

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

Meeting Minutes

Friday, March 12, 2021 | 3:00 - 4:00 P.M.
Google Meet | Online

Members: Chair Nubia Peña, Co-Chair Byron Russell, Co-Chair Ze Min Xiao, Juan Becerra, Heather Borski, Neelam Chand, Brittney Cummins, Dulce Díez, Dustin Jansen, Len Novilla, Asha Parekh, Ming Wang

Absent: Jess Anderson, Aden Batar, Silvia Castro, Mayra Cedano, Rebecca Chavez-Houck, Jake Fitisemanu Jr., Emma E. Houston, Mikelle Moore

Guests: Ramy Ahmed, Joél Arvizo-Zavala, Luna Banuri, José Borjón, Jacob Buhler, Mayra Cardozo, Angel Castillo, RyLee Curtis, Christina Davis, Anna Gallegos, Tina Groves, Jenny Hor, Paul Kuttner, Claudia Loayza, Jennifer Mayer-Glenn, Stephanie Rupay, Betty Sawyer, Jeremy Taylor, Taysha Tiatia, Rocío Torres Mora, Jeannette Villalta, Megan Waters, Cathy Wolfsfeld, Marti Woolford, Almaida Yanagui, James Yapias, Melissa Zito

Welcome – Byron Russell, Co-Chair

Byron Russell welcomed attendees to the meeting.

Language Access – Ze Min Xiao & Mayra Cardozo

- Gather information from state and local PIOs about the practices
- They hope to identify any best practices and barriers to support communications to diverse communities
- Current partnerships with Communication workgroup, Utah Department of Health, and the Language Mission group
- Presented survey and questions on a computer and mobile view
- Now that survey is finalized, they are in the marketing and outreach plan
 - Identify key stakeholders to help with distribution and be apart of marketing plan
- **If any members want to be a key stakeholder or assist with distribution plan, contact Mayra**
- Post-survey, the workgroup is partnering with the Communications workgroup to create a best practices report

Utah Housing Assistance Program – Christina Davis

- Launching a new application program for emergency rental assistance on Monday (3/15)
 - Third iteration of housing assistance from federal government
- 215 million allocated to Utah
- All application for the state will go through one online portal that is rentrelief.utah.gov
- **Can provide social media posts and fact sheets in both Spanish and English for the committee to share out**
- For the application itself, it is currently only in English and Spanish
 - Next priority is to provide other translate the application to more languages
 - In Google Chrome, there is a tool to translate the application to another language
- The committee proposed providing different documentation than an official leasing contract for individuals that do not have that to Christina
 - Christina mentioned that the leasing is critical to verify applications, but can ask and get back to the committee
- Luna Banuri has dealt with situation like this previously in rental assistance applications and had developed a document which takes place in the lease and verifies the renter's information
 - Luna and her team would call the owner or apartment complex manager to confirm all the information
 - This is for individuals who may be renting rooms or are undocumented
- **Luna will send Christina the document to confirm if this could be another acceptable document in place of a leasing contract**

Calvary Baptist Church – Cathy Wolfsfeld

- After a death of a dear church member, Cathy was inspired to vaccinate more of the Black community and turn Cavalry into a vaccination site
 - February 15th, 2021 was the first vaccine clinic and they had 88 participants
 - Following clinic was so popular, it had to be split into two days due to the sheer volume of people (over 300)
 - Although the vaccine clinic is aimed for the Black community, a majority of their clientele were Causian and Latinx
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- Calvary is not trying to increase outreach in getting more of the Black community vaccinated
 - There is still hesitation in the community due to the relevant history that creates mistrust
- Cathy is hoping to utilize PSAs with key figure heads to advocate for vaccine

University Neighborhood Partners – Jennifer Mayer-Glenn, Alma Yanagui, Paul Kuttner, & Riley Curtis

- Barriers UNP have come across has been submitting applications due to no internet, no computer, or a disconnected phone
- Also there is confusion amongst certain questions such as do you meet the requirement of assistance? What does assistance mean?
- Another barrier amongst the community is facing the long wait on the phone in contacting the social security office or the unemployment office for necessary documents
- Some key wins UNP wants to highlight is the major focus of funding community and cultural navigating piece
 - Paying community leaders to be navigators between the system and communities
 - Finding trusted intermediaries to sit on the phone and guide them is very important
- In the conversation amongst health care providers, they learned that the health system can only vaccinate with pre-existing patients and provide Spanish and English text messages
- MyChart also provides both Spanish and English translation

Other Business – Heather Borski

- Vaccinefinder.org can receive vaccinations through health departments, local pharmacy, and even childcare facilities
- There is no necessary documentation to prove eligibility
- For most large providers, they are not charging for the vaccine itself
- However, some partners may charge for the administration fee

Action Items

- **Language Access**
 - **If any members want to be a key stakeholder or assist with distribution plan in the PIO survey, please contact Mayra Cardozo at mcardozo@utah.gov**
- **Utah Housing Assistance Program**
 - **Christina provide social media posts and fact sheets in both Spanish and English for the committee to share out**
 - **Luna will send Christina the document to confirm if this could be another acceptable document in place of a leasing contract**

Next Meeting

Friday, March 19, 2021 from 3:00–4:00 P.M. through Google Meet.