

Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Access to Care Committee
May 13, 2021
Minutes

Access to Care: This committee’s activities include advocating for changes that will affect health care coverage for residents across all ages and developing community and agency-based strategies to make measurable improvements in access to care for the uninsured and underinsured residents of Durham.

Facilitated by: Kearston Ingraham & Kimberly Alexander

Present: Kimberly Alexander, Marissa Mortiboy, Kearston Ingraham, Jim Jael, Jamillae Stockett, Kimberly Monroe, Sally Wilson, Angel Romero, Sandy Pendergraft, Carla Huff, Debbie Royster, Keyanna Terry, Sherry Rogers, Ronald Godbee, Sarah Williams, Aleyah Brown, Gina Upchurch, Dhanyel Barnes, Ashley Bass-Mitchell, Shelisa Howard-Martinez, Nadia Aguilera-Funez, Yerson Padilla

Topic	Major Discussion	Recommendations and Action Steps
Welcome, Introductions, & Check-in <i>Kearston Ingraham</i>	What are you doing to stay warm on this chilly morning?	
Review April Minutes	Kimberly Alexander will send the April minutes out after the meeting for the committee to review.	
CHW Updates & Discussion <i>Shelisa Howard-Martinez</i>	Sally Wilson leads the Community Health Workers (CHWs) workgroup of the Access to Care committee. Increasing the number of CHWs in Durham is an objective on the committee action plan. Community Health Worker work is ongoing- connecting people to the Durham County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) program, transportation to vaccine appointments, food, etc. There is uncertainty about CHW program funding from the NC Office of Rural Health for Curamericas after June 30. The NC Office of Rural Health would like to expand the program to additional regions across the state. There are several Durham community organizations with CHWs working with Curamericas and receive funding through them. CHWs worked with the Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) and additional partners to apply for a health literacy grant through the U.S. Office of Minority Health. The focus is health literacy, COVID-19 and working with community members. There is uncertainty about who will continue to partner with the CHW work in the future.	

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	<p>The CHW workgroup continues to look at how to build infrastructure support for CHWs in Durham. The CHW roundtable continues to meet monthly. The meeting is open to CHWs to be a safe space to discuss issues and share resources.</p> <p>The Healthy Opportunities Pilot part of Medicaid Transformation program will connect beneficiaries to local resources. Once we find out who has been awarded, this could be an opportunity to have a more reliable source of funding for CHWs. The next Healthy Opportunities pilot monthly coalition meeting with seven counties is May 21, 9 am. Angel attends the meetings and is not sure whether they will receive notification of who was awarded at that meeting.</p>	
<p>Racial Equity Tool <i>Kimberly Alexander</i></p>	<p>The Partnership for a Healthy Durham has a racial equity task force focusing on incorporating equity into the coalition’s work. The task force has representatives from each committee to bring information back to the committee. The task force developed a tool for committees to assess how their successes align with the Partnership equity principles. The next step is to collect information about successes from the committees and assess where we are related to the racial equity principles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivate community power- CHW grant focused on community grant rather than the agencies, relied on expertise of CHWs and their relationships • Transform inequitable systems- Increased access to people (with broadband) through Zoom meeting format, pre-COVID met in different locations throughout the community, CHW challenge institutional policies around access (ex. ID requirements, health insurance questioning), CHWs are promoting universal access to care and building that into culture • Operationalize internal equity- Increase the number of CHWs, CHWs connect people to primary care homes and providers, CHWs can help remove those barriers and bring issues to light, there has been a focus on bilingual and bicultural CHWs (Spanish and other languages) 	<p>Kimberly Alexander will share the racial equity assessment document with the committee through email for member to add additional information.</p>

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<p>Co-chair Nominations <i>Marissa Mortiboy</i></p>	<p>It's time to nominate co-chairs for the Partnership committees- https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021AccesstoCareCoChairNom. The committee co-chair job description can be found- https://healthydurham.org/cms/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Committee-Co-Chair-Job-Description.pdf. Marissa will contact those who are nominated to see if they are willing to appear on the June election ballot. You can nominate yourself or someone else. The term is July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022.</p> <p>Kimberly shared about her co-chair role as planning and running meetings. As a co-chair she also serves on the Partnership Steering committee which serves as Partnership leadership, driving the direction of the coalition. Sometimes Partnership leadership is asked to serve on additional committees. Kimberly serves on the board of Project Access as the Partnership representative. Being co-chair has allowed Kimberly to learn and know more about health efforts in Durham County.</p>	
<p>Announcements <i>All</i></p>	<p>Medicaid Transformation – Enrollment deadline is May 14. This is the first time beneficiaries can select their plans. Those who do not sign up for a plan will be auto enrolled. Coverage begins July 1. Those auto enrolled will then have three months to change their plans.</p>	
<p>Meeting Adjourn</p>		

***Next Meeting:** June 10th at 8:30 am