

LHIC Access to Care Workgroup Meeting
3.26.15 - 9:30 a.m.
Minutes

Members present:

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| Patricia Omaña, Healthy Howard | Brian England, British American Auto Care |
| Eric Aldrich, HC General Hospital | Paula Blackwell, FIRN |
| Marsha Dawson, HC Office of Children’s Services | Attiya Mir-Blumenstock, FIRN |
| Bob Anantua, Build Haiti Foundation | Audra Nixon, AA Community Roundtable |
| Jonathan Lang, HC Dental Association | Kate Schulz, United Way of Central MD |
| Liddy Garcia-Buñuel, Healthy Howard | |

Also present:

Alvaro Ortiz, LHIC Program Manager

Welcome and Introductions:

Patricia Omaña, work group co-chair, welcomed members.

Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

Members expressed that the minutes from last meeting needed to be more precise and reflect what was discussed during the meeting. Paula recommended that future minutes should include more details on the group’s discussion, and members agreed.

2015-2017 Action Plan Implementation:

Patricia began talking to the group more in depth about the Action Groups that had been briefly discussed during the last meeting. Members received a template with the suggested Action Groups which were based on the different strategies and actions proposed in the approved Action Plan.

There was a lot of discussion about the action: *“Create a comprehensive, searchable database of health care resources.”* Audra shared that, in her opinion, databases are only as good as the information in them. She mentioned that her company recently purchased a database and that it is an extremely costly and time consuming project. She asked if the workgroup had funding designated to the creation of the database. There is currently no funding not money for this project.

Kate talked about 211 and agreed that the cost of creating and maintaining a database is pretty high. She mentioned that 211 has dedicated personnel updating their database and there are still issues with keeping it up to date. She said that it may not be realistic for the group to pursue this goal.

Eric urged the group to focus on the meaning and purpose of a coalition. He said that Howard County has many resources already in place and while reinventing the wheel is not a good use of time, learning about the different available resources would benefit everyone.

He said that, as a coalition, the group needed to stay focused on collaboration and working together to achieve the desired outcomes.

Following the discussion, Liddy proposed a motion to continue with the agenda and choose the Action Groups. She noted the importance of attending the meetings, so members have a voice in the decisions being made. She also mentioned the importance of the group's minutes and that all decisions made by the group should be reflected in the minutes.

Members chose the following Action Groups -

- **Language Barrier:** Patricia Omaña and Paula Blackwell
- **Access to Care:** Brian England, Eric Aldrich, Marsha Dawson, Jon Lang, Kate Schulz and Audra Nixon
- **Health Insurance Outreach and Facilitation:** Bob Anantua, Attiya Mir-Blumenstock, Liddy Garcia-Buñuel

After members chose Action Groups, they began discussing the steps to implement their assignments. Liddy said that the groups should try to stay focused on their specific goals based on the Action Plan.

Eric suggested that Patricia reach out to all those members who were not at the meeting and invite them to join one of the three Action Groups. Audra echoed his suggestion and added that an email should be sent to the members with a complete list of the Action Groups and who is part of each group. She also said that it was important to identify a leader for each group to ensure that people are meeting and staying on track.

Alvaro reminded the members that the work group meets the fourth Thursday of the months (*April, June, August and October*) in which there is no full LHIC meeting, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. He also mentioned the established LHIC Conference Call Line that members can use if they want to schedule conference call meetings with their individual Action Groups. **Conference Call Line Information: Dial-in number: (712) 775-7031, Meeting ID: 635-744-624.**

(NOTE: To reserve the conference line, simply email Alvaro, aortiz@healthysouthwest.org or call him at 410.313.6360.)

Eric proposed that by next meeting, April 23rd, the three Action Groups should do the following:

- Identify a lead member within the Action Group
- Identify action items toward their specific goals
- Meet at least once (either in person or using the conference line)

For the remaining fifteen minutes of the meeting, members divided and met with their individual Action Groups.

Review Action Items:

- Patricia will send out an email to the entire work group inviting members to join an Action Group and to complete Eric's proposed steps for each group:
 - Identify a lead member within the Action Group
 - Identify action items toward Action Group's specific goals
 - Meet at least once before next meeting on April 23rd (either in person or using the conference line)
- Members will receive a complete list of the Action Groups and who is part of each group.

Next meeting will be April 23rd, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alvaro Ortiz
LHIC Program Manager