

**COMMISSIONER'S
MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
April 10, 2012, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
Petersburg Health Department
Conference Room
301 Halifax Street, Petersburg, VA 23803**

Members Attending In Person: Tia Campbell, RN, MSN, NCSN; Melissa Canaday; Tonya Davis, MS, MBA; Lucie Ferguson, PhD, MPH, RN; Elizabeth M. Giles, PhD, PT; Linda L. Redmond, PhD; Cecily Rodriguez, BS; Theresa Teekah, BS, MA, CMPH; Via Polycom: Sandra Cherry Nelson, PhD

Members Absent: Gloria Addo-Ayensu, MD, MPH; Jené A. Carter, BS; Gary Crum, PhD, MPH; Carl A. Gibson, MD, FACP; Ethlyn McQueen-Gibson, RN, MSN; Tinh duc Phan; Michael Royster, MD, MPH; Edward A. Scott, PhD; and Claudia M. Tellez, MPH

Staff Attendance: Karen Reed, MA; Susan L. Triggs, PhD, MPH, RN; Patrice Perkins, MS (OMHHE Fellow); Alyssa Murray (VDH Thomas Jefferson Health District)

Guest Presenter: Peggy Paviour, MS, CHES (PLAN FIRST Coordinator)

- **Welcome**

Meeting called to order by Lucie Ferguson, MHHEAC Vice-Chair.

- **Agenda**

The agenda was adopted with the order of the meeting changed so all members attending could be in place before introduction of the new officers.

- **Minutes**

The January 10, 2012 minutes were approved as submitted.

- **State Health Commissioner's Updates**

MHHEAC Recommendations

Dr. Remley reviewed with members the recommendations she received from them and her response regarding infant mortality reduction and pending 2012 General Assembly legislation. She reminded members that, with regard to legislation, VDH only supports the position of the Governor on any given issue. HB 1112, the HPV 6th grade mandate, was recommitted to Education and Health to be continued during the 2013 General Assembly session. As of the time of Dr. Remley's report, the existing mandate remained in place. On a good note, Virginia has one of the highest HPV immunization rates in the country. Dr. Remley also mentioned other bills deemed by VDH to be important which related to the Allpayer Claims Database Bill, Congenital Cardiac Disease in Newborns Bill, Abortion Ultrasound Bill, and the Epi Pen in all Schools Bill.

Dr. Remley presented a PowerPoint presentation that included the following data: (a) Teen pregnancy in Virginia has decreased by approximately 300, (b) State infant mortality rate is 6.7%, the lowest ever, (c) the AA infant mortality rate is also the lowest ever, (d) pre-term birth rate has consistently been on the decline, (e) 10-19 year olds decreased 41% in the number of pregnant teens, and (f) induced abortions are the lowest ever.

Dr. Remley agreed with the suggestion that MHHEAC should have representation on the Infant Mortality Work Group and asked that someone be assigned to participate.

She also suggested that MHHEAC look at the healthcare workforce in general and evaluate where loan and scholarship programs are with considering providers other than doctors and nurses. She suggested a presentation be developed examining best practices of other states in this regard.

New Direction for MHHEAC Recommendations:

Dr. Demsey talked to MHHEAC members about the new direction of MHHEAC going forward in terms of providing recommendations. The desire of the Commissioner is to engage MHHEAC in a more facilitated discussion around certain initiatives which will incorporate additional specificity to recommendations received from MHHEAC. To this end, MHHEAC meetings will include various topic presentations in which members will have an opportunity to share input. She reminded the group that coordination of efforts is very important for good outcomes. She also reiterated the importance of MHHEAC's advice.

- **Introduction of New Officers**

Lucie Ferguson introduced Elizabeth Giles as the new Chair of MHHEAC beginning with the July 2012 meeting. Lucie Ferguson will continue as Vice Chair, and Melissa Canaday will continue as Secretary.

- **Plan First Presentation and Discussion**

Peggy Paviour provided a presentation about PLAN FIRST to MHHEAC members (attached). PLAN FIRST is a Medicaid Family Planning Expansion program with the purpose of preventing unintended pregnancies, increasing spacing between births, and increasing positive birth outcomes. It falls under the umbrella of the state plan for Medicaid for men and women at $\leq 200\%$ poverty. Objectives include reduction of unintended pregnancies and education regarding family planning including prevention. The VDH commitment to increase enrollment numbers by 10,000 was achieved. Ms. Paviour explained to MHHEAC members the connection between Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) and PLAN FIRST. She said the PLAN FIRST enrollment numbers began increasing in early 2008 and has continued to increase since. The biggest users of PLAN FIRST are 20–29 year olds. PLAN FIRST project leaders hope to include trainings for medical providers, for members of the Virginia Home Visiting Consortium, and for other similar groups. MHHEAC members asked questions about the

relationship between health disparities and unintended pregnancies. Ms. Paviour promised to follow up by providing additional information to members about this area. The PLAN FIRST PowerPoint presentation will be added to the OMHHE website. Ms. Paviour shared with attendees her desire to receive suggestions or ideas regarding PLAN FIRST.

- **VDH Environmental Health Equity Presentation and Discussion**

Susan Triggs and Patrice Perkins (Environmental Health Equity Fellow within OMHHE), provided a presentation to attendees about the VDH Environmental Health Equity Project. This project is a top priority of the State Health Commissioner which brings together the Offices of Drinking Water, Environmental Health, and Minority Health and Health Equity. As such, each participating office has allocated time for multiple staff to contribute to the effort. In addition, the community engagement activities will bring partners to the table that can provide financial and other resources to support the pilot testing of a HPTA model and community engagement processes, which will inform VDH's policies.

MHHEAC members were provided with the project Fact Sheet (attached). An overview of the project, an explanation of the concepts of community-based participatory approaches (CBPA) and PACE-EH, along with a review of the Community Profile template were provided. Finally, attendees were provided a view and discussion of the "Conceptual Model for Community Participation's Impact on Environmental Exposures." MHHEAC members commented that they thought this was a good presentation and that it could be used as a model for other programs incorporating a CBPA model.

- **Subcommittee Reports**

- Community Engagement Subcommittee

Theresa Teekah reported that subcommittee members discussed various presentations during which they talked about concepts of social determinants of health (SDOH) and health equity (HE). They also discussed how presentations were related to educational needs of the group they presented to and the relationship to relevant policy. Ms. Teekah advised that she would be updating the MAPP Matrix in the coming months.

- Data Subcommittee

Tonya Davis reported that the plans of the subcommittee have not changed and that it still plans to develop a Template for Action that will be available as the foundation for the subcommittee. This subcommittee had many competing priorities during the quarter and did not meet.

- Policy/Legislative Subcommittee

Linda Redmond reported in the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair of this subcommittee. This subcommittee took the lead on developing the 2012

Recommendations to the Commissioner and coordinated the input from all MHHEAC members into the document that was sent forward.

- **New Business**

Subcommittee Leadership:

Lucie Ferguson led a discussion about subcommittee leadership changes for the Data Subcommittee and the Policy/Legislative Subcommittee. Tonya Davis is stepping down as the Chair of the Data Subcommittee, and the Vice Chair Elizabeth Giles, is moving into the position of Chair of MHHEAC. Gary Crum is retiring from University of Virginia at Wise and is, therefore, stepping down as Chair of the Policy/Legislative Subcommittee. The appointment term for Claudia Tellez, the Vice Chair of the Policy/Legislative Subcommittee, has come to an end.

MHHEAC members are asked to rank their choices of subcommittees by indicating 1, 2, and 3. Final subcommittee assignments will be based on even distribution of members among the subcommittees.

Additional MHHEAC Members:

Members further discussed the need to recruit new MHHEAC members, and it was reiterated that the need is great for diversity within this group of appointees. Diversity is necessary not only among ethnic/minority group representation but also among sectors, such as business, government, legal, etc. Members were asked to recommend additional MHHEAC appointees by contacting appropriate individuals and suggesting they send their resume or CV to susan.triggs@vdh.virginia.gov by May 11, 2012. Resumes will be collected and forwarded to the Health Commissioner for appointments.

MHHEAC Meeting Times:

Meeting attendees discussed expanding MHHEAC meeting time. In this way MHHEAC members could commit the entire day to this committee and get all meeting commitments, including subcommittee meetings, met at the same time.

After discussion, the recommendations were made and seconded that:

- ✓ MHHEAC meetings begin at 11 a.m. and end at 3 p.m.
- ✓ Subcommittees meet from 11 a.m. to 12 noon
- ✓ Full MHHEAC meeting from 12 noon to 3 p.m.
- ✓ Members will bring their own lunch and their own snacks for the day
- ✓ Susan Triggs will ask for additional space to accommodate break out of subcommittee meetings

Other Discussion Items:

One member asked why MHHEAC members were being asked to talk about SDOH and Health Equity in the community if the purpose of MHHEAC is to advise the Commissioner. There was discussion that engaging the community is a way for

members to know the stakeholders and be better able to make recommendations to the Commissioner that are truly representative of the desires of the communities they serve as appointees to MHHEAC.

Another member asked for a template/talking points for members to use that includes information on SDOH and HE. Attached to these minutes are the "Talking Points" document presented to MHHEAC members by Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu in July 2010 and the MHHEAC Fact Sheet.

July 2012 Agenda Items:

Attendees agreed that, during the July 10, 2012 MHHEAC meeting, members would review the progress of the strategic plan and make changes in light of the Commissioner's discussion during this meeting.

Members will also hear a presentation about the "Healthy Baby Begins with You" initiative.

Subcommittees, having met prior to the meeting, will provide their reports.

● **Action Items**

- MHHEAC to designate a person to participate on the Commissioner's Infant Mortality Work Group
 - ◆ Theresa Teekah volunteered to participate on this Work Group
 - ◆ Theresa Teekah's name will be forwarded to Dr. Remley.
- Develop a presentation regarding loan and scholarship program best practices in other states that include other medical providers in addition to doctors and nurses
- Members will make recommendations for new MHHEAC appointees by contacting and asking individuals they deem appropriate if they are interested and then asking interested parties to send their resume or CV to susan.triggs@vdh.virginia.gov by May 11, 2012
- Susan Triggs will secure additional space for break out of subcommittee meetings
- MHHEAC members are to rank subcommittees according to preference from 1 to 3 and return that information to Susan Triggs by May 4, 2012.

● **OMHHE Updates**

Karen Reed reported on OMHHE activities and staffing changes.

● **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

● **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

● **Meeting Adjourned**

The NEXT MHHEAC MEETING is scheduled for:

Date: July 10, 2012

Time: 11:00 am-2:00 pm

Location: Petersburg Health Department, 301 Halifax Street, Petersburg, VA 23803

Future MHHEAC Meeting Dates

October 9, 2012

December 11, 2012 (Optional)

All meetings take place from 11:00 am-2:00 pm unless otherwise stipulated

Questions or special needs – please contact: Susan Triggs, Health Equity Specialist, at (804) 864-7429 or e-mail her at susan.triggs@vdh.virginia.gov

Minutes prepared by: Susan Triggs, PhD, MPH, RN

Minutes reviewed by: Lucie Ferguson, PhD, MPH, RN - Vice-Chair

Melissa Canaday, Secretary