

Advisory Committee Members Present:

Millie Piazza, Chair

Stella Chao

Richard Gelb

Steven Gilbert

Linn Gould

Candy Jackson (phone)

Lauren Jenks

Catherine Karr (phone)

Paulina Lopez

Alice Park (phone)

James Rasmussen

Tyrus Smith (phone)

Velma Veloria

Staff Present:

Christy Hoff

Ned Therien

Action Items:

- Millie volunteered to summarize state EJ policies and present at the next meeting
- Christy will send out meeting logistics for future meetings.
- Follow-up re: exposure pathways for maternal/child health.

1. Welcome and Introductions:

- Millie Piazza welcomed committee members and facilitated introductions. She said the goal for the meeting was to define the committee's scope and identify future needs.

2. Follow-Up on Health Disparities Council and Priorities:

- At the last meeting, members had questions about the Council, its federal grant and its current priorities, and asked staff to provide more information.
- Christy Hoff discussed the role of the Council's community relations liaison, and explained the Council would convene advisory committees for poverty and behavioral health; those committees would define their respective areas of focus.
- Christy shared a potential resource in central Washington.
- Members discussed whether aligning their recommendations to past recommendations from the Council could help further both.

3. Review and Discuss DPSIR Framework and Committee Assignment:

- Christy briefly shared how committee members' input was incorporated into the table.
- Millie facilitated discussion of the table; members spoke to their contributions.
- Committee members added the following issues as potential areas of focus: community gardens, exposure to EMF, noise, maternal and child exposures, hunting and gathering, cleaning products, food storage products, home flooding from storm contamination, secure pharmaceutical storage and disposal, healthy communities, vermin/vector control, health impact assessment.
- Committee members discussed the need to focus on areas where government has authority and/or ability to take action.
- Members suggested mapping the issues into the geographic quadrants of the state.

4/5. Roundtable Discussion of Priorities for Action Plan:

- Millie asked each member to share 1-2 areas they see as most important. Members identified the following possible priorities (number of votes in parentheses):
 - EJ policy (8)
 - Healthy communities (4)
 - Precautionary principle (3)
 - Community capacity and resiliency (2)
 - Maternal and child exposures (2)
 - Air pollution (1)
 - Affordable housing/safe housing (1)
 - Cumulative impacts (1)
 - Community level data (1)
 - Food sources for Native people (1)
 - Community education, including language access (1)
 - Enforcement of environmental laws (1)
 - Agency accountability/transparency (1)
- Members suggested the following possible groupings of topics to be addressed in a comprehensive EJ policy: chemical exposures, healthy communities, occupational exposures, infrastructure (community capacity, data).
- Members discussed the mechanism by which environmental chemicals and other exposures influence maternal and child health.
- Committee members debated whether there might be a danger to looking at cross-cutting issues (like EJ policy) because they might be more difficult for legislators to understand.
- The group discussed the lack of EJ metrics at the state level and the need to come up with baseline data to measure change.
- There was a suggestion to infuse health impact assessment (HIA) into the SEPA process. The Seattle Public Utilities may have a good tool to use.
- Someone suggested an Executive Order to create a task force, such as in Oregon.

6. Meeting Summary and Wrap Up:

- Members with expertise in topical areas volunteered to serve as resources to staff before the next meeting:
 - Velma/Stella: housing
 - Millie/James: enforcement.
 - Richard: access to environmental data.
 - Linn/Steven: predominant exposure pathways for maternal/child health.
- Millie volunteered to summarize state EJ policies and present at the next meeting.
- The group agreed to continue meeting at South Park Neighborhood Center or King Street Center and to start each meeting at noon. Committee members are encouraged to bring their lunch to the meetings.