

# Office of Multicultural Health & Services



**Oregon  
Community Health Worker  
Policy Advisory Council**

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## MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Portland State of Oregon Building  
800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, Oregon

### Participants:

Yugen Rashad, Rujuta Gaonkar, Adrienne Paige Mullock, Ellen Pinney, Shawn Clark, Carol Cheney, Jo Bell, Jennifer Valentine, Lisa Angus, Fabiola Sandoval, Rocio Muñoz, Eca-Etaba Wasongolo, Guadalupe Guajardo, Robin Moody, Anne Willaert, Mark Spofford, Ralph Summers, Gayle Lawn-Day, Pat Kuratek, Alisha Fehrenbacher, Midge Purcell, Seth Doyle, Nicole Burda, Alberto Moreno, Hikari Ward. **Phone:** Lorena Sprager, Jenna Starr, Pepper McColgan, Erin Fair, Tina Castañeras.

### Content of Discussion

#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Welcome! Those present introduced themselves.

#### **II. Review of Process and Purpose**

September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 work to date, including the Context Map, Cover Story Vision, and SWOT Analysis were reviewed.

#### **III. Minnesota Model Presentation by Anne Willaert**

Please refer to the attached PowerPoint presentation by Anne Willaert for details.

Discussion following the presentation revolved around the importance of bringing different representation including nurses, social workers, and the Indian Health Board. The group brought up the importance of addressing the involvement of CHWs and the increase of utilization of hospital resources as well as maintaining a relationship with primary care providers and all parties involved. In addition, the group expressed concern over sustainable funding stream sources and problems

with recruitment, retention, utilization, and supervision of CHWs. The group decided that the subcommittees would be the best way to begin that discussion in more depth.

The Council also had questions about offering curriculum in various languages versus assuring that CHWs are bilingual and have culturally competent trainers. In the Minnesota Model, the curriculum has only been offered in English. The Council suggested the possibility of offering tests in various languages to identify if CHWs are able to provide services in other languages. The conversation has been tabled to further discussion in the subcommittees.

#### **IV. Policy Implications for Oregon**

How does Oregon move forward to begin elaborating a process to inform and shape policy that is supportive of CHWs?

The CHW Policy Advisory Council will now transition into separate subcommittee groups with specific hoped-for outcomes (bulleted)

1. Standards and Competencies
  - Standardization of the CHW profession, including core competencies, functions, and position integrity across health care models.
2. Funding and Sustainability
  - Sustainable funding plan that includes statewide policy initiatives for funding and public/private partnerships.
3. Advocacy and Empowerment
  - Fully developed plan for community engagement to inform and advocate for CHW policy platform and incorporation of CHW model within health care systems.
4. Education, Training, and Evaluation
  - Fully developed and codified educational curriculum that is accepted by academic health education institutions.
  - Research and evaluate best practice models with an emphasis on financial return on investment and workforce development.

#### **V. Introduction of Guadalupe Guajardo**

The Office of Multicultural Health and Services received support from the Northwest Health Foundation to work with Guadalupe Guajardo, who will facilitate the work of the four subcommittees.

#### **VI. Overview of Process Moving Forward**

- **Large Group Work**
- **Subcommittee Work**

Process Description: Guadalupe facilitates the four subcommittee groups and assist them in meeting their outcomes.

Each work group will be comprised of committee members and two leads. The group determined that it is important that one of the leads of each subcommittee be a community health worker.

Groups Assignment: Please refer to the attached Work Group Formation document for details. Please contact Hikari Ward at hikari.y.ward@state.or.us if your name is not listed in the group.

## **VII. Desired Outcome**

The purpose of the subcommittees is to develop concrete actionable policy recommendations designed to achieve the long-term goals described above. The group decided that The Education and Training group should meet with Standards and Competencies for the first meeting.

Hikari Ward will be monitoring a Yahoo Group to facilitate communication between all subcommittees as well as update the groups with work in progress. Please contact Hikari Ward at hikari.y.ward@state.or.us if you have not received an invite to the Yahoo Group.

## **VIII. Next Steps**

Next steps briefly introduced by the Council include meeting in subcommittee groups.

All members participating in the CHW Policy Advisory Council will be receiving an invitation to join the group as well as an invitation to Meeting Wizard to schedule separate subcommittee meetings.

**The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.**