OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Governor's Health Equity Council Subcommittee: Investment in Targeted Programs for Under-Resourced Communities
Attending: Elizabeth Valitchka, Sandy Brekke, Ellen Sexton, Patricia Metropulos
State Staff and Guests: Beth Wikler, Sam Austin

Date: 8/12/2021 Time Started: 3:00 p.m. Time Ended: 3:45 p.m.
Location: Zoom Video Conference Presiding Officer: Sub-Committee Co-Chair Elizabeth Valitchka

Minutes

Patty Metropulos

- Significant health related costs that go along with a health crisis (cancer, trauma, etc). Travel distances to receive care, how to maintain access for underserved and marginalized populations. Need support for lodging, travel, gas, pet sitting, etc to leave home and receive care. Program or fund to help with these health related costs

Sandy Brekke: met with black and Hmong organizations

- Way for Medicaid to pay for housing (came up with every conversation)
- Childcare
- Marijuana should be legalized because of targeting of minorities
- Health literacy- lack of health literacy that people feel like they have
  - Community health workers can help bridge this gap (hired by the neighborhoods for the neighborhoods)
- Transportation is a barrier- improving access to public transportation
- Broadband- lack of access, impaired remote learning. More of a challenge in poorer counties around us.
- Need state to acknowledge harms that research has done to minorities
  - Black leaders acquiring collective knowledge
  - California female prisons in 2015- sterilizing black women
  - Need to acknowledge that it is happening and has happened.
  - Similar conversations around vaccine and communities in MKE- vaccine hesitancy

Ellen Sexton

- Housing and giving Medicaid carriers the ability to identify members that they think housing could most impact overall health outcomes. Different Medicaid carriers provide these services but need more uniformity and support.
- Infant mortality rate and healthy birth outcomes. MKE county- African American population- more case management, in-depth treatment for SUD, behavioral health, etc
- Huge gap for refugee population- arrival date, months where there is a struggle with that population.

Elizabeth Valitchka

- Fresh Foods- Farm to school, Farm to Institution- Farmers feeding Wisconsin. Supporting farmers of color (Hmong, prison farms, dairy farms, etc)
- Food Share- increasing access to kids, targeted program and funding for food and farmers, farmers of color.
Dental health access- how to close the gaps in rural areas and prevent unnecessary/preventable hospitalizations and health care utilization.

Beth Wikler

- Behavioral health- need for services- entire families experience high levels of stress.
  - Patty Metropulos- importance of peer counseling- learning through peer support networks, financial coaching, emotional support.
    - Not every family finds mentor family. Is there a network that we can tap into to help provide peer support services?
    - Establish a platform for people who want to serve as volunteers peer supports and can network with other people in need. Provide trauma-informed care training to these providers.

Sandy Brekke

- YRBS- alarming data.
- Need to focus on preventive work for kids at the youngest ages.
- Counselors in schools- not enough resources
- EAP surrounding schools- Large mental health grant that came down five years ago. One community that is piloting EAP services in schools.
- Children’s Hospital- $20 million. Behavioral health specialist in every pediatricians office. Let’s push this statewide.

Review of Key dates for evaluation process:

Process steps:

1. Council members will submit ideation worksheets between now and 8/18
2. Finalizing master spreadsheet of ideas
   a. Develop spreadsheet based on ideation worksheet (done 8/4)
   b. Facilitators fill input information from ideation worksheets to spreadsheet (8/19-8/20)
   c. Facilitators flag process or areas to help support streamline related ideas
   d. Streamline the list
      i. Facilitators take first pass at consolidating spreadsheet (8/23-24)
         1. Check policy pathways
         2. Check disparity focus areas
         3. Group ideas by disparity focus area and consolidate like ideas
         4. Move items not in alignment with criteria to separate list
            1. Save those without a policy pathway
            2. Those that are not focused on state-level change levers
      ii. Joint meeting between facilitators and planning team (8/24)
      iii. Planning team does final review of spreadsheet (8/25)
3. Develop the survey
   a. Build survey with select information and three questions below (start 8/5)
      i. Title and very abbreviated summary information for each recommendation
   b. Email to Council members (8/26)
      i. PDF of spreadsheet
      ii. Survey with minimal information and survey questions
4. Collect responses from Council
   a. Close survey (9/2)
   b. Collate and package information for subcommittee chairs (9/10)
5. Send survey results to subcommittee chairs (with clear expectations for prioritization process) (9/13th or 14th)
   a. List of ideas and the criteria they meet.
   b. Levels of support for each idea (data on question 2)
   c. Details on prioritization phase (Need to amend dates)

Prepared by: Beth Wikler on 8/12/2021.

These minutes will be approved by the Governor’s Health Equity Council subcommittee Investment in Targeted Programs for Under-Resourced Communities on: 8/17/2021