

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham  
Access to Care Committee  
October 13, 2022  
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

<b>Present:</b> Annette Taylor (NC Department of Information and Technology), Kearston Ingraham, Bishop Ronald Gahby (The River Church), Bria Miller, Angel Romero, Brian Goings, Kimberly McClure (Data Works), Valerie Worthy (The River Church), Marisol Rodriguez (Center for Child and Family Health), Jennifer Bailey (Project Access), Kim Shaw, Charita McCollers		
Topic	Major Discussion	Recommendations and Action Steps
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions &amp; Icebreaker</b>	Introductions in the chat. Name, organization, email address if this is your first time.	
<b>Review September Minutes</b>	The minutes were approved.	
<b>Call for CHA Volunteers</b>	There are opportunities to volunteer for the Durham County Community Health Assessment.	
<b>Bishop Gahby and Valerie Worthy, <i>The River Church</i></b>	<p>The River Church in Durham, NC connected people they serve, in partnership Guardian Ad Litem, to wi-fi hot spots. They distributed over 800 hot spots to people who were experiencing the lack of internet. They secured free internet for those folks for one year. The River Church is coming to the end of a contractual agreement but hoping that they can extend the agreement for another year.</p> <p>They assessed who was in need and also reached people outside of Durham. The internet was needed for medical care and education. They distributed hot spots at food giveaways as well.</p> <p><a href="https://www.blackchurches4digitalequity.com/take-action">https://www.blackchurches4digitalequity.com/take-action</a></p>	
<b>Annette Taylor</b> <i>Digital Equity in NC</i>	Ms. Taylor stated that access to the internet is the civil rights issue of the 21st century. The office of equity and diversity is working to close the gap in digital divide. October is national health literacy month.	

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham  
Access to Care Committee  
October 13, 2022  
Minutes**

More than 1.1 million people do not have internet access. 30% of students don't have access to high-speed internet. Twenty percent of North Carolinians don't have a device at home to access the internet. She has worked to serve the disadvantaged and underserved.

Based on the goals <https://www.ncbroadband.gov/> of Governor Cooper, her office is trying to get the adoption rate up to 80% in every racial group. They are working to improve the infrastructure for broadband internet. Grant funds towards those without internet in urban areas is coming.

They are about to implement a campaign to teach people to connect to the Affordable Connectivity program. People will gain high speed internet for \$30 per month. People who qualify for other public benefits will also qualify for this program. This is also available to churches who are not able to stream services. This is a major priority for the president and vice president. Annette's goal is to connect every stakeholder they can.

There is a group called Digital Durham within the community of Durham. Durham City also has a Digital Inclusion Program. Thursday, October 20 at 4pm, Annette will speak at Durham General Membership meeting.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvc-GrqzoiG9wK0TiZli42LGmXM3WCgRBh](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvc-GrqzoiG9wK0TiZli42LGmXM3WCgRBh)

Nonprofit Volunteer and Leadership created a digital navigator program where students trained older adults on how to operate Zoom and other basic internet programs. They also partnered with the library to distribute hot spots. They are now looking to start this program again and would like to partner with groups in this meeting.

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham  
Access to Care Committee  
October 13, 2022  
Minutes**

	<p>One recommendation made to DCI was to arm churches with all of the technology needed so that people could go to their churches and have telehealth appointments. Scotland County is using this model now.</p> <p>Digital Health Literacy is also so important because many do not understand why they are being charged for certain services.</p> <p>Veterans Affairs did a survey to assess the barriers their patients experienced when accessing healthcare.</p> <p>Kearston shared her screen to show the data on computer and internet use from the census.</p> <p>We need to be sure that the data is also capturing those who are most impacted by the health disparities. Although Durham is rich in resources, not everyone benefits from them.</p> <p>Annette’s office has launched a grant program that will fund digital literacy programs.</p>	
<p><b>Data Equity</b> <i>Libby McClure, DataWorks</i></p>	<p>DataWorks is a coalition focuses on data equity. They are adding questions on racism to Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Libby is inviting this group to participate in community conversations about these questions offered in English and Spanish.</p> <p>Here are examples of equity centered data produced by Data Works. Neighborhood Compass: <a href="https://compass.durhamnc.gov/en">https://compass.durhamnc.gov/en</a> Health Indicators: <a href="https://health.dataworks-nc.org/en">https://health.dataworks-nc.org/en</a></p> <p>DataWorks wants to add access to internet to Durham Neighborhood Compass.</p>	

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham**  
**Access to Care Committee**  
**October 13, 2022**  
**Minutes**

	Registration for convo #2: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/data-on-racism-and-health-community-conversation-2-tickets-419096447757">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/data-on-racism-and-health-community-conversation-2-tickets-419096447757</a>	
	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.html</a>	
<b>Meeting Adjourn</b>		

**\*Next Meeting:** November 10, 2022