next session.

Scott Shaffer said that bath salts and benzodiazepine (Blue Lotus extracts – from Russia) are being sold in various forms – powder, liquid, pill and in diffuser/deodorizer. People are using them as an inhalant. Legislation should be proposed to deal with "legal" drugs (like the things being freely sold on the street/internet that are essentially benzos and opiates – example=blue lotus. Addicts will always have something new (like bath salts or blue lotus) to take the place of something prohibited by legislation. Garry said that the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation is testing for these types of drugs involved in crashes.

Mark said that emails will be sent out to poll committee members on proposed new legislative priorities.

Injury Prevention Service Priorities

Pam discussed Injury Prevention Service (IPS) priorities:

- Unintentional poisonings. Reducing unintentional poisonings one of the Commissioner of Health's priorities. There is an active task force and action plan.
- Motor vehicle crash (MVC) injuries. Reducing MVC injuries is a CDC winnable battle and a health department priority. Child safety seat usage rates have fallen from 85.5% in 2010 to 82.6% in 2011. The usage rate for infants was even worse, falling from 73% to 64%. IPS will work with OHSO and Safe Kids to distribute car seats. The health department has purchased 1000 safety seats to distribute and will expand distribution, checks and work with the home visitation programs. Legislation to prohibit texting while driving for persons less than 18 years and to increase the age for child passenger safety age requirement to 8 years are additional priorities.
- Traumatic brain injury (TBI). Data will be collected from hospitals on TBI among persons less than 25 years of age.
 - Injury will work with the Period of Purple Crying Program. This is a program to prevent shaken baby syndrome (abusive head trauma). There are 59 birthing hospitals and 23 have implemented

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the program. The program discusses crying and gives coping skills to mothers. The IPS will interview program coordinators in hospitals already doing the program and help expand it to home visitation programs.

Pam said the program is in birthing classes to reach males who are usually the offenders. Annette said that moms need to be extremely conscious of who is taking care of their kids. Gail Jones said that the program would be good to get to teens in schools. It was mentioned that Super Sitters addresses it.

- o Injury will also be addressing sports-related TBI. A law was passed in 2010 requiring schools to establish return to play policies. Athletes with concussions can't return to play until released by a medical provider. IPS will evaluate these efforts.

Mark spoke about the legislation at the Annual Summer Coaches Clinic and the CDC Heads Up materials. Kevin mentioned the School Board Association and the liability issues. Coaches get caught in the middle. Need legislation for schools to have a certified athletic trainer on staff. Jeff McKibbin said that Texas passed a law on the requirements for the return to play process. If the coach is also the athletic director, they can't be involved in the return to play decision. He said that legislation is needed with all of these factors incorporated, return to play, emergency action, and the possible conditions. Jeff also suggested the IPS might want to look into the return to play policies of sports organizations and clubs not impacted by the legislation.

Injury Prevention Service Update

The smoke alarm program has been discontinued and there are no more smoke alarms; the CDC eliminated funding for this program across the country. There were 1000 child passenger safety seats purchased and will be distributed. The IPS has two new employees: Kenneth Stewart is working with the Traffic Data Linkage Project, and Avy Doran, who starts June 4, will be working with the unintentional poisoning and falls prevention programs.

Pam announced that she has taken a new position within the health department and will be leaving Injury Prevention and the OIPAC.

A list of *Injury Update* reports and Injury Prevention Service publications was included as a handout.

Announcements

Gayle Jones – June 14 – College training for QPR will be held in Broken Arrow. Five spots are open. The training is free and usually costs \$500.00.

David Bates - Free conference on oil field worker deaths and voluntary safety stand down will be held June 21, 2012 at the Cox Convention Center. The conference is in response to a spike in oil field worker deaths. The conference will be held from 8:30 – noon.

Upcoming Injury Prevention Advisory Committee Meetings

The next meeting is October 23, 2012 at OU Medical Center, Presbyterian Tower, Lawson Center in Conference Room A.

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Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.