

Closing the Loop: Working Together

Feedback from the Board of Directors
to Local Health Involvement Groups

Theme: Health Promotion

Spring 2017 Consultations



What We Heard ...

- Healthy people goes far beyond acute care. We need to meet people where they are in our communities at their level.
- We cannot disregard or minimize the value of those who choose to make unhealthy lifestyle choices.
- When communities hear and understand the rationale for certain strategies, they are more likely to be supportive.
- Engage with community leaders as much as possible. Partnerships are essential to health promotion work.
- Harm Reduction strategies may challenge many peoples' personal values.
- We need to make the healthy choice the easy choice for people so we need to go to where they are physically and to meet them with non-judgment and compassion.
- Positive personal messages have more impact than scare tactics. We need to promote health in a way that attracts instead of forces people.
- Community leaders have the best understanding of their local residents and we must support their creative and individual ideas to help improve health in communities.
- Health Promotion work is a long-term investment and takes commitment.

Staff & Board Liaison Reflections

FROM STAFF LIAISONS

"I think LHIG members are so engaged and bring a very unique perspective to programs and to the Board. It would be great to have larger representation to increase the value of the discussions."

"LHIG members were talkative and had great questions. They gave me insights I hadn't previously considered and will use many of them in my work going forward."

FROM BOARD LIAISONS

"I was impressed with the level of interest from LHIG members and their level of participation. It's important for us to listen to all viewpoints to enrich the decisions we need to make at the Board table."

"Thank you to the staff who presented so well to create some excellent learning for everyone. The meetings are so informational and applicable to all participants."

Board Commitment

As a Board, we have set the strategic direction to *"Strengthen and focus our commitment to health equity and health promotion."* We also recognize that health promotion work is never done in isolation and requires forward and upstream-thinking.

ACTION

Because of the LHIG consultations, as a Board, we have started planning our 2016-2017 Annual Public Meeting around the theme of Addictions & Mental Health with a strong focus on mental wellness. We will incorporate patient stories and education to help improve the health of our communities.

As a Board of Directors, we value the time and commitment contributed by our Local Health Involvement Groups. We hope that your participation is as meaningful to you as it is to us. As partners, we can truly help achieve our vision of:

Together leading the way for a healthier tomorrow.