

Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board

September 13, 2017 Meeting Take-Home Points and Action Items

Take-Home Points

- Join members of the Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board (EHCIB) at its 2017 Community Health Conference learning station! Learn about the EHCIB's current efforts to improve food safety in Minnesota.
- Based on the results of the first food, pools, and lodging services (FPLS) program evaluation pilot, which tested the tools and instructions for self-assessment and verification of food standards 2 and 8, the Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board (EHCIB) recommended refining the instructions and methodology for the FDA Voluntary Retail Standards criteria so that increased consistency can be attained. A second pilot will occur later this year. Three local pilot sites, MDH, and MDA will all participate. Next steps include:
 - A subgroup made up of one MDH, MDA, and a local dual-delegated representative is working on better instructions and additional resources such as templates.
 - The FPLS Program Evaluation Workgroup will review the subgroup's updated materials at its meeting in October.
 - Final updated materials will be presented to the EHCIB at its November meeting.

The EHCIB is confident that the continuous improvement (CI) approach they are taking to improve the FPLS program evaluation process is working. Testing and needing to refine the tools, instructions, and process prior to full implementation is expected and welcomed as part of the CI process. The CI process can take time, but the results are worth it.

- The Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board (EHCIB) reviewed the draft statewide and local reports of the Food, Pools, and Lodging Services (FPLS) statewide performance measures and recommended several changes. The EHCIB wants the final reports to include more detail so that data limitations and the intended use of the data are clear. The local and statewide reports will go out simultaneously once the EHCIB has approved the changes. For more information, please direct questions to your [EHCIB](#)

[representative.](#)

- The Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board (EHCIB) made progress on its effort to develop a public health framework for the protection against environmental health hazards area of public health responsibility. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) staff, who work in the area of water protection, participated in the conversation and agreed to develop an inventory of current drinking and recreational water protection activities. The inventory will be presented and refined at the next EHCIB meeting. All are welcome to attend the next EHCIB meeting to participate in this discussion.

Action Items

- The Center for Public Health Practice will update the draft reports of the FPLS Annual Performance Measure data.
- FPLS program evaluation workgroup will plan to present the updated materials at the November EHCIB meeting.
- MDH EH staff will prepare an inventory of state drinking and recreational water protection activities.
- The Center for Public Health Practice will update the EHCIB charter and edit the website.
- The Center for Public Health Practice will help the EHCIB prepare for its Learning Station at the upcoming 2017 Community Health Conference.

Upcoming 2017 Meetings

- Wednesday, November 8, 2017