



Healthy Pontiac, We Can!

Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2025

Members Present:

Tamika Bailey	Oakland Community Health Network
Lisa Braddix	Southeast Michigan Health Association
Erica Crawford	Oakland Mediation Center
Elena Diaz	Blue Cross Complete of Michigan
Lauren Fuller	Sheriff PAL
Barbara Garcia	National Kidney Foundation
Adrienne Gasperoni	Community Housing Network
Ashok Gupta	Community Member
Cecilia Jaime Gutierrez	MSU Extension
Juanita Harper	Dare to Dream Pontiac
Denise Harris	Prevention Pontiac
Dyann Hayes	All Saints Church / Bowen Sr. Center
Deidre Hurse	OUSB School of Medicine
Nicholas Kellogg	PACE Southeast Michigan
Jessica Kotowski	Oakland County Health Division
Cheryl LaFleur	CNS Healthcare
Emily Lesky	Gleaners Community Food Bank
Ki-Jana Malone	Aetna Better Health of MI
Kristin Olmedo	United Community Family Services
Ahmad Spanta	Blue Cross Complete of Michigan
Melissa Williams-Bowman	Oakland County Health Division
Kristen Wiltfang	Oakland County Planning and Local Business Development Division
Joann Wrobel	Oakland County Health Division

Staff Present:

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

1. Welcome and Breakout Rooms

K. Merz welcomed members at 1:02 p.m. to the Healthy Pontiac, We Can! virtual meeting. Members went into breakout rooms to discuss the icebreaker "What was your favorite subject in school?"

2. Speed Dater Presentation: Nicolas Kellogg, PACE-SEMI

N. Kellogg told members PACE is a "Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly" or persons over age 55. He said they are a national program founded in California in the 1970's and came to southeast Michigan in 1994. There are 14 PACE organizations in the state with PACE Southeast MI being the largest with just over 2,200 people enrolled and they are seventh largest in the nation. He said the biggest component to PACE is that they are both an insurance company and care provider. By being both they can provide a much more comprehensive program with wrap around services touching on both medical and social services. They operate out of 9 centers in Oakland, Macomb, and Wayne counties. N. Kellogg said with the support of PACE the goal of the program is to allow seniors to live independently and safely in their homes and out of long term care facilities. He said they offer non-denominational spiritual care for their patients and work with a team of medical professionals that are

employed by PACE. Outside of the care centers they have home care teams that can go to the home morning and evening. They do light housekeeping and can heat up meals but do not do food preparation. For rehab PACE offers physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Because they are an insurance provider there are no caps for the rehab services. They have their own pharmacy for prescription medications that are delivered to participants doors and because they are the insurer there is no prior authorization needed for costly medications.

N. Kellogg told members they cover most areas of Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne counties except small areas where logistically it's better for the area to be inclusive to another PACE organization such as the Village of Holly, which is part of Huron Valley PACE. He said all medical specialist are part of the Henry Ford Health System as Henry Ford is a predominant partner for PACE. PACE provides all transportation to and from the health centers, medical specialist appointments, and dialysis. He said PACE provides two hot meals breakfast and lunch for participants and they also have a meal delivery service where frozen meals are delivered to participants homes when they are experiencing food insecurities. They also provide social workers assigned to participants when they enroll along with recreational therapists that oversee the light enrichment department offering activities, outings, entertainment, games, and socialization.

N. Kellogg said PACE is predominantly owned by Henry Ford Health System and Presbyterian Village owns the remaining 45%. He said the criteria for the program is over the age of 55, qualifies for nursing home level of care, and lives in Macomb, Oakland, or Wayne counties. The day center they attend is related to their zip code. If they choose to go to another center transportation will only be provided one day per week instead of five. He said they have nine centers throughout the three counties, and he works directly with Pontiac and Clinton Township. They will be opening their 10th center in Centerline in September.

N. Kellogg told members all services and benefits are no cost for participants who qualify for Medicare or Medicaid. If someone does not qualify for Medicaid they can pay privately, and PACE also has two Health & Human services employees who help participants apply for PACE Medicaid and do their redeterminations when necessary. He said PACE also provides hospice and palliative care.

N. Kellogg said he is a community outreach liaison responsible for educating older adults, family members, care givers, and partners about the program. He also processes referrals he receives working in the community.

3. Strategic Plan Discussion

K. Merz told members the Strategic Plan is also know as the Pontiac Community Survey and the names may be used interchangeably but they mean the same thing. She said the survey is traditionally conducted every three years. Last year HPWC voted for the current strategic plan to be on a five year cycle. She said one of the reasons they moved to the 5 year plan was survey fatigue in the Pontiac community.

L. Braddix moved members into break out rooms to evaluate the current survey questions and to discuss what questions should be removed and what should be added as they gear up for the next survey. The survey questions were sent to members in an email with today's meeting agenda. Members shared the results of their room's discussions when returning to the full meeting.

4. Partner Updates

A. Gasperoni told members they have an 80's Homecoming Fundraiser on October 24th, 7pm - 11pm at the LaFayette Grande, Pontiac.

C. LaFleur said CNS Healthcare is partnering with the City of Detroit for a Back to School Bash on Friday, August 15th, from 12pm – 4pm at the Heilmann Recreation Center, 19601 Brock Ave., Detroit. On Friday, September 12th they will host the Adult Fall Fest at The Mint at Michigan First Conference Center, 27000 Evergreen Rd., Lathrup Village.

D. Hurse told members students are still picking their service learning organizations and if partners are a family based organization and would like to work with one of the medical students on a service project please contact her. Contact information dropped in the chat.

K. Merz told members the Baby Café is open on Mondays from 1pm to 3pm at Pontiac General Hospital in conjunction with Honor Community Health. Their kickoff was August 11th, and seven moms attended.

5. Adjournment:

K. Merz adjourned the meeting at 2:27 p.m. The next HPWC! meeting is in-person on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, from 1:00 pm – 3:00. Location TBD.

Minutes submitted by: Signa Metivier

Approved by: Kelsey Merz