



Healthy Pontiac, We Can!

Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2023

Members Present:

Elizabeth Crenshaw	Wayne State University
Justen Daniels	Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities (ACHC)
Ashok Gupta	The Walking Doctor
Jeanette Hayes	All Saints Episcopal Church / Pontiac Resident
Deidre Hurse	OUIW School of Medicine
Jenifer Janhevich	Blue Cross Complete
Jennifer Lucarelli	Oakland University
Christina Root	Centro Multicultural La Familia
Jessica Williams	Oakland County Health Division
Kristen Wiltfang	Oakland County Planning and Local Business Development Division
Betty Yancey	Pontiac Resident

Others Present:

Samee Chittenden	Oakland County Health Network
Twyla Malcom	Oakland County Health Network
Lindsay TerHaar	Oakland County Health Division

Staff Present:

Signa Metivier	Oakland County Health Division
Kelsey Merz	Oakland County Health Division

1. Welcome

K. Merz welcomed members to the virtual meeting of Healthy Pontiac, We Can! at 1:03 p.m. on April 11, 2023.

2. OCHD Community Health Assessment: Lindsay TerHaar

L. TerHaar told partners she is part of Planning & Evaluation for OCHD and a team member for Energizing Connections for a Healthier Oakland (ECHO), a coalition of about 45 member organizations whose primary purpose is conducting the Community Health Assessment. She said ECHO will use the established framework module MAPP, Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships for the health assessment process. They will look at health holistically throughout the process. They want a better understanding of barriers to health, gaps in services available, what is facilitating positive health outcomes, and to build on the strengths while addressing the gaps and barriers. She said using the MAPP process they brought together a coalition of people, an advisory council, established a vision, and will conduct four different assessments which will help paint the picture of what is going on in the county. The data collected will help to identify the strategic issues they will act on over the course of the next five years. Once the priorities are chosen, they'll work on creating a community health improvement plan with actions, objectives, and goals directed at the priority issues and then move into an implementation cycle. TerHaar said they are currently in the assessment phase, and she wanted to speak to members on the Community Themes and Strengths Assessment. She said this assessment

allows input directly from community members and they want to engage as many people as possible to identify the barriers, facilitators, the gaps, and let the community members help prioritize the health issues they work on. They are primarily using focus groups and surveys for this assessment which were launched in January 2023 and will wrap up in July 2023. She said to date they have done the following six focus groups: refugees, asylum seekers, and recent immigrants; LGBTQ+ community; BIPOC communities; people with disabilities; Veterans, and people with mental health and/or substance use disorders. They will also do focus groups in Arabic, Chinese, and Spanish. She said the survey is available online or paper and they have 1,500 responses so far and are hoping for about 5,000. The survey is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, and Spanish. L. TerHaar said if anyone works with the priority populations which were identified by the ECHO Advisory Council, she would like to work with them to get materials to their organizations. She would also like to contact members who work in or have clients in communities that scored most poorly on the 10 indicators chosen by the council. The communities are Pontiac, Hazel Park, City of Southfield, Royal Oak Township, Oak Park, Madison Heights, Wixom, and Walled Lake. They would like to see more representation from these areas and hear from community members what they see as strengths and barriers. She said they have social media posts, a graphic for newsletters, flyers, and postcards for organizations to use to share information on the focus groups and surveys along with paper copies of the survey. The survey can also be conducted over the phone by calling OCHD's Nurse on Call at 800.848.5533. Members can contact Lindsay TerHaar at terhaarl@oakgov.com

3. OCHN Co-Responder Initiative: Twyla Malcom and Samee Chittenden

T. Malcom informed members Oakland County Health Network (OCHN) partnered/contracted with local law enforcement agencies to have mental health technicians stationed within the agencies. The mental health technicians go out on calls and partner with law enforcement to provide mental health and substance use resources to individuals to help prevent arrest or escalating a situation. Most of the officers are Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT) so they can help determine if it is a criminal call or mental health issue that can be de-escalated, resource provided, or transported to a hospital or Common Ground.

S. Chittenden told members she is the co-responder clinician in Pontiac riding with the deputies on calls to provide mental health resources. She said many of their calls are mental health even if they don't come in as a mental health call giving the example of a trespassing call the day before that was a mental health call. She said the co-responders are very busy and since July 2022 they have connected 268 people with referrals. When she is not available the officers fill out a co-responder referral form which is given to her to follow up with the family or individual.

T. Malcom told members they currently have three co-responders adding an additional co-responder in May. The three co-responders are currently divided between six agencies, Pontiac, Troy, Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills, Bloomfield Township, and Birmingham. Members can contact Twyla Malcom at malcomt@oaklandchn.org or Samee Chittenden at chittendens@oaklandchn.org

5. Partner Updates: Elizabeth Crenshaw

K. Merz shared the City of Pontiac is doing a city-wide cleanup April 17th through April 22nd.

E. Crenshaw said on April 15th the Bowen Center is hosting "Brunch & Community Conversations with Mayor Greimel" from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. See chat for link to register.

J. Williams told members Sheriff PAL is hosting a CATCH Training on Friday, April 28th at United Wholesale Mortgage Sport Complex. See chat for the link to the training.

Dr. Gupta encouraged members to take part in "Walk to School Day" on May 3rd.

J. Daniels said the Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities will host their “Shatter the Stigma 5K” event on June 3rd at Clawson City Park. They also offer free community Narcan training if anyone is interested in setting it up for a group. Email info@achcmi.org

4. Coalition Updates: Kelsey Merz

K. Merz informed members she is going to start the monthly HPWC Newsletter back up in May. Send newsletter information to merzk@oakgov.com for current member distribution and for future newsletters.

J. Williams will be sending out the Coalition Assessment Survey after the meeting to members for input on the coalition.

HPWC has two workgroups, Physical Activity and Healthy Eating, and they are looking to re-engage the groups in May. If you would like to join a workgroup or for more information, contact merzk@oakgov.com

6. Adjournment:

K. Merz adjourned the meeting at 1:54 p.m. The next HPWC! meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Signa Metivier

Approved by: Kelsey Merz