Partnership for a Healthy Durham Access to Care Committee <u>Durham County Human Services Building, 414 East Main Street</u> July 9, 2020 MINUTES

Facilitators: Kimberly Alexander and Kearston Ingraham

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.

Meeting Outcomes

- Outcome 1: Discuss current work on the Access to Care Action Plan related to Patient Navigation tools and identify next steps.
- Outcome 2: Engage all committee members in nomination activities for the 2020-2021 Access to Care Co-Chair election.

Present: Kearston Ingraham, Angel Romero, Ashley-Bass Mitchell, Angelo Moore, Jesse Battle, Angeloe Burch Sr., Keyanna Terry, Elizabeth Brill, Barbara Johnston, Kimberly Monroe, Alexandria Ayala, Marissa Mortiboy, Zamir Brown, Kimberly Alexander, Brian Goings-Reid

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Project/Topic/Goal	Major Discussion Points	Recommendations	Action Steps
Welcome,	Welcome to Kearston Ingraham as new co-chair of the Access to		
Introductions, &	Care committee! Kimberly Alexander is continuing in the co-chair		
Check-in	role for the 2020-2021 term.		
Kimberly,			
Kearston & All			
Review &	There were no changes to the minutes.		
Approve Minutes			
Kimberly,	Send any changes to the minutes to Kimberly and Kearston.		
Kearston & All			
Review Action	The committee reviewed its 2018-2021 Access to Care action plan	Connect interested	Kimberly
Plan & Potential	want to monitor progress and identify ways to shift the action plan	meeting attendees	Alexander will
COVID	to address COVID.	to the Seniors and	send out the
Modifications		More COVID	2018-2021
Kimberly,	GOAL 1: Uninsured and underinsured Durham County residents	response group	action plan to the
Kearston & All	know what resources are available in Durham and how to find and	led by Gina	committee.
	use them. Patient care teams know how to refer residents.	Upchurch.	
			Kearston
	OBJECTIVE #1: Understand and increase uninsured and	Connect Sally	Ingraham will
	underinsured residents' awareness about the affordable	Wilson to Carolyn	send the link to
		Crowder, head of	CHW

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access them. • The committee updated the Health Care Options for Uninsured and Underinsured. The brochures are available on the Partnership website in English and Spanish. Hard copies were also distributed. Many people have lost jobs

healthcare, resources, and insurance options available and how to

- due to COVID. The committee's role can be to the Affordable Care Act for coverage. The open enrollment period for 2020 has not been announced yet Visit https://www.ncnavigator.net/ to search for Affordable Care Act navigators.
- Students had been looking at health literacy and developing a toolkit but this work was stalled by not having a workgroup lead.
- Community partners are working to address the digital divide.

GOAL 2: Uninsured and underinsured Durham County residents have access to affordable culturally appropriate care that considers the whole person with dignity.

OBJECTIVE #1: Identify challenges of providing patient navigators, including bilingual staff, in Durham for uninsured and underinsured residents with intent to use knowledge gained to increase number of patient navigator roles in Durham healthcare settings.

Sally Wilson with Project Access of Durham County is leading this workgroup. A group of partners working together including End Hunger Durham, Project Access of Durham County, Healing with CAARE, Senior PharmAssist and more were awarded \$50,000 from the Duke Durham Community Fund. The purpose is to hire Community Health Workers (CHWs) to focus on COVID-19. The individuals hired as part of the grant will be Community Health

Behavioral Health at Lincoln for CHW initiatives.

Ambassador Program through Duke Office of Equity to the committee.

Connect Brian Goings-Reid to Dr. Barbara Johnston to focus on the HIV/STI portion of the action plan.

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- Promoters. The workgroup has also helped set up a roundtable for CHWs to learn and support one another.
- The Duke Office of Health Equity has been working with Durham Tech and a CHW Ambassador Program that focuses on cancer and includes information on other chronic diseases. The trainings will take place through Zoom or virtual network.
- There was a need expressed for peer support specialists to address substance use disorder increases during COVID.

OBJECTIVE #2: Facilitate racial equity training opportunities for patient care teams in Durham County.

• This workgroup does not have a lead since the original lead left to pursue medical school.

OBJECTIVE #3: Normalize/destigmatize HIV prevention and treatment efforts in healthcare settings

 The former HIV/STI committee now an Access to Care workgroup. The committee hosted an HIV panel at the November 2019 meeting. Barbara Johnston is interested in reviving social media for the Durham Knows campaign. Brian Goings-Reid interested in leading the workgroup.

Debrief + Announcements

The Partnership is hosting a Quarterly meeting on Wednesday, July 15 at noon. Health Director Rodney Jenkins and Deputy Health Director Rod Jenkins will provide COVID updates and there will be Partnership updates.

The 24/7 Hope4Healers Helpline (919-226-2002) provides mental health and resilience supports for health care professionals, emergency medical specialists, first responders, other staff who work in health care settings and their families throughout the state.

Hope4NC Helpline (1-855-587-3463) connects North Carolinians to additional mental health and resilience supports that help them cope and build resilience during times of crisis.

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Brian Goings-Reid is still recruiting/working with young men living with HIV through the STYLE 2.0 project. They now have another Health Care Navigator. Brian works to help young men (18-35) in the Triangle area living with HIV connect to resources and help them get to appointments. Email Brian.goings@duke.edu for more information.

It's not too late for the 2020 Census- https://www.dconc.gov/county-departments/departments-a-e/county-manager/special-projects/2020-census. If we don't get people to complete census, it hinders ability to get funding. Durham County is still behind Wake County.

To join the African American/Black COVID-19 Response Group, email roosevelt.campbell@duke.edu.

COVID testing is available at Holton Career and Resource Center on a limited basis for individuals who have been contacted by contact tracers. The State is planning 300 sites across the State for testing focusing on underserved communities.