



Pursuing Equity

February 2, 2015

The Office of Equity and Inclusion: Past, Present and Future

"Legacy: something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessor or from the past."

-Webster's Dictionary

As I step into the role of Interim Director for the Office of Equity and Inclusion, I pause and take in the legacy that has shaped where and who we are today. First, I'd like to extend my gratitude to all the staff and leaders who have worked diligently and selflessly since 1993 to forward the cause of equity, including our most recent director and champion, Tricia Tillman. As many of you know, Tricia recently accepted the position of Deputy Director of the Multnomah County Health Department. Thank you, Tricia, and all who have come before and, of course, continue in this journey. To put it in terms she shared with us at the Office of Equity and Inclusion 2014 annual meeting, "I am because we are" (Origin in Xhosa Culture).



Leann Johnson Interim
Director, Office of Equity
and Inclusion

Today the legacy that is the Office of Equity and Inclusion continues to inform and shape our future. We continue the journey, the passion and the work to relentlessly pursue health equity, to engage and align diverse community voices with the Oregon Health Authority and to ensure the elimination of avoidable health gaps so that all people, communities and cultures together, co-create and enjoy a healthy Oregon.

One way that we continue this work together is highlighted in this issue. We are pursuing health equity through community engagement and the continual expansion of the Traditional Health Worker (THW) program. Please [read more](#) about a local Community Health Worker's journey into this work.

I am honored and humbled to be in this position and excited for what the future holds. Rest assured the work continues along the path that we have chosen together. As the executive manager of diversity, inclusion and civil rights my work was very inward focused. I now have the opportunity to connect with community. Please do contact me if you have questions or would like discuss the work of the Office of Equity and Inclusion. I look forward to reconnecting or getting to know you.

Warmest regards,

Leann R. Johnson

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OEI News and Updates

Oregon psychologists have new cultural competency training requirements

The Board of Oregon Psychologist Examiners passed a new rule for a Cultural Competency requirement for psychologists by a unanimous vote. Beginning in 2016, psychologists will be required to complete 4 cultural competency continuing education credits out of the total 40 credits required biannually, as well as at the time of their license renewal.

This is the first health profession to implement such requirements in the state of Oregon and will be looking to the Oregon Health Authority for training resources and support!

Click [here](#) for more information on the new rule and implementation plan.

Health Equity Researchers of Oregon (HERO)

The **Health Equity Researchers of Oregon (HERO) Committee** kicked off its first meeting on Monday, January 12th! The popular education presentation was led by the

Oregon Community Health Worker Research and Education Consortium (ORCHWREC)

Consortium (ORCHWREC), which is

a collaborative effort based at the School of Community Health and staffed by Oregon Consensus at Portland State University. The goal of ORCHWREC is to enable CHWs to make an optimum contribution to improving community health and reducing health inequities by bringing the field together around best and promising practices. They seek to achieve their goals through the coordinated actions of three teams: Education, Research, and Policy. The first presentation of the 2015 HERO series focused on the work of the Research Team, which included key advances and milestones in the history of CHW research; purpose, goals and structure of the consortium; gaps in research and research questions; 2014-15 research plan and opportunities to collaborate. Please visit the HERO [website](#) for additional resources and materials from this meeting.



Oregon Community Health Worker Research and Education Consortium (ORCHWREC) team presented at the first HERO Committee meeting

The next HERO meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, 2015; it will focus on Peer Support Specialist and Peer Wellness Specialist research. For more information, or to learn how your organization can host a HERO meeting contact Charniece.tisdale@state.or.us

2015 DELTA Cohort Kicks Off and Gets REaL



Cohort members at the DELTA Kickoff

On January 8, 25 new cohort members from across Oregon met at Catholic Charities in SE Portland and began the third [Developing Equity Leadership through Training and Action \(DELTA\)](#). The group gained a better understanding of each other's perspectives on the social determinants of health, the history of health inequities in Oregon and preparing for difficult dialogues about race.

"I have a lot of work to do," stated one cohort member, "I feel if I continue to talk about these things it will help get the word out and we will start seeing changes - one step at a time."

In February, Ignatius Bau will train the group on analyzing and reporting data based on race, ethnicity, and language (REaL-D).

Health Care Interpreter Stakeholder Session

The next Health Care Interpreter (HCI) Stakeholder Session (formerly referred to as the HCI Learning Collaborative) will be on March 26th from 10 am-12 pm.

The purpose of these quarterly sessions is to convene key stakeholders in health care interpretation; including health care interpreters, CCO representatives, health care providers, language service providers and HCI training & testing organizations. We will build a deeper understanding of language access barriers, share data & best practices and provide time for networking. Please contact Lillian Jalali at Lillian.Jalali@state.or.us if you are interested in participating.

Regional Health Equity Coalitions (RHEC) Highlight

SO Health-E (Southern Oregon Health Equity Coalition)

- 5 SO Health-E members are participating in the 2015 DELTA Cohort
- Three work groups are up and running with specific focuses on Youth and Community Engagement, County and State Data and Assessments, and Cultural Agility Training. These meetings are open to the public and meet monthly.
- A youth council has been formed in collaboration with the Jackson County Public Health Division. Monthly meetings include discussions on local health disparities and ideas to reduce those disparities. The youth council recently attended a Peacemakers Conflict Resolution conference to explore best practices in creating a safer school community.

Facebook

Follow us on [Facebook](#) for access to weekly job postings, local resources and news stories!

OHA News

Open Enrollment

Open enrollment period ends February 15th. Visit [this website](#) to learn more about the new way to enroll in the Oregon Health Plan.

Get Involved with the Office of Equity and Inclusion!

Traditional Health Workers (THW) Commission **Recruiting Now!**

We are currently recruiting for the following THW Commission Seats:

THWs (Community Health Workers, Peer, Navigators, Doulas)

- Filling 1 vacated Two Year Term-Ending Jan 30, 2016
- Filling 2 Three Year Term Positions - Ending Jan 30, 2018

Organizational Representation

- Filling 3 Three Year Term Positions - Ending Jan 30, 2018:

Community College Workforce Development Agency
Oregon Medical Association
Oregon Home Care Commission

Click [here](#) for more information and to find the THW Commission application.

Health Equity Policy Committee (HEPC)

The Health Equity Policy Committee aims to proactively explore, develop, evaluate, recommend, and coordinate stakeholder engagement in advancing cross-cutting, cross-community policy improvements to inform State Health Policy Leadership. For more information go to our website or contact Emily Wang by phone: 971-673-2307 or email: Emily.L.Wang@state.or.us

Health Equity Researchers of Oregon (HERO)

HERO is a network of health equity researchers from across the state, working together to inform policy and community-based efforts to improve health in Oregon for culturally diverse communities, while ensuring that policy agendas and community members inform Oregon's research agenda. Researchers are invited to present their findings (preliminary or final) and models at HERO meetings, which are held quarterly.

Community Events

Partners in Diversity

[Metro MWESB Open House](#)

Date: February 11, 2015

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Location: Oregon Convention Center - 777 NE Martin Luther King Junior Blvd.,
Portland, OR, 97232

[Kukatonon Annual Gala Fundraiser](#)

Date: February 14, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: The Madeline Parish Hall 3123 NE 24th Ave. Portland, OR 97212

[Say Hey!](#)

Date: February 19, 2015

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: OMSI Turbine Hall - 1945 SE Water Ave., Portland, OR, 97214

Environmental Justice Solutions Team (OHA Employee Resource Group)

Environmental Justice Awareness Initiative

Date: February 25th, 2015

Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location: Portland State Office Building, Room 1A - 800 NE Oregon St., Portland,
OR, 97232

Legacy Health

[Oregon and SW Washington Health Literacy Conference](#)

Date: March 6, 2015

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 4:20 p.m.

Location: The Sentinel Hotel - 614 SW 11th Ave., Portland, OR, 97205

Oregon Center for Nursing

[OCN Spring 2015 Conference](#)

Date: March 19, 2015

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Oregon Zoo Cascade Crest - Banquet Center - 4001 SW Canyon Road
Portland, OR 97231

Office of Equity and Inclusion

Health Care Interpreter Stakeholder Session

Date: March 26, 2015

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Contact [Lillian Jalali](#) for more information

SO Health-E

Health Literacy Conference

Date: April 17, 2015

Location: Jackson County Health and Human Services Building - 140 S. Holly St., Medford, OR 97501

Contact [Jennifer Ware](#) for more information

Urban League of Portland

[2015 Career Fair](#)

Date: April 22, 2015

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location: Doubletree Hotel - 1000 NE Multnomah St., Portland, OR, 97232

Health Equity in the News

Articles

Local

[Beaverton wants to speak the same language as its residents](#)

[Health advocates seek regulations on e-cigarettes from Multnomah County](#)

[Washington County study looks at transportation for next 50 years](#)

National

[Discrimination is bad for your health - and your kids too](#)

[Police redouble efforts to recruit diverse officers](#)

[Affordable Care Act spurs hospitals to identify, address unmet community health needs](#)

[Florida leads all states in use of Obamacare](#)

[Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Clarion Call for Health Equity](#)

Office of Minority Health and other Resources

African Health

[Black/African American Health Profile](#)

Asian American/Pacific Islander Health

[Asian American Health Profile](#)

[Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Health Profile](#)

Hispanic/Latino Health

[Hispanic/Latino Health Profile](#)

American Indian/Alaska Native Health

[American Indian/Alaska Native Health Profile](#)

Slavic Health

[The Slavic Community in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile](#)

Health Care

[In Pursuit of Health Equity: Comparing U.S. and EU Approaches to Eliminating Disparities](#)

[Federal Collaboration on Health Disparities Research \(FCHDR\)](#) - A Federal Partnership working together to identify, promote, and support interagency health disparities research to help inform programs, policy, and practice.

[Data Brief: Characteristics of Uninsured Adult Males by Race and Ethnicity](#)

Research

[What is Participatory Health Research?](#)

Career Moves - Job Opportunities

Job Opportunities

Oregon Health Authority/Department of Human Services Positions

[Research Analyst 2 \(RSV- Flu Research Analyst\)](#)

[Registered Nurse Epidemiologist](#)

[Public Service Representative 4 - Problem Resolution Specialist - Limited Duration](#)

[Principle Executive/Manager G \(Oregon State Public Health Lab Director\)](#)

External Positions

DSFederal - [Head Start Health Specialist](#)

Oregon Community Health Workers Association - [Warriors or Wellness Program Manager](#)

Oregon State University - [Violence Prevention Coordinator](#)

Oregon Primary Care Association - [Social Determinants of Health Manager](#)

Portland Parks and Recreation - [Community Youth Ambassador \(CYA\) aged 16-25 years](#)

For Newsletter Submissions or Questions, please contact: [**Alyssa.McClean@state.or.us**](mailto:Alyssa.McClean@state.or.us)