



Healthy Pontiac, We Can!

Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2026

Members Present:

Lisa Braddix	Southeast Michigan Health Association
Eisha Branner	E- Community Outreach Services
Erica Crawford	Oakland Mediation Center
Justen Daniels	Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities
Elena Diaz	Blue Cross Complete of Michigan
Bianca Dinkens	Brilliant Pontiac
Deborah Findley	Pontiac Senior Centers
Rhyan Frost	Micah 6 Community
Barbara Garcia-Sauceda	National Kidney Foundation Michigan
Adrienne Gasperoni	Community Housing Network
Jessica Kotowski	Oakland County Health Division
Jennifer Lucarelli	Oakland University
Jean Miller	Oakland University
Deleah Sharp	Identify Your Dream
Carolina Sisiruca	Central Multicultural La Familia
Ahmad Spanta	Blue Cross Complete of Michigan
Angela Tabb	Baldwin Center
Kermit Williams	Oakland Forward
Kristen Wiltfang	Oakland County Planning
Joann Wrobel	Oakland County Health Division

Others Present:

Carrie Hribar	Oakland County Health Division
Megan Page	Oakland County Health Division
Amanda Woods	Oakland County Health Division

Staff Present:

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

1. Welcome/Food/Ice Breaker

K. Merz and L. Braddix welcomed members at 1:00 p.m. to the Healthy Pontiac, We Can! virtual meeting. February is American Heart Month and for the ice breaker members were asked to share their favorite heart healthy physical activity in the chat.

2. Speed Dater Presentation: Carrie Hribar and Amanda Woods, Oakland County Planning & Evaluation

C. Hribar told members her team works on data collection gathering, opportunities to get community voice, and different forms of strategic planning and priority setting. She said her team does a community health assessment every five years. She said they work with a community coalition or large advisory group of people from different sectors to make sure they are keeping an equity focus and looking at all the social determinants of health. She said the purpose of the Community Health

Assessment (CHA) is to identify strengths and needs, hear directly from Oakland County residents, assess different types of data, prioritize most important health issues, and develop a strategic plan known as the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) to improve and act on health issues. She said they gathered data through a survey, focus groups and interviews directly with residents, forecasting and swab analysis of what's coming that could impact public health, service delivery across the health department and partner services in the county, and gathered existing data like vital statistics and other social determinants of health data. She said they also brought different indicators like racial and ethnic diversity, quality of life, high school graduation rates, income data, and veteran and disability status from across the county to their advisory council and ranked the municipalities from highest to lowest. The Health Equity Zones are Southfield, Hazel Park, Madison Heights, Oak Park, Pontiac, Royal Oak Township, Wixom, and Walled Lake.

They developed priority issues from the data collected through the Community Themes and Strengths, Forces of Change, Local Public Health Systems, and Community Health Assessments. The priority issues for the CHIP are:

- Build more resilient communities through injury and violence prevention.
- Improve equitable access to nutrition, affordable culturally appropriate food for all Oakland County residents
- Promote and increase access to healthy and affordable housing.
- Ensure residents have access to affordable, high-quality physical and mental health care.

C. Hribar said they are almost ready to release the CHA and a dashboard that will have all the survey data.

A. Woods told members they have been going to area community partners and coalitions presenting the CHA findings and hearing about the work the partners/coalitions are doing that aligns with the focus areas. They are looking at goals, objectives, and activities to prepare the CHIP to align with the work that is being done so they don't duplicate efforts. She said the plan will be the guiding document across the county as they implement activities and support the efforts that community partners and coalitions are doing to meet their goals and objectives.

A. Woods provided a Menti.com survey for members to provide their responses to the following questions.

- What are the community assets around increasing access to nutritious foods?
- Share a concept you've seen elsewhere or ideas that could improve access to nutritious food if it has more support.
- What are the community assets around increasing access to care?
- Share a concept you've seen elsewhere that could improve access to care if it has more support.

A. Woods thanked members for their input and said they will incorporate the feedback into their planning process. C. Hribar told members once they have the goals and priorities for the CHIP they will bring it back to partners and residents for more input. She said the CHIP will help with HPWC's strategic planning and Pontiac initiatives.

3. Pontiac Community Survey Discussion

L. Braddix told members the launch for the Pontiac Community Survey is February 11, 2026. The survey will be available through April 10, 2026. Once all the surveys are collected they will begin listening sessions. The target amount for survey responses collected is 400 plus. She said in previous survey years they have collected more than 600 survey responses. She said at the listening sessions they will collect more qualitative information. Adding the lived experiences will bring the surveys to life and give dimension to what residents are going through in the City of Pontiac. She said the information collected will help enhance and shape the strategic plan. Once the data is collected it will be shared with coalition members and the strategic plan will be finalized by the end of 2026. The survey dissemination plan for members includes a social media toolkit, paper copies, posters and 5x7 cards, and reaching out to community organizations. Members signed up to provide survey information and materials to community organizations including churches, healthcare, social services, businesses, apartments, and community centers.

K. Merz asked coalition members questions about the listening sessions that are to take place after the initial survey collection. Questions discussed included getting member feedback about getting residents to participate, where listening sessions could be hosted, time of day, and if anyone had connections with organizations that can provide incentives for attending.

4. Partner Updates

B. Garcia-Sauceda told members the National Kidney Foundation Michigan is hosting a kidney screening on March 12th from 10am - 2pm at Centro Multicultural La Familia.

C. Sisiruca told members Centro Multicultural La Familia has a vaccination clinic on February 19th from 1pm – 4pm with the Oakland County Health Division.

D. Sharp told members Identify Your Dreams is continuing their mentoring program for young people who have experienced trauma or challenges. The program provides tools for emotional regulation and mindfulness. The program is still accepting children between the ages of 4 and 18 for the 12 week trauma-informed healing space. Contact D. Sharp for registration information.

A. Gasperoni said Community Housing Network is celebrating their 25th year of service and has an upcoming Euchre Fundraiser in St. Clair Shores. Cost is \$40 and food is provided. She also told members the Housing Resource Center specializes in offering housing resources. Contact information and hours are available at <https://communityhousingnetwork.org/get-help/>

R. Frost said the Webster Community Center Grand Opening is March 20th.

D. Sharp told members Oakland Forward is having its second Caretakers Education Student Association (CESA) meeting tonight. CESA mimics the PTSA which is not available in the Pontiac School District. They will learn about policies and issues happening in the district and allow parents to work directly with teachers and students. The meeting begins at 6 pm.

5. Adjournment:

K. Merz adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m. The next HPWC! meeting is in person on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm at the Ruth Peterson Senior Center, 990 Joslyn Ave, Pontiac, MI 48340.

Minutes submitted by: Signa Metivier

Approved by: Kelsey Merz