

# Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities

Minutes of the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities  
September 20, 2007

Comfort Inn of Tumwater  
1620 74th Avenue SW, Tumwater WA 98501

## Council members present:

Vickie Ybarra, Chair

Sofia Aragon

Craig Bill

Annie Conant

Nancy Fisher

Winona Hollins-Hauge

Martha Holliday

MaryAnne Lindeblad

Frankie Manning

Emma R. Medicine White Crow, Vice Chair

Martin Mueller

Millie Piazza

Gwendolyn M. Shepherd

Madeleine Thompson

Felecia Waddleton-Willis

## Council members absent:

Ellen Abellera

Eric Hurlburt

Lourdes Portillo Salazar

## State Board of Health Staff present:

Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director

Heather Boe, Communications Consultant

Christy Curwick, Health Policy Analyst

Laurie Fait, Administrative Assistant

## Guests and Other Participants:

Lynn Abegglen, Cross Cultural Collaboration of  
Pierce County

Annette Anderson, CCHCP

Sebrena Chambers, Tacoma-Pierce County  
Health Department

Fred Garcia, Department of Health

Lilia Gomez, Washington Association of  
Community Health Care Center

Kelly Moore, Nisqually Indian Tribe

Luisa Parada, Department of Health

Julie Peterson, Comprehensive Health  
Education Foundation

Don Sloma, Washington Health Foundation

Anne Taylor, Community Health Centers of  
King County

Anne Turner, CCHCP

Cynthia Shurtleff, Washington Chapter of  
American Academy of Pediatrics

Mary Jo Ybarra-Vega, Moses Lake & Quincy  
Community Health

Vickie Ybarra, Council Chair, called the public meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

## 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Motion: Approve September 20, 2007 agenda*

*Motion/Second: Medicine White Crow/ Aragon. Approved unanimously.*

## 2. ADOPTION OF DATE MEETING MINUTES

*Motion: Approve the May 23, 2007 minutes*

*Motion/Second: Fisher/ Waddleton-Willis. Approved unanimously.*

### 3. COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

Christy Curwick, Council Staff, announced that the Council has joined the National Association of State Offices of Minority Health. She also announced that the Council had applied for a state partnership grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health and said funding announcements would be made soon. She directed Council members to reference documents behind Tab 3, including biographies for new Council members.

### 4. UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES RELATED TO CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY APPROPRIATE HEALTH LITERATURE

Ms. Curwick said the Council was organizing and participating in community meetings to obtain input on interpretive services and translated health materials. She introduced Luisa Parada who organized a community meeting at her church, and she directed Council members to a summary of the meeting behind Tab 4. Ms. Curwick spoke about a public meeting she attended in Spokane with Ellen Abellera, Council Member, held in conjunction with a Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs meeting. She announced that Winona Hollins-Hague, Council Member, would be hosting an African American Community Health and Legislative Forum. Member Hollins-Hague provided more details about the upcoming event. The Council discussed the public forum held the previous evening.

Annette Anderson and Anne Turner, CCHCP, delivered a presentation of CCHCP's assessment of the organization and availability of culturally and linguistically appropriate health literature, which it completed through a contract with the Council (on file behind Tab 4).

### 5. UPDATE ON THE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS SURVEY

Madeleine Thompson, Council Member, provided an update on the healthcare professional demographics survey. She referred Council members to the documents behind Tab 5.

Three professions were surveyed—registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and dental hygienists. Member Thompson said response rates were not as high as they had hoped and the Department of Health would be pursuing additional funding. Member Thompson also mentioned that the authorizing legislation did not provide for an analysis of the data and suggested developing a workgroup to provide guidance on data analysis. Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Vice Chair, suggested that health professional associations may be able to help increase response rates. Frankie T. Manning, Council Member, emphasized the importance of obtaining a good response rate. Council members discussed the possibility of having surveys sent out with licensing renewals. Fred Garcia, Department of Health, said the Department of Health was working on obtaining additional funding to increase response rates.

### 6. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS AND UPDATES

Member Thompson said her office is updating the Health Care Personnel Shortage Taskforce Plan and asked the Council to review the plan, specifically the sections on increasing the diversity of the health care workforce.

Maryann Lindeblad, Council Member, said that the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) has hired a program manager for the patient navigator project and that it would be developing a request for proposals for sites that want to implement the navigator pilot projects. She also talked about a workgroup to develop performance measures for children's health care, and said she is working on outreach activities to increase enrollment of children in medical programs. She announced the release of an emergency room report and explained DSHS is applying for funding to support activities to reduce unnecessary emergency room usage.

Sophia Aragon, Council Member, announced that the departments of Health, Social and Health Services, and Labor and Industries are developing a plan to better integrate their health promotion, disease prevention, and accident prevention programs, and the plan will include sections on health disparities. There will be standing meetings of the agencies over the next few years and she will keep the Council informed.

Gwendolyn Shepherd, Council Member, shared that she has been receiving more requests from various groups and agencies for assistance with accessing the grassroots community.

Nancy Fisher, Council Member, said the Health Care Authority received funding to develop a plan to address health literacy. She also announced that the Health Care Authority would be working with community organizations to apply for funding to work on patient decision aids.

*The Council recessed for lunch at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 1:10 p.m.*

## **7. BRIEFINGS ON SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH**

Chair Ybarra introduced the topic and referred Council members to the materials behind Tab 7. Ms. Curwick presented a logic model framework for linking the social determinants of health and health outcomes under consideration by the Council. She said she adapted the framework from one developed by the Commission on Social Determinants of Health. Chair Ybarra suggested the Council accept the framework and use it in future reports. Ms. Curwick then reviewed the briefing documents for the social determinants of health and health conditions, included behind Tab 7. Member Manning suggested that the Council adopt the convention of capitalizing “Black” and “White” when used to describe racial/ethnic categories. Chair Ybarra also suggested that the Council adopt the language “communities of color” rather than minority communities. There was general agreement from Council members to adopt these as standard conventions of the Council.

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

*The Council took a break at 2:30 p.m. and reconvened at 2:45p.m.*

## **9. PRIORITIZATION – FIRST PHASE**

Ms. Curwick provided instructions on the scoring process. Chair Ybarra asked Council members to conduct the scoring of health conditions and social determinants of health and turn in their scoring sheets to Council staff.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Ybarra adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

## **GOVERNOR'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HEALTH DISPARITIES**

Vickie R. Ybarra, R.N., M.P.H., Chair