

**New York State Department of Health
 Minority Health Council
 December 13, 2019 - Meeting Minutes**

Attendees	<p>Council Members: Nilda Soto, Antonio Pagan, Lenora Reid-Rose, Daniel Carrion, Ngozi Moses, Raul Vazquez</p> <p>NYSDOH OMH-HDP Staff: Wilma Alvarado-Little, Elizabeth Girolami, Patricia Kehn</p> <p>NYSDOH Staff via conference phone: Jackie Sheltry, Legal Counsel</p> <p>Other NYSDOH Staff: Claire Simon, AIDS Institute</p> <p>Public Participants: Heidi Arthur, Shirley Bejarano, Zoe Isdell, Melissa Mates, Kelly Moltzen, Anita Parker, Giovanna Rogow, Denise West, Maria Perez</p>
Topics	Discussion
<p>Nilda Soto, MS, Ed, Chair</p> <p>Call to Order & Introductions</p>	<p>The meeting was convened at 9:30 AM.</p> <p>Ms. Soto introduced herself and asked the Council and members of the public to introduce themselves before speaking. Ms. Soto welcomed Ms. Alvarado-Little from the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Prevention. Ms. Alvarado-Little introduced Elizabeth Girolami, and Patricia Kehn from the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Prevention as the new Minority Health Council Liaison and support staff. Ms. Soto welcomed the public participants present and via phone, thanking them for their participation and asking that any suggestions, remarks or information they wish to share, be held until the public comment period of the agenda.</p>
Council Business	<p>Ms. Soto gave an overview of the agenda. Since there is no quorum, there would be no review of past meeting minutes. Instead, Council will continue to the next agenda item.</p>
Presentation	<p>Ms. Soto introduced Ms. Moses and her partners from other community-based organizations who work on maternal issues, Ms. Rogow and Ms. Arthur, who presented an evidence-based community program addressing infant mortality entitled “Pathways Community HUB: A Model for Building Health Equity.” Copies of the presentation will be made available to those who attended today’s meeting. Ms. Soto opened the floor to the Council and public for discussion specific to this presentation.</p>
Report Format Discussion	<p>Ms. Soto asked for updates on survey project. Dr. Vasquez explained that Mr. George Wright (staff person) reviewed and analyzed information that was collected from the Addressing Health Disparities survey. Via a projector, Dr Vasquez reviewed information with members. Ms. Soto mentioned that there needs to be a discussion on the best way to submit the survey results and put into a structure/format that could be readily reviewed and used so that a report could be crafted and forwarded to the commissioner. Members discussed additional help with the report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Pagan will forward to members a manuscript outline, for members to use when writing the report. • Mr. Carrion will craft a proposal for a graduate intern and send to the members for review.

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Open Discussion with Dr. Zucker	Commissioner Zucker joined the meeting and conducted an impromptu discussion with council members on how to instill trust between residents and communities with government or facilities. Members shared their experience and offered their ideas to the commissioner. Ms. Alvarado-Little will ensure that all specific feedback will be shared with the Commissioner's office.
Agenda Development for Upcoming Meetings	Members discussed the following as potential agenda items for future meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the rough draft of the survey results at February 2020 meeting • Have at least one meeting in Albany and one in Rochester or Buffalo • Future community meetings where the MHC would provide findings from the survey which relate to initiatives and programs occurring in the Minority Areas
Meeting Recap, Feedback, Action Items and Next Steps	Some action items identified were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 MHC (Proposed) Meeting dates 2/7/2020, 4/3/2020, 9/11/2020, 12/11/2020. Members to email Ms. Girolami their availability by 12/27/19. • Travel Reimbursement for today's meeting must be submitted to Ms. Girolami by 12/27/19. • Mr. Pagan will forward to members a manuscript outline, for members to use when writing the report. • Mr. Carrion will craft a proposal for a graduate intern and send to the members for review.
Adjournment	Ms. Soto opened the floor to any public participants in attendance both in person and on the phone for comments. The Comment were as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Nina Parker from St. Luke AME Church/Treat Me Right Inc. expressed concerns about vaping and the impact on perinatal women and their babies and urged the need to work with faith-based groups on the issue. • Ms. Maria Perez from NY Presbyterian Hospital discussed issues of trust with the community and concerns about not following up with people who are interviewed. Knowing there is a lag time between data collection and report writing, community can feel disconnected to the process and lead to poor trust. Ms. Perez also suggested utilizing the community when possible so that their needs, language and culture is represented. • Kelly Moltzen from Bronx Health REACH Institute for Family Health discussed her work working within schools to promote health and wellness. <p>The Chair thanked the Council members and other attendees for the engaging conversations.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.</p>

Next Meeting Date Time
April 3, 2020 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Location
Rm 125 Corning Tower, Albany, NY