

Minority Health Advisory Commission (MHAC)
Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2011

NOTE: These minutes are the summary of the meeting convened by the Minority Health Advisory Commission. The complete and accurate record is the tape recording of the meeting. The meeting was held from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Building C, Room C1A, Denver, Colorado.

Meeting called to order at 10 a.m.

Introductions were made.

Members Present: Leona Abdullah-Allen, Senator Irene Aguilar, Theron Bell (Co-Chair), Danica Love Brown, Patricia Iwasaki, Dr. Stephen Meeks, Rep. Dan Pabon, Dr. Guadalupe Salazar (via teleconference), Lucio Torres-Florez (Chair), and Dr. Chris Urbina

Absent Members: Thomas Duran, Rep. Rhonda Fields, and Dolores Pitman

Staff Present: Mauricio Palacio, Rachel Carmen, Kim Phi, and Barbara Quintana

Guest: Margie Vaughan, student

Old Business

- 1. Department Update:** The Winnable Battles will be launched throughout the state as soon as the governor approves. Dr. Chris Urbina would like to see the community groups be front and center of the department's strategic plan and process. He asked the commission to reconsider planning a conference but instead continue to work with the existing coalitions, the Colorado Black Health Collaborative, Unidos por la Salud/United for Health, Asian American/Pacific Islander Health Collaborative, and the Colorado American Indian Health Council to promote what they're doing and join those efforts to engage at the local level and develop initiatives that will lead to action. Dr. Urbina said there is connectivity around the Winnable Battles for all the groups, and the commission will support the Culture of Data Conference. There was consensus by the commission. Dr. Urbina said he has asked all the funding programs funded by Amendment 35 (OHD, CCPD, and Tobacco) to come together to look at streamlining their processes, auditing, how grant reviews are conducted, to maximize the staff, and better coordinate funding. It's being looked at now so a proposal will be brought back to the commission.

- 2. Department Strategic Planning:** Mauricio Palacio facilitated a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) Analysis to capture the commission's views and input on the department's strengths, weaknesses, critical challenges, and opportunities for strategic planning and priorities that could influence the work of the department for the next five years. Dr. Urbina stated that the commission's input is critical to the department which is committed to

communities of color, and MHAC is key in moving the department's agenda forward. He will update the commission at the October MHAC meeting on the status of the strategic plan.

3. **Review and Approval of the August 5, 2011 Meeting Minutes:** Theron Bell made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Stephen Meeks seconded the motion. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote.
4. **Commissioner's Area of Expertise and Experience:** Theron Bell gave an overview of his background and areas of expertise.
5. **Culture of Data Conference/MHAC Lunch Meeting:** The October MHAC meeting will take place from 12 noon to 1:15 p.m. during the Culture of Data Conference at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities. Commissioners will register for the conference online.

New Business

1. **Update on Action Items from MHAC Strategic Plan:** Senator Irene Aguilar suggested that commissioners make presentations at the various chambers of commerce to reach target audiences. Mr. Bell made a motion to table the item to the October meeting for further discussion. Patricia Iwasaki seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote. Dr. Meeks volunteered to help with the youth leadership development activity. Mr. Palacio suggested that the commission provide a specific recommendation to the department on how to diversify its workforce. Mr. Torres-Florez asked Mr. Palacio and Mr. Bell to draft an example of critical elements in performance reviews so the commission could recommend it to the department.
2. **Health Disparities Grant Program Update:** Site visits for the current grantees have been completed and all fiscal from previous year is closed. Performance ratings are currently being done. Two performance ratings were discussed.
3. **Community Discussions Update:** Mr. Palacio said the OHD collaborated with two groups on August 20. Ms. Iwasaki gave an overview of the Asian American/Pacific Islander Health Dialogue and Mr. Palacio spoke about the Colorado Black Health Collaborative Family Reunion. He said Unidos por la Salud/United for Health will hold a Health Summit on September 9.
4. **Announcements and Updates:** The HIV Prevention Grants has asked MHAC for a recommendation for its review committee. Ms. Iwasaki made a motion to recommend three individuals: Brother Jeff Fard, Lorenzo Olivas and George Ware for consideration to serve on the HIV Prevention Grants review committee. Danica Love Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by Rachel Carmen