

HEAL Council Meeting Minutes

JULY11, 2019, 12:00PM – 4:00PM ~ EMERGE

HEAL Councilmember Attendees: Va Yang, Felicia Sy, Carlos Guereca, Tamiko Morgan, Cassandra Silvera, Therese Genis, Joann Usher, Sameerah Bilal-Roby, Jennifer Nguyen Moore

MDH Attendees: Marisol Chiclana-Ayala, Betty Hiller, Sara Chute, Jeannette Raymond, Maggie Dreon, Mo Alms, Denise Freeman, Joanne Simon, Sarah Lane, Yasmin Odowa, Shor Salkas, Dan Fernandez-Baca, Melanie Peterson-Hickey, Bruce Thao, Madison Olmsted

Reflection and Discussion about May HEAL Meeting with MDH Staff

HEAL Council Members who were present at the May HEAL Council meeting with MDH Commissioners and MDH content experts shared that the meeting was powerful and marked the culmination of a great deal of work. It was wonderful to have I-HEALTH representation at the May meeting, and HEAL would like I-HEALTH to be more present at HEAL Council meetings. The meeting felt like the beginning of a system to hold MDH accountable to the recommendations in the HEAL Council Memo, and a deepening of the relationships between HEAL and MDH.

Remaining questions from the May Meeting

- How is MDH's work moving to other departments at the state such as DHS? HEAL would like to learn more about how agencies are working together.
- How are other departments utilizing MDH's community engagement work?
- What is the HEAL role in funding? Where is HEAL's leverage with regards to agency funds?
- How is MDH working on retention of people of color and women of color?
- Is there a contact person of who is working on One Minnesota governance? Need to specifically know how MDH is working with this initiative
- Can HEAL get a list of MDH's community engagement practitioners?

What are our follow up items or action items for HEAL and I-HEALTH?

- Aligning with I-HEALTH as they work closely with the HEAL Council Memo
- HEAL Memo is being used in current MDH strategic planning process
- HEAL can tell MDH who to contact when they want to reach out to community
- Can I-HEALTH provide a comprehensive plan with commitments in response to the memo?

- MDH has drafted a tracking sheet on the recommendations as a way to monitor MDH progress

Council Business

HEAL Council Advocacy and Response Committee Process

- A subcommittee has drafted a process for the HEAL Council to respond to needs and issues that arise in community and in legislation. The council needs to consider whether the process is compatible with the pace and needs of the legislative session
- The process is outlined in a document that has been sent to council members for review.
- HEAL Council Members can ask MDH for technical assistance, however the response needs to come from the voice of the council and the communities the council represents.
- There will be a standing committee and Council members can also jump onto specific issues as they arise.
- ***Council decision: HEAL Council will vote on the process by email***

Partnership Opportunities Updates

- Therese and Carlos met with Rosa Tock at the Council for Latino Affairs, and she is willing to come to a HEAL meeting to talk about the work of the council

HEAL Council Members Attendance

- Abiola and Dylan left the council because they changed jobs and moved out of state.

Membership, Recruitment, and Onboarding Subcommittee

- The HEAL Council will be recruiting for open spots for January 2020
- Connect with Shor if you would like to help review applications for future council members, or if you have an update to your own membership status.
- HEAL will be prioritizing representation from rural and disability communities

Updates from MDH Content Experts

Data Practices – Dan Fernandez-Baca

- SOGI Data Standards Conversation: At the next meeting, Dan will present a draft. In November there will be a second draft. These drafts are also being taken to I-HEALTH to discuss any barriers to implementation.
 - Issues with SOGI Data Collection
 - There are different categories and answer options that are not systemically utilized within MDH and in federal agencies.

- There are cultural and generational issues to consider with this shifting line of questions.
- The non-profit organization Reclaim has forms that ask “sex assigned” and leaves space for clients to self-identify gender identity to capture variability.
- There is the long standing tension between offering people space to self-identify and collecting data that can be analyzed in robust ways.
- Resource: Genius report from Williams Institute is a good resource (2014)

Community Engagement – Jeannette Raymond

- Migdalia Loyola is leading community engagement at the state level: hiring 7 people to coordinate public engagement of the State
 - Weekly report on MDH engagement efforts are going to the Governor’s office.
- Community engagement plan is getting a refresh this fall (end of the calendar year)
 - Collaboration between internal and external and will bring to HEAL for review
 - Contact Marisol Chiclana-Ayala if you want to be in the group
 - Memo will be used to frame what should be in the next iteration of the plan
- Marisol is working on a facilities project to make sure that our meetings are happening out in the communities in a streamlined process, creating advisory committee guidelines, and creating survey on experience working on advisory groups

Systems Change – Bruce Thao

- Director of Inclusion position is now vacant
 - Interim is the assistant director of HR Evy Engram
- Working closely with HR on leadership and culture at a number of tables
 - If you are interested in bringing in people to this table we can
- Strategic planning process
 - The next iteration is thinking about the vision and future of where we’re headed
 - Health equity is a core component and the heal memo is critical to thinking about what that looks like
 - There will be concrete goals and objectives and will go deeper from last plan
- Recommendations on grants and grant making
 - How do communities know when grants go out?
 - Working with grants office
 - They’ve lost two staff and CHE team member Betty Hiller has picked up the work
 - Grants workgroup
 - There is a long list of recommendations for what needs to change
- Office of Data Interoperability
 - Infrastructure to be able to share data
 - New director of the office is committed to equity and wants to create infrastructure to achieve the memo recommendations
 - They have an external data exchange advisory group, has representatives from hospitals, local public health, but no one from communities.

- Module for new employee orientation: CHE is working with HR on this. If you are interested in reviewing the module please let Sara Chute or Shor know.
- Community solutions fund to CHE: \$1 million grant out to community over 4 years for early childhood for people of color and children. There will be an advisory council for this grant and the RFP will go out in October.
- Health Equity Summit Update-- *Join HELN Mobilize site to stay connected:*
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/equity/projects/heln.html>

Updates and Announcements

Legislative Updates and Funding Updates – Mellissa Finnegan

- No new spending in 2020 session & there will be policy items that don't cost money will be 2020
- Commissioner will send wish list to the governor's office by August 16th and on Sept 6th documentation will be sent in
- Governor Walz has asked agencies to be very collaborative with stakeholders early in the process
- Every commissioner is meetings with all of the Tribes to get their ideas and priorities to bring forward as part of this process
 - HEAL Questions →
 - We also need community voices to go to the Governor or legislators to prove that it really does matter.
 - How do we support community members in going to legislators?
 - Legislative team of 2 is always happy to give a lobbying 101
 - HEAL Idea → Health Equity Lobby Day!
 - Day at the capitol? Move away from the capitol?
 - Opportunity to teach community how to talk to legislators and then give an opportunity to lobby
- ***HEAL Opportunity → Ad Hoc August meeting on legislative priorities***
 - HEAL ideas for next legislative session
 - Safety measures for undocumented immigrants
 - Access to information with regards to language barriers
 - LGBTQ council
 - Gender neutral bathrooms in all state agency buildings
 - Ensuring access to birth control
 - Mental health for children in school systems
 - Cost for insulin
 - School based clinics
 - Social workers in schools
 - Medically unnecessary surgery for intersex infants

- HEAL Community Announcements
 - Black Birth Summit for people working on US-Born African American infant mortality
 - Working on a sustainable plan going forward because the grant is ending

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.