



Draft Minutes of the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities
September 11, 2014
Department of Health, Point Plaza East, Rooms 152/153
310 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501

HDC members present:

Sofia Aragon	Diane Klontz
Marietta Bobba	Stephen Kutz
Gail Brandt	Frankie Manning
Vazaskia Caldwell	Emma Medicine White Crow
Nora Coronado	Jan Olmstead
Nova Gattman	Millie Piazza
Evette Jasper (on behalf of Greg Williamson)	Gwendolyn Shepherd
Mona Johnson	

HDC members absent:

Kameka Brown	Kim Eads
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HDC Staff present:

Timothy Grisham, Communications Consultant	Christy Hoff, Health Policy Advisor
Melanie Hisaw, Executive Assistant	Yris Lance, CLAS Project Manager

Guests and Other Participants:

Kelley Carnwath, Qualis Health	Kathleen Meehan, Department of Health
Michelle Davis, State Board of Health	Daisye Orr, Department of Health
Mary Fertakis, Tukwila School Board and National School Boards Association	Lisa Packard, Qualis Health
Steven Garrett, Department of Health	Linda Riggle, Department of Health
Marianna Goheen, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction	Victor Rodriguez, Department of Health
Skyler Jones, Department of Health	Sierra Rotakhina, State Board of Health
Rachel Lopez, Department of Health	Susie Schaefer, Open Doors for Multicultural Families
Rafael Loza, Health Care Authority	Cathy Wasserman, Department of Health
	Laura Zaichkin, Health Care Authority

Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Chair, called the public meeting to order at 9:49 a.m. and read from a prepared statement (on file).

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approve September 11, 2014 agenda with one change to move the iPad primer up before the review and approval of the May minutes.

Motion/Second: Marietta Bobba/Stephen Kutz.

2. IPAD PRIMER

Timothy Grisham, Council Staff, provided brief instructions on how to navigate meeting materials on the iPADS.

3. ADOPTION OF MAY 15, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve May 15, 2014 minutes

Motion/Second: Vazaskia Caldwell/ Diane Klontz. Approved unanimously.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COUNCIL BUSINESS

Christy Hoff, Council Staff, provided updates on staff and membership changes—Melanie Hisaw is the Board and Council's new Executive Assistant, Greg Williamson is now representing the Department of Early Learning, and Mona Johnson is representing the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. She referred Council members to correspondence (on file under Tab 4), including two letters of support provided by the Council and a letter to the Attorney General, which the Council was copied on.

Chair Medicine White Crow acknowledged the 13th anniversary of September 11 and asked for a moment of silence.

5. UPDATE—CLAS Project

Yris Lance, Council Staff, introduced Kathleen Meehan, Health Educator with the Department of Health and they provided their presentation (on file under Tab 5). Ms. Meehan highlighted the five modules of the CLAS training and the pilot results. Ms. Lance shared information on the CLAS website, a survey conducted with healthcare associations regarding CLAS implementation, and some upcoming CLAS trainings during conferences and meetings.

Vazaskia Caldwell, Council Member, said the training looked great and she encouraged Council members to access the training for their agencies. Gail Brandt, Council Member, said she participated in the pilot training. She said the preparation, planning, and effort was very apparent.

6. BRIEFING—BREAST CANCER, RACE, AND PLACE

Member Brandt, introduced Steven Garrett with the Office of Healthy Communities at the Department of Health. Mr. Garrett provided his presentation (on file under Tab 6). He highlighted risk factors for breast cancer, both those that are modifiable and those that are not as well as incidence rates and mortality rates by race/ethnicity. He also highlighted public health strategies for addressing breast cancer, including efforts to improve breast cancer screening rates. Member Caldwell asked if the incidence and mortality data for black women could be broken out by age. Stephen Kutz, Council Member, asked if the data could be looked at by stage of diagnosis as well as by the type of health care coverage. He said he sees more employers moving to self-insured plans where they are exempt from some mandatory coverage. Frankie Manning, Council Vice Chair, asked about treatment modalities that black women have access to and whether they were limited. Mr. Garrett said that in addition to lower screening rates, that there are differences in treatment.

7. BRIEFING—HEALTHIER WASHINGTON PROJECT

Member Caldwell, introduced Laura Zaichkin, Administrator in the Office of Health Innovation and Reform in the Division of Policy, Planning, and Performance at the Health Care Authority. Ms. Zaichkin gave her presentation (on file under Tab 7). She provided background on the state innovation planning work to develop a 5-year vision of better health, better care, and lower costs. The plan was completed in January 2014. As a result, the Legislature enacted E2SB 2572 and E2SSB 6312 to implement many of the innovations in the plan. In July, Washington applied for a testing grant for \$92.5 million. We expect to learn if we are funded by the end of October.

She said the goal of Healthier WA is to look at health beyond healthcare. She highlighted the state's vision for accountable communities of health, which uses the collective impact model. They envision having a wide range of sectors coming together in the ACHs, including providers, public health, social service, early learning, etc. She said that once mature, ACHs can partner with the state to inform Medicaid purchasing. She talked about the "Practice Transformation Support Hub" for providers, that will be led by the Department of Health, particularly for issues around team-based care and integration of physical and behavioral health. They also envision the hub will work with the local ACHs so a provider could prescribe nontraditional health services, such as housing. She also highlighted a vision for payment redesign to move from a traditional fee for service to one that is at least 80% value-based purchasing.

Marietta Bobba, Council Member, asked about consumer involvement. Member Kutz said he hopes Tribes will be encouraged to sit on many of the committees to inform change. He also asked about plans to address changes outside the state system. Ms. Zaichkin said they are looking at the commercial system as well. She said it is an expectation of the state that Tribes and underserved populations should be invited to participate in any of the committees created. Vice Chair Manning asked if there was any consideration to having a community board advise the ACHs. Ms. Zaichkin said that is a requirement for ACHs, but they may individually choose to do so. Chair Medicine White Crow said she is happy the HCA and Exchange are a part of the Healthier Washington project team, adding that she has been watching the roll out of reform and agrees that communities need to be involved.

8. BRIEFING—STRATEGIES TO INCREASE AGENCY DIVERSITY

Member Brandt introduced Linda Riggle, Recruitment and Assessment Coordinator at the Department of Health. Ms. Riggle introduced Skyler Jones and Rachel Lopez, also with the Department of Health. She asked the Council to serve as a partner in finding strong candidates for leadership positions in the agency. She said in the last year, they increased their number of leadership positions by 5 and 4 of those new hires were people of color. She said they are networking with veteran's groups and the racial/ethnic commissions and they share job announcements at job fairs and college career fairs.

Vice Chair Manning said she was happy to hear they wanted to partner with the Council. She asked them to consider developing a mentoring program to help people to grow in the Department and to reach out to diverse communities in non-traditional ways. Member Caldwell suggested looking closely at minimum requirements, adding that sometimes job requirements are too high and can keep people from even being able to apply. Member Bobba asked Mr. Jones and Ms. Lopez to introduce themselves and their positions. Mr. Jones and Ms. Lopez said they are Recruitment and Selection consultants and they travel to colleges, the military base, and other venues to share information about public health. They help with screening processes and candidate certification.

9. BRIEFING—INCREASING THE DIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON STATE'S NURSING WORKFORCE

Vice Chair Manning said the Council has considered healthcare workforce diversity a priority since it first convened in 2006, adding that it has tried to stay informed about efforts in the state to promote diversity and has had several briefings on the topic at Council meetings. She introduced Mary Fertakis, Director of the Tukwila School Board and consultant with the National School Boards Association. Ms. Fertakis gave her presentation (on file under Tab 9), which focused on barriers and supports to pursuing a career in nursing in the K-12 and higher education systems. She highlighted

academic, financial, institutional/systems, and family/cultural barriers and supports. She also highlighted recommendations for both the K-12 and higher education systems and strategies to consider. Nova Gattman, Council Member, thanked Ms. Fertakis for a fantastic presentation. She said one of the things the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board advocates for is career-connected learning. Member Kutz introduced himself as a Native American and a nurse and said he believed there needed to be more support by Deans of Nursing to promote diversity efforts.

10. UPDATE—HEALTHIEST NEXT GENERATION

Chair Medicine White Crow referred Council members to the memo under Tab 10. She reminded members that the Council adopted childhood obesity disparities as a priority and expressed an interest in aligning with the Governor's Healthiest Next Generation Initiative. Member Brandt introduced Daisye Orr, Organizational Performance, Development, and Results Manager in the Division of Prevention and Community Health at the Department of Health. Daisye thanked the Council for its partnership on this work. She referred Council members to the Governor's Policy Brief on the Healthiest Next Generation. Ms. Orr provided information on how the Healthiest Next Generation work was structured and the agencies and partners involved. She thanked the Council for convening an equity review group to review success stories and preliminary recommendations. She said the recommendations were then shared with the initiative's community steering committee, which prioritized recommendations within school, early learning, and community settings. She said Chair Medicine White Crow and other members from the Council were invited to participate on the Governor's Council for the Healthiest Next Generation, which is meeting on September 18.

Member Bobba asked when the recommendations would be available for the public. Ms. Orr said she anticipates being able to share recommendations more widely after the Governor's Council meeting on the 18th. Chair Medicine White Crow thanked Ms. Orr for her presentation. She said she appreciated the Governor's perspective to work with children on this issue.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Medicine White Crow announced that she was opening up the public comment period and read from a prepared statement (on file).

Susie Schaefer, Open Doors for Multicultural Families, shared progress on their autism grant, including some of the workshops they provided in multiple languages. She said the grant purchased iPads for 25 families and they provided training on how to use them and loaded them with applications that would be of particular use for kids with autism. She invited the Council to its fundraiser event.

12. UPDATE—LANGUAGE ACCESS RECOMMENDATIONS

Chair Medicine White Crow referred Council members to the memo under Tab 12. She said the Council recently conducted a survey of state agencies to determine the extent to which they were already implementing the Council's language access recommendations. Ms. Hoff, provided her presentation on the survey findings (on file under Tab 12). She said the survey data showed that most agencies are providing some level of language assistance services, however most do not have written policies and practices. Ms. Hoff said she received feedback from agencies that the survey initiated conversations and actions within their agencies about language access.

Member Kutz suggested that we should share the results with all the agencies surveyed. He also asked if agencies have procedures in place to respond to phone calls from people who are speaking a language other than English. Ms. Hoff said that most agencies that provide direct customer service

train their customer service staff on how to use telephonic interpreter services, but that if phone calls are directed to staff who are not trained in these services, they may not know what to do with those calls. Member Brandt asked Ms. Hoff if there is a plan to conduct a follow-up survey in two or three years to compare the data to baseline. Ms. Hoff said there is not currently a plan to do so, but that it is a great idea and she would like to do so. Member Bobba suggested reaching out to the agencies to find out what they think our next steps should include. Ms. Hoff said she is exploring options to create a document sharing site for members of the Interagency LEP Workgroup where she can post the policies, plans, and other materials she received. Member Bobba suggested having a student intern further explore language access and CLAS issues and develop a list of best practices. Member Gattman asked if Ms. Hoff is planning to share the findings with the Legislature. Ms. Hoff said that the Council's June 2014 Update Report, which included the language access recommendations, has been submitted to the Governor's office for review. It will then be submitted to the Legislature. She said she can also include the survey findings in the next Update report. Member Bobba asked if the report speaks to the deaf and hard of hearing community. Ms. Hoff indicated that the survey was focused on spoken language only. Vice Chair Manning asked if we are able to gather some stories from individuals who have had problems accessing information or resources to supplement the survey data. Ms. Hoff agreed that stories would add a lot of value. Gwendolyn Shepherd, Council Member, indicated that community speak is also important because even communities who speak English as their first language may not understand the jargon of state agencies.

13. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Shepherd shared that she is trying to obtain funding for some community.

Member Brandt shared the Department of Health's strategic plan for 2014 – 2016. She highlighted that one of the guiding principles in the plan is health equity. She said the Department has six cross-agency workgroups and one of them is a health equity workgroup, which she co-chairs. She said they presented their draft work plan to members of the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs and have received good feedback. Member Brandt said they are developing a plan to train agency staff on the CLAS Standards.

Evette Jasper, Department of Early Learning, said she appreciated the presentation on CLAS and added that the early learning community is interested in obtaining additional resources.

Mona Johnson, Council Member, said school has started so the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction is very busy. She highlighted OSPI's efforts in support of the Healthiest Next Generation initiative. She also discussed requirements to fully fund basic education and how the Legislature was just held in contempt.

Member Gattman said she provides staff support to the Health Workforce Council. She said the Healthier Washington grant would support some of the work of the Health Workforce Council. She added that she will be presenting to the Legislature on health workforce skill gaps.

Member Kutz said he lived in a country and city where there was only 1 other English speaking family. He said that he recommends the Council reach out beyond the state system in ensuring people have meaningful access.

Vice Chair Manning reflected on her experiences providing volunteer work and working with people who speak different languages and the ability to connect on a human level. She said she was able to attend the Beat It program that was sponsored by the Health Resources and Services Administration. She said she learned about the different cultures in the African community and about how diabetes and other services are delivered. She said the remote access clinic in Seattle will be held on October 22-26 and that they were providing free dental, eye screening, health screening, and other social services for people who are underinsured or do not have insurance. The clinic will be held at the Seattle Center and they anticipate serving 1,000 people per day.

Millie Piazza, Council Member, shared an environmental justice screening tool called EJ Screen that will be launched soon. She said it is a mapping program that is nationally consistent and available to the public. It contains data on 12 indicators, including demographic data such as race/ethnicity and language, environmental information, and also health indicators. She said it could be particularly relevant for agencies providing outreach to. She said they are hosting a free webinar for Tribal governments in late October and that she will share a fact sheet with the Council.

Member Bobba said they are having a free chronic disease self-management lay leader training in Spanish in Yakima. She said she will send staff more information to send out to the Council. She said the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery was awarded grant funding to support people with behavioral health issues with employment. She said the Division would also like an opportunity to share work they are doing with the Tribes around suicide prevention

Jan Olmstead, Council Member, said the American Indian Health Commission is working with the Office of Healthy Communities at the Department of Health on a framework to address chronic disease. They developed the framework and are implementing portions of it. She added they are seeking funding to implement it in a more comprehensive way. She said the Department of Health included some of the framework's principles, including seven generations, in its strategic plan. She said the Commission is also working with the Department of Early Learning and the Department of Health on a demonstration project for Maternal and Child Health home visiting. She said there will be two years of funding at \$350,000 for the successful Tribe or urban Indian program. Applications were reviewed and they will make a determination soon.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair White Crow adjourned the meeting at 3:38 p.m.