

MINUTES

Wisconsin Minority Health Leadership Council (WMHLC)

Thursday June 13, 2013

UW-Milwaukee

Zilber School of Public Health

1240 N. 10th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53205

9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Paulette Bangura - Faculty Associate, UW-Milwaukee School of Continuing Education

María Barker - Multicultural Programs Manager, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, Inc.

Brenda Coley - Director of Adult Services, Diverse & Resilient, Inc. (Chair)

Inshirah Farhoud - Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

Carla Harris - Oncology Community Outreach Coordinator, Columbia-St. Mary's

Emmanuel Ngui - Asst. Professor of Health Disparities, UW-Milwaukee School of Public Health

Sarah Noble - Managing Director, Reproductive Justice Collective

Ana Paula Soares Lynch - Director, Proyecto Salud, CORE/EI Centro

Fuechou Thao - Public Health Aide, Madison & Dane County Public Health

Excused:

Lisa Tiger - Collaborative Center for Health Equity (*notified Program of emergency*)

JoCasta Zamarripa - State Representative

Absent:

Nancy Saiz – Grants Administrator, City of Madison

Koua Vang - Executive Director, United Asian Services of Wisconsin, Inc.

Staff:

Evelyn Cruz, Director, Minority Health Program

Ruth DeWeese, Minority Health Program Assistant

María M. Flores, Minority Health Program and Policy Analyst

ACRONYMS

ACA

[Affordable Care Act](#)

WMHLC

[Minority Health Leadership Council](#)

MHP

[Wisconsin Minority Health Program](#)

Meeting commenced at 9:45a.m.
March meeting minutes:

- Carla Harris moved to approve
- Inshirah Farhoud seconded

Minutes were approved unanimously

ELECTIONS

One member stated that the Council has traditionally looked at representation, and the current makeup of the Council. This Council needs more men, more geographic representation, and we need to think about how to use technology for meetings. Technology should be a regular, standard part of the meetings.

Nominations were taken from the floor. There were none.

In a future meeting, we can think about a more formal way to get the word out about this Council. We should keep a running list of former nominees.

Evelyn Cruz stated that there should probably be a nominations subcommittee going forward. The Council is a self-elected council.

Officers will be elected in the September meeting.

It was asked again if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none.

Nine ballots returned out of 13 voting members.

New members need 51% of the votes. Six out of 9 votes will get a nominee into the Council.

- 2 people had a majority vote;
- Everyone on the slate was voted in.

María M. Flores will contact the new members on June 14.

Chair, Vice Chair and Executive Committee responsibilities:

- These are outlined in Section 5 of the Bylaws – Duties of Officers
- It was requested that the duties be placed into the minutes.

Chair Duties:

Minority Health Program staff read Chair duties in the Bylaws:

- The Chairperson of the Council shall preside at all meetings of the Council
- Is an ex-officio member of all committees established by the Council
- Is responsible for coordinating the selection and evaluation process for the Council and its members
- Is responsible for excusing members who show good cause for absence from attendance at Council meetings
- Shall perform other duties as directed by these By-Laws or by the Council.
- Shall work closely with the staff of the Wisconsin Minority Health Program to prepare agendas for meetings and review minutes of council meetings.
- Is responsible for assuring that reports on activities of the Council are prepared and presented to the DHFS Secretary and/or DPH Administrator.

An additional duty would be representing the Council at other public health functions or talking to the press.

Vice Chair Duties:

- Shall work closely with the Chairperson and staff of the Wisconsin Minority Health Program to assure that members are notified of meetings in accordance with provisions of these bylaws
- Shall assure that attendance records and minutes of Council and Council committee meetings are recorded accurately and maintained in the Wisconsin Minority Health Program offices.
- Shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the Chair-person if the Chairperson is temporarily unable to act.

Executive Committee:

- The Council shall have an Executive Committee consisting of five members: the Chairperson of the Council, the Vice-Chairperson of the Council, and three at-large members of the Council elected at the annual meeting of the Council.
- A simple majority of members at any called meeting of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum of the Committee.
- Should a vacancy occur on the Executive Committee between annual meetings, the Executive Committee shall appoint a current member of the Council for the remaining term.
- The Executive Committee of the Council shall have all the powers of the Council between regular meetings of the Council except that the Executive Committee shall be excluded from amending the bylaws of the Council, shall be excluded from electing officers of the Council, and shall be excluded from filling vacancies on the Council.
- The Executive Committee shall act as the Bylaws Committee of the Council and from time to time, shall be responsible for review of bylaws and recommendation of revisions to the full Council.

- The Executive Committee, in collaboration with the Minority Health Program staff members, and with input from other Council members as appropriate, shall establish agendas for Council meetings.
- The Executive Committee shall keep minutes of its meetings and make a full report of all actions taken to the next regular meeting of the Council.
- Meetings of the Executive Committee may be held at such time and place as may from time to time be determined by the Chairperson of the Council upon giving notice to each member of the Executive Committee.

Both officers can continue on Executive Committee for transition period; there will be a meeting scheduled for coaching. Current Chair will not be at the September meeting.

The Transition Team and Executive Committee were named:

Transition team - Emmanuel, Brenda, Inshirah, Fuechou, Carla until September

María Barker - Executive Committee

Sarah Noble- Executive Committee

Fuechou Thao - Executive Committee

Carla Harris - Executive Committee. She will think about the Chair / Vice Chair position.

There were no further remarks about the elections process.

ACA FACT SHEET

The draft ACA fact sheet was passed out. The Joint Finance Committee voted to approve the governor's proposal on BadgerCare. One amendment was coverage for pregnant women to stay where it currently is.

The governor voted to approve BadgerCare at 100% of the [Federal Poverty Level](#). Current law is at 200%. Many groups are holding out hope that in the Senate there will be deliberation around the eligibility levels. The budget will be passed no later than mid-July. This will affect about 86,000 people who will be dropped.

- The percentage of African-Americans on BadgerCare is about 13%
- The percentage of Latinos on BadgerCare is about
- There is a huge number of people who are uninsured who could be eligible.
- There may still be some Assembly members that may be swayed to increase BadgerCare to 133% of the FPL.

One member stated that health care organizations are scrambling to cut costs; less slots are available for types of insurance, providers are not being replaced.

Another member stated that the Governor proposed something for the people who fall between 100 - 200% of the [FPL](#).

The Reproductive Justice Coalition has coloring pages on how BadgerCare would affect children. There is a future threat of waiving nearly 30,000 children off of BadgerCare if language stays in the budget

How can the Council help?

- The Reproductive Justice Coalition is the only organization of color on the Save BadgerCare Coalition.
- Can the MHLC join the Save BadgerCare Coalition?

One member asked how can the community be informed and educated? What do we need to tell people? How can we tell people? The Save BadgerCare Coalition will be doing public briefings. One important issue was mentioned: the BadgerCare waiting list. The Save BadgerCare Coalition is trying to get the word out that it is important to apply to BadgerCare, despite the waiting list.

One member stated that perhaps we should gather four talking points for our communities – start now to tell people the four things they need to know. Another member stated that the Region V Health Equity Council has technical assistance available to support any work around the ACA; not funding, but for developing materials, a workplan, radio spots, etc. They want to help the states. The Wisconsin members would need to be involved since it is a Region V effort. Ohio has some ACA webinars.

These issues cannot wait until the next meeting; there will be a brief phone call after July 1.

REGION V HEALTH EQUITY COUNCIL

The Council viewed the video from the April 13 Minority Health Month Event. The discussion also centered around the Social Determinates of Health document for the Public Health Information Campaign (PHIC) grant; the Council will be asked for assistance at some point.

- Evelyn Cruz stated that the Minority Health Report has become the baseline report for *HW2020*, the format will be slightly different, and will have separate chapters for the populations, and for the issues. There are parts where there is not enough data at the population level. Chapter review will begin in August. One member asked when will minority health data and reporting will be important enough for the state to produce on a regular basis?

- Evelyn stated that next week the Program will be meeting with National Organization for Research at Chicago (NORC) to discuss the end result of the Program's current grant. The current grant will be ending August 31.
- Evelyn also spoke about the PHIC grant with CORE/EI Centro and Proyecto Salud. Program staff are also working on the RFA for 2-4 new community grantees and the new PHIC cycle.

One member often wonders what the impact is of the MHLC. For example, chlamydia is a huge problem. He has wondered strategically about growing and funding research for these types of issues. We need to find a place to begin to address the issue of building a grassroots organization. Another member wondered if creating capacity in one thing will support other big issues.

Evelyn stated that this will be possible with the new federal grant opportunity, the two-year grant starting September 1 to support the [National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care](#) (CLAS). Immediately after the beginning of the grant, the Program will begin working with the [DPH Chronic Disease Prevention & Cancer Control Section](#) to institutionalize CLAS into the contracting process.

Brett Davis meeting: one question to ask what is his plan and timeline of getting information out to the communities? How is he proposing to reach the invisible communities? What are the outreach strategies? This will be a chance to educate the communities further.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Next Executive Committee - formalize the questions for the September meeting, and get the follow-up questions. We ourselves need to be prepared to have that conversation.

Next Executive Committee meeting: Thursday July 18 11-12pm.

WRAP UP

Members expressed their appreciation for the space this meeting provides for expressing health disparities.