Perspective of a Board of Health Member on

THE INTERSECTION OF HEALTH
IN ALL POLICIES AND THE LAW

Denise Chrysler, J.D.
Member, Ingham County (Michigan)
Board of Health
Ingham County, Michigan

- Governed by 14 member Board of Commissioners
- Law vests local public health powers in counties and City of Detroit only
- Law allows Board of Commissioners for county health departments to appoint BOH
- Ingham Board appointed 10 member BOH
- Advisory only
Advancing HiAP in Ingham County

• Mid-Michigan (three county project)
• Funding from Health Impact Project
• Presentations to and recruitment of BOH members and others
• Health in All Policies Work Group
Advisory Board of Health

• Advisory ≠ Powerless
• Advisory = Super Constituent

- Voice
- Opinions
- Connections
- Access
HiAP Work Group

- Met 15 months
- Developed fact sheet and FAQs
- Made presentations to others
- BOH members helped develop resolution; presented it to Ingham County BOH, urging adoption
Therefore, we encourage the Ingham County Board of Commissioners to adopt a Health in All Policies approach to decision-making in Ingham County government, and that in doing so Ingham County serve as a model for other units of government throughout Michigan.

Health officer presented resolution to Human Services Committee 05/14/2015
Good start but . . . still not there!
Lessons learned and next steps

- **Lesson: Message**
  - From squishy to concrete
  - What’s the “ask”?  
- **Lesson: Messenger**  
  - Politics and relationships
- **Lesson: Things happen**
  - Remember why you came
  - Getting back on track
Good start but . . . still not there!
Lessons learned and next steps

• Next step:
  - Health department develops details for implementation using an interdepartmental workgroup

• Next step:
  - Health officer to address (again) the Human Services Committee, which can recommend resolution to go to full Board

• Next step:
  - Health officer to present to Board of Commissioners; BOH members speak in support
Next steps, continued

Fingers crossed. . .

• Next step:
  - Resolution passes, with Board of Commissioners adopting a HiAP approach to decision making

• Next step:
  - Ingham County successfully implements HiAP

• Next step:
  - Ingham County spreads the word to other local governments!!
THANK YOU!

Denise Chrysler, JD, member
Ingham County Board of Health
denichry@icloud.com