## Ulster County Board of Health October 3, 2011

- Members PRESENT: Joan Authenrieth, RN, Vice Chairman Marc Tack DO, Chairman Dominique Delma, MD, Secretary
- UCDOH PRESENT: LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH, Public Health Director Erica Gifford, PE, Environmental Health Services Director Nereida Veytia, Patient Services Director Douglas Heller, MD, Medical Examiner
- GUESTS: Cheryl Qamar, UC Department of Mental Health Deputy Commissioner
- ABSENT: Ivan Godfrey, PhD, LCSW, Board Member Thomas Stellato, MD, Board Member
- **EXCUSED:** Mary Ann Hildebrandt, Board Member
- I. Approval of Minutes: Approval of the September minutes was tabled until the November meeting as there was no quorum.

## II. Old Business:

• UC Sanitary Code Status: The draft of the Ulster County Sanitary Code is still unavailable for review. Ms. Gifford will continue to work with the County Attorney's office to finish the draft. An electronic draft will be emailed to the Board, one week prior to voting on the approval.

## III. Agency Reports:

- a. <u>Director's Update:</u> Dr. Hasbrouck reported on the following:
  - **Director's Update Newsletter:** The October's Update will be distributed electronically this month.
  - UCDOH/UCDMH Merger Update:
    - Continuing the brainstorming process regarding potential collaborations. Awaiting the release of the 2012 budget to progress and move forward.
    - The plan was for the joint mission statement to be reviewed and voted on for approval at this meeting. However, because there was no quorum, the statement could not be brought up for vote. A review of the statement and a discussion did take place. Dr. Tack questioned the use of the word "holistic", understanding the purpose was to encompass all aspects of health; mental, physical, emotional and spiritual. However, his concern was that most individuals interpret "holistic" to mean alternative medicine. Dr. Hasbrouck and Ms. Qamar will research and determine if there is a more appropriate word to use. The mission statement will be voted on at the November meeting.
  - Accessing Mental Health Services: The mental health presentation to the medical community, "Mental Health 101" has been scheduled for November 30<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:00, Benedictine Auditorium. Dr. Tack suggested that this be held at the monthly MD meeting at

Wiltwyck. Dr. Hasbrouck's office will attempt to coordinate this with Dr. Tack to see if a change of venue is feasible.

b. Medical Examiner:

Dr. Heller reported on the August activities of the ME:

- There were (15) calls received. Of them, there were (2) site visits, (2) suicides, and (5) autopsies.
- c. Patient Services:

Ms. Veytia reported on the following:

- Irene Update:
  - Currently in the recovery phase. In response to a request from NYS Emergency Management, asking local departments of health to offer free tetanus vaccinations to anyone participating in disaster clean-up efforts, UCDOH held two tetanus vaccination clinics. The first round was held in Ellenville and Phoenicia in which 37 people were vaccinated. The second was held in Kingston and Ellenville and only four people received vaccinations. The tetanus vaccine will now be offered at the regularly scheduled immunization clinics to continue the preventative treatment.
  - A discussion took place regarding future efficiencies should other disasters occur. Dr. Tack recommended using the dry ice and water distribution sites to also act as the vaccination sites, as the water sites were the sites most readily used by the residents. This would allow for a larger number of individuals to receive vaccinations.
- Physically Handicapped Children's Program: A site review took place for this program on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The program received positive verbal feedback from the reviewer.
- d. Environmental Health:

Ms. Gifford reported on the following:

• Irene Update: Also assisting in the recovery phase. There are still some restaurants which have not been able to reopen. Ulster County is entering its prime tourist season and without all the parks and site attractions up and running, temporary residences are concerned about a decrease in revenue. Some are considering closing early. UCDOH has been working with RUPCO on a collaboration effort to house displaced residents at these temporary residences in effort to keep them open for the duration of their season.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2011.

Adjournment: A motion was not made to adjourn the meeting as there was no quorum.

Respectfully submitted by:

Katrina Kouhout Secretary to the Public Health Director On behalf of UC Board of Health