

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Access to Care Committee**

September 11th 2025 - 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Virtual

MINUTES

Facilitators: Edeia Lynch and Brad Caison

Access to Care: This committee’s activities include advocating 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.

Attendees: Brad Caison, Edeia Lynch, Eboni Quick, Angel Romero, Bria Miller, Elizabeth Brill, Olivia Short, Karin Szymanski

Time	Project /Topic/ Goal	Major Discussion Points	Recommendations & Action Steps
9:00 - 9:05	Icebreaker - Ice breaker: If you had a song of your life right now what would it be ?		
9:05 - 9:15	Last Meeting Recap & Note Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss CHIP Review with context surrounding policy changes - Reevaluating/reimaging Access to Care work 	<p>Discussion Highlights Samaritan Space Overview The group met in person at the Samaritan space. This visit was helpful in understanding the evolving Medicaid landscape and learning more about the services Samaritan offers. There is strong alignment between Samaritan’s work and our Access to Care initiatives.</p> <p>CHIP Review The team reviewed the CHIP action plan, including current priorities. There was discussion about reassessing these priorities in light of recent changes in the healthcare landscape since the original plan was developed.</p> <p>Community Engagement & Program Opportunities The group emphasized the importance of intentional community engagement. One program discussed was Walk with a Doc, which encourages interaction between community members and local physicians.</p> <p>Eboni’s Question: How does <i>Walk with a Doc</i> increase community interaction?</p>

		<p>It was noted that the program fosters direct engagement between residents and healthcare providers. Samaritan is a partner in these discussions.</p> <p>Angel's Update: PANFA is also exploring participation in <i>Walk with a Doc</i>. Feedback from last year highlighted that for physicians to participate, administrative support would be necessary. It may not be scalable for MDs alone to lead the program, so including other health professionals was suggested.</p> <p>Approval of Previous Minutes The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.</p>
<p>9:15 - 9:25</p>	<p>Continuation of CHIP Review</p>	<p>CHIP Goals Review & Strategic Planning Reviewed CHIP Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to Care 2. CHW Workforce Advocacy 3. Improving Health Care/Insurance Literacy <hr/> <p>Key Discussion Points Looking Ahead to 2026 The group discussed future focus areas and how current goals might evolve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift from knowledge-sharing to more programmatic efforts • Dissemination of access-related materials, such as food resources, to community members <p>Advocacy & Education Question raised: <i>What avenues have been used for advocacy?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis on developing educational materials to be shared by partner organizations • This represents the knowledge-building component of the work <p>CHW (Community Health Worker) Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing collaboration with CHWs is essential due to their direct community connections • CHWs play a key role in supporting clients and addressing real-time needs

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question raised: <i>Is there a specific subject we want to support through CHWs?</i> • Topics suggested: Vaccines, building trust in Public Health, combating misinformation <p>Food Access Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angel noted that a food committee already exists within PANFA, suggesting this may not need to be a primary focus for this group <p>Policy & System Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angel provided updates on: ACA changes, including subsidies and HHS vaccine recommendations <p>Anticipated challenges with misinformation and access</p> <p>Safety Net Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chad raised the need to connect safety net services and expand available resources • Bria suggested working with CHWs to develop community-facing materials <p>Emerging Focus Areas</p> <p>Two main directions were identified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health Literacy Education 2. Programmatic Support for Safety Net Services <p>Community Trust & Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elizabeth highlighted the growing number of uninsured individuals and the role of safety net clinics • Samaritan is working to increase provider availability • Emphasis on creating plain language materials and leveraging churches as trusted community hubs for disseminating access information
9:25 - 9:40	Listening Session Overview & Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suggest potential locations/settings - Think about feedback & communication channels 	<p>A Listening Session is being planned for Fall, with the goal of addressing current gaps and changes in the healthcare landscape.</p> <p>The session will focus on gathering input from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Administrators ○ Community Health Workers (CHWs)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Healthcare Providers <p>A survey has been distributed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Actively recruit participants ○ Encourage committee members to complete the listening session ○ Gather input on preferred format (online vs. in-person) and location <p>A question was raised about whether there is language that clearly outlines the goal of these sessions. The group agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft a goal statement ○ Share it with the committee ○ Add it to the top of the SurveyMonkey link for clarity and context <p>A survey also includes an option for individuals to indicate if they would like to participate as an interviewer or interviewee.</p>
9:40 - 9:55	Discussion – What are we prioritizing to discuss/disseminate as a committee?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Examples: COVID Vaccine updates, Medicaid, food security resources, etc. - Forecasting for FY26 	
9:55 - 10:00	Announcements & Adjourn		<p>Elizabeth noted that the current flu clinic flyer available on the website appears to be from last year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group agreed to check with Angel, who is the point of contact, to confirm whether an updated flyer is available or in development. <p>El Centro was mentioned as having a mobile clinic in partnership with Walgreens, which could be a valuable resource or partner for upcoming flu clinic efforts.</p>
Next meeting: Thursday, October 9th, 2025, at 9:00 am via Zoom.			