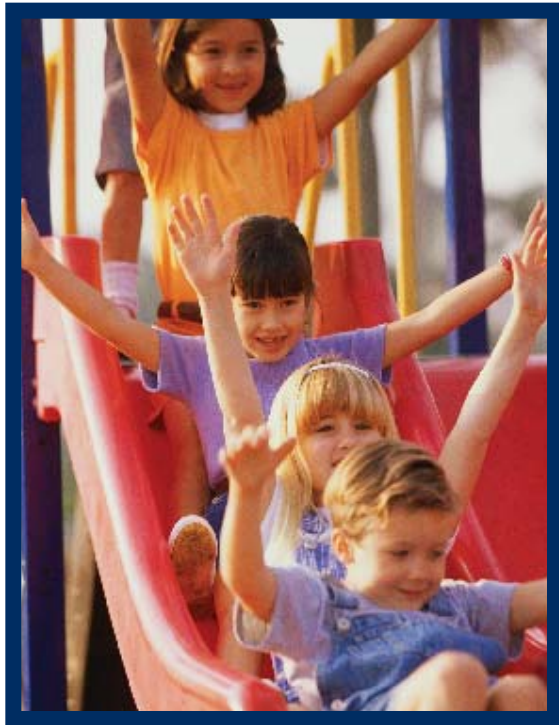


BACKGROUND

The Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities (the Health Disparities Council) was established by the Legislature in 2006 when it passed Substitute Senate Bill 6197. The Council has 17 members: a chair appointed by the Governor; representative of 14 state agencies, boards and commissions; and two members of the public. It is staffed by the State Board of Health with support from the Office of Financial Management.



MEMBERS

Chair: Vickie Ybarra, RN, MPH
Commission on African American Affairs:
Winona Hollins-Hauge, MSW, LICSW
Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs: Ellen Abellera
Commission on Hispanic Affairs:
Yvonne Lopez-Morton
Department of Agriculture: Eric Hurlburt
Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development: Annie Conant
Department of Early Learning:
Felecia Waddleton-Willis, DO
Department of Ecology: Joy St. Germain
Department of Health: Sofia Aragon, JD, RN
Department of Social and Health Services:
MaryAnne Lindeblad
Governor's Office of Indian Affairs: Craig Bill
Health Care Authority:
Nancy Fisher, RN, MD, MPH
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction: Martin Meuller
State Board of Health:
Frankie T Manning, MN, RN
Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board: Madeleine Thompson
Consumer Representatives:
Emma R. Medicine White Crow
Gwendolyn Shepherd

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



*Eliminating
Health Disparities
in Washington*



COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Action plan: By 2012, create a state action plan for eliminating health disparities in Washington State. The plan will look at health disparities broadly and also must specifically address a number of diseases and conditions identified in the legislation.
- Advisory committees: The Council is required to establish advisory committees to help it address specific issues.
- Language barriers: The Council must—after holding hearings and conducting research—issue recommendations for improving the availability of culturally appropriate health literature and interpretive services within public and private health-related agencies.
- Communication: The Council is charged with promoting communication among state agencies and between state agencies and communities of color, the public sector and the private sector to address health disparities.
- Information gathering: Through public hearings, inquiries, studies, and other efforts at information gathering, the Council will work to understand how the actions of state government ameliorate or contribute to health disparities.
- Health impact reviews: Collaborate with the Board of Health in the development of health impact reviews requested by the Governor or the Legislature.
- Regular updates: The Council must update the Legislature on its progress in 2008, 2010, and 2012.

Decreasing language barriers

Promoting communication

Improving health