

**Advisory Council on Health Disparity and Health Equity**

**April 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

**Henrico Health Department - 8600 Dixon Powers Drive, Henrico, VA 23228**

**Henrico Health Department Conference Room & Via Polycom**

**11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Henrico: **Elizabeth Locke, PhD, PT; Cecily Rodriguez; Sheila Trimiew-Johnson BA;**  
**Theresa Teekah, MA, RN, MPH-C; Portia Cole, PhD, MSW, LCSW; Emmanuel Eugenio, MD, FAAP;**  
**Linda Redmond, PhD ; Lucie Ferguson, PhD, MPH, RN; Adrienne McFadden, MD, JD, FACEP, FAAEM,**  
**FCLM; VIA Polycom: Beth O'Connor, M. Ed, BA; Kate S. K. Lim, MT, (ASCP), FACHE, CPHQ, CPHRM;**  
**Patti Kiger, Med (PhD); Luisa F. Soaterna, BS, MPH;**  
**Absent:** **Gloria Addo-Ayensu, MD, MPH; Vonda Barnett, MS, BSN; Susan Alford, BS, MBA; Patricia N. Matthew, BA; Saundra Nelson-Cherry, PhD; Melissa Canaday;**  
**VDH : Karen Reed, MA, CDE; Augustine Doe, MS, MPA**

**Welcome**

Dr. Lucie Ferguson ACHDHE Vice-chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone and the attendees introduced themselves.

**Adoption of Agenda**

The April 8, 2014 meeting agenda was adopted as presented.

**Approval of Minutes**

The December 10, 2013 ACHDHE meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

**Introduction of OMHHE Director**

Dr. McFadden was introduced as the new Office of Minority Health & Health Equity (OMHHE) Office Director effective January 10, 2014. Dr. McFadden briefly shared information about her academic and medical backgrounds and discussed her interest in public health.

**State Health Commissioner's Updates**

Dr. Marissa Levine, State Health Commissioner was unable to attend the meeting. Dr. McFadden presented updates on Dr. Levine's behalf. Dr. McFadden shared that Dr. Levine's regrets not attending the ACHDHE meeting, but was unable to attend due to her travel to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, GA.

Dr. McFadden shared the following updates with ACHDHE members:

- The VDH is working towards a health workforce that is a reflection of the communities' diversities that is not limited to racial and ethnic differences but including language and language access issues.

- The new VDH administration is focusing on meeting with key stakeholders around the state to obtain feedback specifically directed at closing the disparity gap and increasing coverage for an additional 400,000 Virginians.
- ACHDHE topics:

**Rotational meetings** - whether to rotate meetings ACHDHE members were polled on whether they would be able to attend regional ACHDHE meetings around the state on a rotational basis. The poll response indicated that most members are not able to attend regional meetings. Accordingly, Dr. Levine deferred to this decision; therefore, the location of ACHDHE meetings will not rotate.

**ACHDHE meeting presentation topics** - ACHDHE members presented a list of topics. Dr. Levine thanked members for their input and indicated that ACHDHE meeting presentation topics selected will focus on areas that tie-in-well with the programs.

**Proposed ACHDHE member collaboration study** - Dr. Levine included the proposed ACHDHE Collaboration Study to the meeting agenda for discussion. ACHDHE members will learn more about the study from Portia Cole (Member requesting study) at the April 8, 2014 meeting. ACHDHE membership will have an opportunity to vote on participation in the study. Dr. Levine indicated a unanimous decision of the ACHDHE members will be necessary in order to pursue the study.

**Presentation: “2014 Legislative Update”**

**Presenter:** Joseph Hilbert, Director of Governmental Affairs, Virginia Department of Health, Richmond, Virginia.

Mr. Hilbert provided an overview of his role regarding VDH’s input on legislation. Mr. Hilbert indicated that during this GA session, VDH either commented on or watched over 150 bills. Mr. Hilbert specifically discussed key elements of seven bills that had significant health components that would be of interest to the ACHDHE. (See handout out -

[http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OMHHE/healthequity/mhac\\_meetings.htm](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OMHHE/healthequity/mhac_meetings.htm)).

**\*MEMBERS FEEDBACK/RECOMMENDATIONS:** (\* - feedback received following the meeting)

- \*ACHDHE members requested that the ACHDHE be offered a pre-general assembly informational session in the fall of each year.
- \*ACHDHE recommends an annual policy review on: HPV immunizations for boys and Epi-Pen use in severe allergy reactions in school.
- \*ACHDHE recommends that HB 387 newborn screening process of reporting and documentation must reach the first provider who sees baby after nursery discharge, and the provision of the parents' contact phone numbers in the 'VDH General Services, Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services' newborn screening report.
- ACHDHE members will continue to think about the issues discussed and provide input to VDH on House Bill (HB) 329, Crohn’s Disease (as HB329 was carried over to the 2015 Sessions in the House Health, Welfare and Institutions Committee).
- ACHDHE members found the presentation very informative and helpful.

**Presentation: "Virginia's Physician Workforce and Related Policies"**

**Presenter:** Stephen Bowman, Senior Staff Attorney/Methodologist, Joint Commission on Healthcare, Richmond, Virginia.

Mr. Bowman spoke briefly about his role with the Joint Commission on Healthcare (JCHC) and key components of this presentation were included in a study on Virginia Healthcare Workforce Shortages that was presented to the GA in September of 2013. Mr. Bowman's presentation covered physician supply, shortages and maldistribution, medical school graduates, residencies, and geriatric training, recent impacts and state policies. The presentation also included information on recent impacts and state policies impacting healthcare in Virginia. (See presentation at [http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OMHHE/healthequity/mhac\\_meetings.htm](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OMHHE/healthequity/mhac_meetings.htm)). Mr. Bowman's study presentation to the General Assembly can be found at: <http://jchc.virginia.gov/Final%20%20Physician%20Shortage%20color.pdf>.

**\*MEMBERS FEEDBACK/RECOMMENDATIONS: (\* - feedback received following the meeting)**

- \*ACHDHE recommends alleviating restraints and constraints of federal regulations that make the desire to practice in rural or suburban setting unattractive.
- \*ACHDHE recommends increasing racial and ethnic diversity in health workforce that reflects geographic area of practice.
- ACHDHE members indicated the presentation information was very informative. Questions were generated around gender disparity and what is being done. An example presented was that physical therapists, pharmacy techs, and nurse practitioner as professions that are dominated by females. Also, questions were asked about the racial ethnic data collection and the need for comparative data to provide a larger scope of the net difference in terms of diversity.
- Mr. Bowman (presenter) acknowledged good points made by members and indicated that he would share member's comments with appropriate staff.
  - \*On Thursday, June 12, 2014, Mr. Bowman provided follow up regarding questions raised about whether the Department of Health Professions survey to licensed health care professions was specific enough regarding whether the providers accepted Medicaid as it could be construed to address out-of-state Medicaid providers. He indicated that his followed up with the DHP Workforce Data Center to alter the question to clarify Virginia Medicaid was a great point and they are sending up to senior leadership to okay the change. Mr. Bowman will provide update on the issue.

**Presentation: "Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority Overview"**

**Presenter:** Erin Silliman, Interim Executive Director, Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority, Richmond, Virginia.

Ms. Silliman provided an overview of the VHWDA, its short-term and long-term goals. Ms. Silliman shared the history of the organization and briefly discussed its nine priority areas.

**MEMBERS FEEDBACK/RECOMMENDATIONS:** (\* - feedback received following the meeting)

- ACHDHE members indicated the presentation was very informative.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ACHDHE Procedural Guidelines:**

Dr. Locke shared that Dr. Levine requested that the ACHDHE procedural guidelines document be reviewed by the council and approved. As such, the ACHDHE members offered the following changes:

- Article V, Section 1a: Standing Subcommittees be removed from the document
- Article V, Section 1b: be changed to Section 1a and its language rephrased to reflect potential subcommittees' roles/duties including community engagement, data, and legislative/policy.
- Article II, Section 3, Terms of Appointment Section reworded to clarify ACHDHE membership term and elected officers duration of office.
- Article III, Section 3, Terms of Office reworded to reflect the difference between elected officials duration of office and membership term.

Note: OMHHE staff will formulate the language and share with the group for review prior to submission to the State Health Commissioner. (See attached ACHDHE procedural guidelines document).

**ACHDHE Proposed Study:**

Dr Portia Cole reported that she had suggested that ACHDHE members be invited to participate in a proposed study to look at collaboration and social network analysis. The proposed study entitled "Social Network Analysis of Organization Working to Address Health Inequities" is designed to assess level(s) of collaboration among members of the Advisory Council on Health Disparity and Health Equity (ACHDHE) by examining their interactions. Dr Cole further explained that the study will gauge the Council member's perception of collaboration and the extent of their interactions with their local communities and other organizations.

After a brief discussion and further requests for the clarification of the study goals, it was suggested that more information about the study methodology and other aspects be discussed at ACHDHE subsequent meetings. Further as there is no specific time frame restriction for the study. Dr. Cole indicated that she would like to invite a co-presenter to further explain the study at the next ACHDHE meeting. Members agreed that the topic could be discussed at the next meeting.

**Announcements and Updates**

**OMHHE Updates** - Dr. Adrienne McFadden announced the following:

Dr. Marissa Levine was appointed as Virginia's State Health Commissioner.

1. April is Minority Health Month and in observation of Minority Health Month, the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity (OMHHE) would like to encourage ACHDHE member with

organizations that are doing things for underserved, minority and at risk populations to forward success stories to be posted on OMHHE websites. You are encouraged to send your success stories to Sarahbeth Jones, OMHHE Communications Specialist at [sarah.jones@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:sarah.jones@vdh.virginia.gov).

2. The OMHHE disseminated a communication survey to its rural health partners in order to optimize communication. To access the communication survey, click on the link:  
<http://kwiksurveys.com/app/renderSurvey.asp?sid=9ps78ofuva704lf307979&refer=www%2Evdh%2Evirginia%2Egov>.
3. Virginia's State Rural Health Plan (VSRHP) is being implemented incrementally starting with the Critical Access Hospitals (CAH), to be followed by the Small Rural Hospitals, and the rest of the state. For more information of the VSRHP go to:  
<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OMHHE/primarycare/ruralhealth/rural-health-plan.htm>.

**Members' Update:**

Dr. Eugenio expressed gratitude for the OMHHE participation in the Central Virginia Health Fair which was organized by the Asian American Association of Central Virginia in October of 2013.

**ACHDHE Action Items**

ACHDHE members were provided copies of the "Presentation Feedback forms" to be completed and forwarded to Augustine Doe at [Augustine.Doe@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Augustine.Doe@vdh.virginia.gov) by April 30 2014. ACHDHE members' comments/recommendations received following the meeting will be compiled, and included in the meeting minutes (annotated with an "")

**Public Comment: None**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:17 pm.

**Next ACHDHE MEETING:**

Date: July 8, 2014 Time: 11:00am – 2:00pm  
Location: Virginia Department of Health, 109 Governor Street, Main Floor  
Conference Room Richmond, VA 23219 and via Polycom as requested.

**Respectfully submitted by: Augustine Doe, Health Equity Specialist**

**Minutes reviewed by: Dr. Elizabeth Locke, Chair**