

To: M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA, State Health Commissioner
From: Melody Armstrong, MPA, Chair, Advisory Council on Health Disparity & Health Equity (ACHDHE)
Date: April 16, 2019
Subject: ACHDHE Recommendation for Program Enhancement

In response to the January 8, 2019 presentation on the “Overview of Virginia Community Health Assessments & Community Health Improvement Plans,” presented to the ACHDHE by Ms. Khalida Willoughby, we recommend that:

- The Virginia Department of Health prioritize data analysis and a closer collaboration with the Department of Education and Commerce.
- The Virginia Department of Health increase the number of collaborations with medical and small non-profit organizations for community-based initiatives and programs.
- Lastly, the Virginia Department of Health provide additional guidance on critical factors that impact people with disabilities and include questions on disabilities in its assessments.

In response to the January 8, 2019 presentation on the “Virginia’s Plan for Well-Being 2018 Update,” presented to the ACHDHE by Dr. Laurie Forlano, we recommend that:

- The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) disseminate the plan to collaborative groups; and include more specific measurable goals that demonstrate periodic progress toward the attainment of health equity.