

Commission for Health Advocacy and Equity

Meeting Notes

Date: August 19th, 2015

Time: 3:00 pm -5:00 pm

Location: Salvation Army Chapel (Broad St.)

“Making strides to address health equity and the elimination of health disparities in Rhode Island”

Members and guests present: Commission Members: Co-Chair Tanya Dailey MD; Co-Chair Julie Rawlings; Reginald Tucker-Seeley, ScD; Yvonne Heredia, RN, MS, PhD; Marcus Mitchell; Michael Nina; Taino Palermo, EdD, MA; Azade Perin-Monterroso; Heriberto Gonzalez; Deborah Perry, MA; Omar Bah, MPA; Kenya Fullen; Betsy Casey (Alternate for Kavita Patel, MBA). Ex Officio Members: James Vincent; Jeff Davis (Alternative for Chelsea Seifert, MCP); Kathryn Ryan; Patricia Threats. Other members: Annajane Yolken; Perry Gast; Angela Ankoma; Adderlin Taveras; Jackie Fermin (Alternate for Yvonne Heredia).

Members and guest unable to attend: Members: Aradhana Metha, PhD; Ulli K. Ryder, PhD; Georgina Sarpong; Raymond Two Hawks Watson. Ex-Officio Members: Aleatha Dickerson, MS; Steven Florio, MS; Bernie Frezza; Philip Less, PhD; Barbara Morin; Donna Murray;

1. Call to Order

- I. Meeting called to order by Commission Chair, Tanya Dailey

2. July 15th, 2015, Meeting Minutes Approval

- I. Approved

3. Public Comments on Agenda

- I. The Sub-Committees update moved to first item to discuss.

4. Updates from Co-Chair

- i. Resignations: Lanette Baker & Gloria Hincapie
- ii. There are several empty seats currently in the commission. The Commission Chairs and OMH Chief have reviewed new applicants for the empty seats and have been sent to Director of Health for review and approval.
- iii. Attendance to commission meetings will become a priority moving forward. We voted on legislation for the commission that every commission member can only miss three meetings this includes subcommittee meetings. Lateness and leaving early a commission meeting will count as an absent. Letters will be going out to all members who have been absent three or more time as a warning.
- iv. Commission did not clearly define what an excused and unexcused absent entails. Commission will be working on defining that rule in order to make it more clearly to members.

5. Subcommittee Updates

- a. Data

- i. The Subcommittee has been working on identifying other terms and definitions that should be included in debrief. They had considered defining several of the following terms but not limited to these: population health, social determinant of health, health in all policies. Data Subcommittee

asks commission to forward any other terms that the commission believes would be important to include in the debrief.

- ii. The “asks” that the Data Committee proposed to bring to the state is to adopt these term definitions into legislation in order for all agencies to define these terms consistently across the state
- iii. Moving forward with the list of terms, the interns will be researching to see if other agency in the state have already define these terms and how have they defined them.
- iv. The debrief the Data Subcommittee will develop will be model after the Keiser Foundation template on Health Disparities. It provides a good format in the form of question and answer and can define the words explicitly for the audience. Data Committee asks if anyone has any other suggestions for template to forward it to Reginald Tucker-Seeley and Taino Palermo.
- v. Data Subcommittee will also be inviting local organizations that work with data before our next legislative report. Invited someone form Kids Count, plan on inviting Prov. Plan so that they can speak to us about their data hub.
- vi. Dora Dumont from Department of Health presented data collected on employment and health in RI among white, blacks and Latinos. The graph illustrated the gap that continue to increase between white and black and Latino. Data Subcommittee wants to research more into how we can continue to get our hand on more data that deals with social health determinants
- vii. It was brought to attention that Data Heroes is a good resource because they are trying to identify Data hubs in Rhode Island. Another good resources mentioned was The Rhode Island food policy committee because they are working on visualizing data for audience – Also to look into Tablaue App.
- viii. Health in All Policy, Economic policy and definition debrief are all separate

b. Policy

- i. Co-Chair of Policy Subcommittee Marcus attended a subcommittee meeting called the Measure Alignment Group. He was met with a lot of resistance when making sure that population health is included in SIMS plan. Many committee members did not want to include population health. The group does not want to address population health as a separate item line, however he found that SIMS overarching effort does include addressing population health- it is one of the 6 main key point.
- ii. Marcus informs the commission that there is and opportunity to object and position those line items to include population health. Once the Health Commission agrees on the line items that we would like to focus on we can make it a goal to include population health.
- iii. Marcus strongly encourages Commission members to attend the public hearing on SIMS in order to have more voice opinions about including population health. The meeting takes place once or twice a week, time is not always consistent will need to look up online.
- iv. Marcus states that the SIMS is very industry driven and they are looking to include only certain data and address issues that will not be consequence to the insurance companies.
- v. Next SIMS Measurement Alignment Subcommittee meeting September 2nd, 2015
- vi. Policy Subcommittee continues to work on the Health in All Policy brief for all governors

c. Community Engagement

- i. The Community Engagement Subcommittee discussed the idea of developing a template to market and present the Commission to audiences in order for all information can be streamline and consistent
- ii. Community Engagement Subcommittee asks that they receive the original logo of the commission in order for them to brand all materials properly and clearly. The subcommittee will also pick colors that will represent the commission.

- iii. A Facebook page has been developed in order to present information to the public. Google Drive folders have been developed to organize and upload important commission information and documents.
- iv. The subcommittee wants access to DOH image bank. Angie will be finding out from DOH if it would be possible to acquire all minority health fact sheet images and give permission for Commission to use by September 8th, 2015.
- v. Community Engagement Committee wants to create a video to use to promote the Health Commission to the community. These videos will have commission members that will talk about their experience as a member of the commission.
- vi. Concern was raised that all information about the commission used for marketing should be translated into other languages to reach out to different populations in the community.
- vii. Community Engagement Sub committee came up with several slogans to vote for. The Commission voted for “Because Health Matters”.
- viii. Was brought to attention to Change for “Because Our Community Matters”

6. Ex-Officio Updates

7. Updates from HEALTH

a. Grants

- i. Past fall the Office of Minority Health applied for CDC Preventative associate to come to RI for two year to develop violence prevention initiative – the OMH was approved for a fellow, She is coming in October
- ii. OMH was also awarded a grant. Only 13 states get funded. The grant focuses on minority violence prevention in Males. The health indicator is graduation rates – targeting Southeast Asian, Blacks and Latinos. The office will be working with 300Men, which is mentorship program. Salvation Army will help in the activities. Modeled My Brothers Keeper.

b. Upcoming events

- i. The Director has asked to build a Face Book profile for the Health Commission. Please send bio and pictures to Angie and Anisha. Dr. Alexander Scott wants to better understand each commission member in order to place commission members in different work groups in the state that engages in health projects.
- ii. Anisha – Please send an email to the people who have not send bio and pictures
- iii. Black Women Health Summit – This Saturday it is sold out and it will be taking place in the Marriott
- iv. African Alliance Health Summit – September 12th at PCTA
- v. Temas Familiares – If you want to be an exhibitor let Julie Rawlings know
- vi. Reorganization in the DOH
- vii. Eric – RWP there will be an activity put together by Poder 1110- It Latino public radio 5K – everyone can come this Saturday August 22nd
- viii. September 23rd there is a Latino Cancer Tasks force Event

8. Open Comments