



OCTOBER 11, 2011

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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EDITORS NOTE: VANCOUVER AND SEATTLE LOCATIONS AND TIMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED – UPDATED SCHEDULE BELOW

DSHS Secretary Dreyfus holding Town Hall Meetings in Spokane, Vancouver and Seattle to discuss budget reduction options

OLYMPIA – Department of Social and Health Services Secretary Susan N. Dreyfus is leading a series of Town Hall Meetings across the state. The final three in the series are in Spokane on Oct. 19, Vancouver on Oct. 20 and Seattle on Oct. 21. Secretary Dreyfus is laying out the Department's budget reduction options as part of Gov. Chris Gregoire's call for state agencies to proposed reductions of up to 10 percent over the next two years.

A schedule of upcoming meetings is included below.

Secretary Dreyfus asked for the Town Hall Meetings so that she could help audiences understand the history of reductions that the agency has taken to date, the impacts of the reduction options she will have presented to the Governor and to encourage stakeholders and local community leaders to be informed and to engage in the decision-making process over the next several months.

"We want to do all we can to fully educate the public about the reduction options we present to the Governor, and to educate them on the cumulative impact of reductions we have taken over several years," Dreyfus said. "We also need to hear from people about how they see the potential impacts of those reductions so we can explain them more fully. I hope people will turn out for these conversations."

Town Hall Meetings to discuss DSHS budget reduction options

SPOKANE

Wednesday, October 19 | 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

8517 E. Trent Avenue, Rockford Room - Main Floor - Suite 101
Spokane, WA 99213

VANCOUVER – New Date/Location:

Thursday, October 20 | 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Fort Vancouver National Site

Artillery Barracks

600 East Hathaway Road

Vancouver, WA 98661

SEATTLE – New Date/Time/Location:

Friday, October 21 | 10:30 a.m. – Noon

Saint Mark's Cathedral

Bloedel Hall

1245 Tenth Avenue East

Seattle, WA 98102

Individuals with disabilities requiring ADA reasonable accommodations should contact the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Rena Patch, at odhh@dshs.wa.gov or 800-422-7930 as soon as possible but **no later than 72 hours** before the scheduled town hall meeting.

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