



## Maternal and Child Health Advisory Task Force Meeting Summary Friday, October 25, 2024

### Members Present

Andrea Lawson  
Brittany Becker  
Eugene Nichols  
Marie Malinowski  
Meredith O'Brien  
Rachel Gilbertson  
Sadie Swenson  
Stephanie Graves  
Stephanie de Sam Lazaro  
Tamiko Ralston

### Members Absent

Sameera Bilal-Roby  
Kara Hamilton-McGraw  
Rachael Joseph  
Joi Elmore  
Elizabeth Pihlaja  
Kadija Mussa  
Lindsey Wimmer  
Michelle O'Brien  
Sarah Brown  
Carolyn Allshouse  
Vanessa Bembridge  
Nicole Fernandez  
Tricia Brisbane  
Candi Seil

### MDH Staff

Maria Sarabia  
Jennie Lippert  
Noya Woodrich  
Nicole Brown  
Alison Moore  
Judy Edwards  
Ramya Palaniappan  
Mariah Geiger-Williams  
Elizabeth Taylor-Schiro  
Anne Walaszek  
Kara Skahen  
Gabby Major  
Amy Stauter

### Guests

Allison OConnor  
Aliza Bach

### Welcome, Introductions, and Chair Remarks

Rachel Gilbertson, Task Force member and acting chairperson, welcomed members and guests, made announcements, and began the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda. A motion was made and seconded to approve the August 16 meeting minutes.

### Member News

Stephanie Graves mentioned the upcoming HHH Conference. Maria Sarabia talked about the Zero Death Conference. Eugene Nichols spoke about the April 2025 Tobacco Prevention Conference.

### Subcommittee Updates

Jennie Lippert updated about the Family Home Visiting Subcommittee, which last met on 8/28 and will meet again on 11/21. They have recruited six new subcommittee members and will further discuss their 2025 budget.

Ramya Palaniappan updated about the Perinatal Subcommittee which now has 13 members and are in the process of drafting community recommendations. They are working on their strategic plan with the community feedback phase and have a survey coming out in two months, as well as their regular newsletter.

Alison Moore updated about the Infant and Early Childhood Subcommittee that has decided to meet quarterly. They are in the growing stages, trying to figure out who they are as a subcommittee, reviewing their work and purpose.

Nicole Brown updated about the Children and Youth with Special Health Needs Subcommittee members agreed to meet monthly through December 2024. They are discussing new priorities and strategies, including a steering committee and a subgroup with a Needs Assessment. They are also looking to improve access and continue discuss strategy.

Eugene Nichols updated about the Child and Adolescent Subcommittee, which now has six members and last met on 10/21. They need more members and will discuss further in their November and December meetings. They will continue to support the Title V advisory group.

### CFH Update

Noya Woodrich gave the CFH update. Kathy Wick is retiring in February 2025 and her role will be filled shortly with overlap to train the new person. Some legislative proposals, such as Healthy Beginnings, Healthy Families Act, need more money. The InterAgency process has commenced with Behavioral Health and Child and Family Health meeting together for a common outcome. The PDG grant was recently renewed. The MN Story Collective continues collecting stories, including a story about North Minneapolis desiring increased investment from the state. The CFH strategic plan is being developed and will be presented in April of 2025. The recent Title V conference in DC was a success as was the APHA conference earlier in October of 2024.

### Adjournment

Nicole Brown led a discussion about the frequency of Advisory Task Force meetings. It was agreed upon by the group to meet less frequently in 2025. A motion to meet quarterly in 2025 was made, seconded, and passed. In addition, the subcommittees will meet more frequently in 2025. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 13 from 9:30-11:30am via Zoom. Rachel Gilbertson noted the great Betty Hubbard Award nominations received this year and the excellent award recipients. A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Task Force member and acting chairperson Rachel Gilbertson thanked the presenters and members for their time and adjourned the meeting.