One Health Collaborative

Vision Statement:

Improving the lives of human and animal Washingtonians and our shared environment through pragmatic relationship building, cross-agency collaboration, and constructive communication.

Mission Statement:

The Washington State One Health Collaborative is a pragmatic approach to the One Health model; we meet quarterly to ensure relationship building, ongoing collaboration, and communication among people working in government agencies and institutions related to One Health. Our meetings provide common ground to discuss past or ongoing issues or events, to plan for upcoming projects and future events, and to ensure situational awareness among all members. This group values an egalitarian and informal setting, with leadership and planning efforts rotating between agencies. The One Health Collaborative will evolve in format and participation to maintain currency and relevance over time. We strive to collaborate on public health education, joint communication, emergency planning and management, and cross-species disease surveillance, investigation, and control. This group is not a workgroup, but identifies priority projects through ongoing discussions, and pushes those out to appropriate agencies, specific attendees, or other workgroups. Participants in the One Health Collaborative Quarterly Meetings value zoonotic disease surveillance and control and One Health educational priorities. We seek to advance these priorities through 1) identifying areas for increased educational and collaborative efforts, 2) pursuing funding for One Health projects that cut across agencies, 3) encouraging student participation and opportunities.

Participating Agencies:

Washington State Department of Health
Washington State Department of Agriculture
Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife
Washington State Office of the Governor
US Department of Agriculture - APHIS
US Army
Federal Bureau of Investigation
University of Washington
Washington State University
Public Health Seattle & King County

History:

The One Health Collaborative Quarterly Meeting in its present form met for the first time in January 2016 after a two-year hiatus. At this first meeting, it was decided that meeting hosting and planning would be a shared responsibility among agencies, to rotate among involved agencies each quarter. This shared responsibility helps to ensure ongoing participation, and prevents disbandment at the loss of a single organizer or agency. The hosting agency's point of contact is responsible for organizing a date, time, location, and agenda for the meeting. They are also responsible for taking meeting minutes and distributing them to the group at large following each meeting.