



Maternal and Child Health Advisory Task Force Meeting Summary Friday, August 16, 2024

Members Present

Carolyn Allshouse
Vanessa Bembridge
Rachel Gilbertson
Nicole Fernandez
Tricia Brisbine
Sadie Swenson
Tamiko Ralston
Stephanie de Sam
Lazaro
Stephanie Graves
Andrea Lawson
Marie Malinowski
Eugene Nichols
Candi Seil
Meredith O'Brien

Members Absent

Sameera Bilal-Roby
Kara Hamilton-McGraw
Rachael Joseph
Joi Elmore
Brittany Becker
Elizabeth Pihlaja
Kadija Mussa
Lindsey Wimmer
Michelle O'Brien
Sarah Brown

MDH Staff

Nicole Brown
Savannah Riddle
Judy Edwards
Ramya Palaniappan
Chandra Bittmann
John Eshun
Elizabeth Taylor-
Schiro
Mary Ottman
Rachel Sprague
Jessica Easter
Mariah Geiger-
Williams
Judy Plante
Maria Sarabia
Audrey Hanson
Deanna White
Tara Carmean

Welcome, Introductions, and Chair Remarks

Gene Nichols, Task Force Member, welcomed members and guests, and introduced new Task Force ex-officio members, new Executive Committee members, new Chair-Elect, existing members, and consultant Judy Plante from Lanterna. A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda. A motion was made and seconded to approve the June 14 meeting minutes with a small change. Gene turned the meeting over to consultant Judy Plante to facilitate the meeting.

Member News

Nicole Fernandez mentioned a new virus that affects new moms and gave a reminder to continue to mask up in public as COVID cases are on the rise. Nicole stated she is completing her final Maternal and Gifted Health Series with the Wayside Recovery Center as the funding has ended. Rachel Gilbertson stated the Heart-to-Heart program received a model practice award from NACHO. Sadie Swenson mentioned that a co-design project with Cradle to Career was happening and the final report is completed. The strategy meeting will occur in a few weeks to develop and implement community prenatal care access.

Subcommittee Updates

Family Home Visiting Subcommittee their group sent a REDCap survey out to gain recruit additional subcommittee members. Twenty applications were submitted and they are looking to add 5-7 more members from this group of applicants. The next subcommittee meeting is on August 28th where they will review the applications, determine the subcommittee flow structure and priorities, and a MESH document review addendum.

Perinatal Subcommittee has 13 members, five are MCH Advisory Task Force members. The subcommittee is planning community feedback, through a 3-pronged approach. Meetings have moved to monthly meetings, versus bi-weekly meetings. The subcommittee's next quarterly newsletter coming out in early September.

Infant and Early Childhood subcommittee has not met yet but will meet in the coming weeks. Looking to add members to the committee.

Children and Youth with Special Health Needs subcommittee members agreed to meet monthly through December 2024. Refining purpose as group, would like to be seen as a resource to CYSHN. Hoping to add members to the subcommittee, will select official roles later.

Child and Adolescent Subcommittee met twice in June and coming up in August. Want to continue to review charge and identify areas of greatest interest. Plan on meeting monthly and will add members down the line. Will identify leader and coleader after purpose is defined more clearly.

Betty Hubbard Award

The nomination form for the 2024 Betty Hubbard Award is now open online. The deadline to submit nominations is September 11. Current Task Force members are ineligible to be nominated, but former Task Force members can be nominated for this award. The subcommittee will meet to review nominations and select the winners.

MDH Update

Nicole Brown gave the MDH update on behalf of Noya Woodrich, who was unable to attend. Some legislative proposals, such as Healthy Beginnings, Healthy Families Act, are being worked on to move forward. Elizabeth Taylor-Schiro discussed updates on the MDH Title V Needs Assessment. Once the strategies are developed, the measures will be selected for each priorities. Community feedback will follow. The annual Title V report was submitted to HRSA in July. Assistant Commissioner Maria Sarabia gave an encouragement/reminder to explore aligning forces with other agencies, communities, and resources.

Statewide Assessment Update

Audrey Hanson, Tara Carmean, and Deanna White provided the Task Force with an update on the Statewide Health Assessment, including how to use, share, and collaborate with the findings. Policy profiles include paid family and medical leave, tree canopy cover, and universal broadband internet.

Following the Statewide Assessment is the Statewide Health Improvement Framework Overview. A short time of questions and answers and announcements ensued.

Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 25 and will be an in-person meeting. Task Force member Gene Nichols thanked the presenters and members for their time and adjourned the meeting.