

Multicultural Advisory Committee of the State of Utah's COVID-19 Response

Meeting Minutes

Friday, December 18, 2020 | 3:00 - 4:00 P.M.

Google Meet | Online

Members: Chair Nubia Peña, Co-Chair Byron Russell, Co-Chair Ze Min Xiao, Juan Becerra, Neelam Chand, Rebecca Chavez-Houck, Dulce Díez, Jake Fitisemanu Jr., Emma E. Houston, Dustin Jansen, Len Novilla, Ming Wang

Absent: Jess Anderson, Marc Babitz, Aden Batar, Silvia Castro, Mayra Cedano, Mike Haddon, Deneiva Knight, Celina Milner, Mikelle Moore, Asha Parekh

Guests: Ramy Ahmed, Ciriac Alvarez Valle, Joél Arvizo-Zavala, Luna Banuri, Rozanna Benally-Sagg, Heather Borski, Maegan Castleton, RyLee Curtis, Patricia Doxey, Emilie Ebert, Eduardo Henriques, Ariane D. Hibo Ezech, Jenny Hor, Rossina Lake, Jennifer Leary, Claudia Loayza, Jill Love, Nate McDonald, Antonella Packard, Angelo Papastamos, Gonzalo Peña, Katherine Potter, Betty Sawyer, Jeremy Taylor, Taysha Tiatia, Oreta Tupola, Jeannette Villalta, Marti Woolford, Yehemy Zavala Orozco, Melissa Zito, Brooke Zollinger

Welcome – Byron Russell, Co-Chair

Byron Russell welcomed attendees to the meeting.

Leavitt Partners – Patricia Doxey

Released final report to highlight the need in the state to reduce health disparities and emailed to everyone on the Committee

- Different recommendations that can be used in the state were gathered from interviews with community health workers
- Short and long term interventions provided were as follows:
 - Established a targeted testing and vaccine plan, develop accessible resources and education, involve community health workers, increase financial support and lengthen funding cycles, elevate racially and ethnically diverse leadership, install accountability measures that evaluate health disparities, strengthen and leverage partnerships to address disparities
- Interviewing with local media organizations to share out report
- Ze thanked the Leavitt Partners for the incredible partnership for creating this report
- Nubia invited the committee to share out this [report](#) widely

Communications – Claudia Loayza

- Claudia shared out the finalized 6 month report that was created for the Committee

Economic Sustainability – Neelam Chand & Antonella Packard

- Economic Sustainability is putting together a policy report for local government
- Wealth barriers have been found for BIPOC communities such as access to capital, biased decision making, inequitable processes, and lack of supplier diversity programs
- Contact this workgroup for more details or future contributions

Food Security – Marti Woolford

- Food security is regrouping to see what they want to do for the new year and currently looking to add more people
- The workgroup is making a commitment to communication, coordination, and collaboration of the multiple entities working in food emergency
- Long term goals include connecting all the food access work happening in the state
- They want to create subcommittees such as: Food Choice and coordinate with Language Access to help navigate applications such as SNAP
- Meetings will occur every other Thursday with their upcoming meeting on January 14th from 10-11 am

Health Equity – Dulce Díez

- This workgroup is planning to incorporate health equity into policy
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- They are developing a living document that is community-centered that advocates for community partnerships through policy work and serves as a guideline
- Health equity wants to address health equity through empowerment and fair approaches by utilizing an equity assessment

Housing & Social Services – Dr. Joél Arvizo-Zavala

- The evictions project has new visualizations with data from Workforce Services
- This information for rental assistance is to understand where (zip code-wise) the money was disbursed to
- The team had paired rental assistance data with their eviction disparities data
- Most important information to pay attention to is the darker purple areas on the map
 - The Wasatch Front shows us the disparities according to evictions
 - It is important to note zip codes that only received one rental assistance approval
- Addressing disparities moving forward, it is important to give zip codes that are experiencing higher than average rates of eviction the appropriate amount of rental assistance
- This will be key in informing policy and practice moving forward

Language Access – Ze Min Xiao & Rozanna Benally-Sagg

- This workgroup has been working on two surveys: a PIO survey and Local Communication Professional Survey
- Language Access provided an update on the timeline of these surveys
- Three phases will be conducted for this survey
- They are currently on phase one:
 - Finalizing the PIO and communications survey (plan to accomplish by 12/22/2020)
 - Implementing surveys on a platform (plan to accomplish by 12/30/2020)
- Phase two will be:
 - Open surveys (By 1/5/2021)
 - Close surveys (By 2/1/2021)
- Phase three will be:
 - Gather and analyze survey feedback and data (By 2/12/2021)
 - Finalize evaluation, best practice sheet, and design (By 2/24/2021)
 - Release best practice sheet (By 2/26/2021)

Action Items

- Nubia invited the committee to share out this [report](#) widely
- Contact Economic Sustainability for more details or future contributions on their upcoming policy report

Next Meeting

Friday, January 15, 2021 from 3:00–4:00 P.M. through Google Meet.