

HEAL Council Meeting

MARCH 13, 2020, 12:00 – 2:00P.M., WEBEX

Attendees

HEAL Council Members: Anita Buel, Ayah Mohammed, Cassandra Silveira, Dr. Jokho Farah, Jennifer Nguyễn Moore, Joann Usher, Talia Miracle, Therese Genis, Zitlali Chavez Ayala, Laurelle Myhra, Callie Chamberlain, Jeremy Hanson Willis

MDH Staff: Kou Thao (CHE), Mohamed Hassan (CHE), Amy Lopez (CHE), Jeannette Raymond (Community Engagement), Sara Chute (CHE), Betty Hiller (CHE), Deb Burns (CHD/Interim Assistant Commissioner)

Other Guests: Karina Perkins, Peoples Center

Action Log as of March 2020

Action	Person Responsible	Due Date
1. HEAL members complete Cassie’s networking survey	HEAL members	4/3
2. Bring HEAL request to COVID-19 Community Engagement team regarding need to get ASL videos on local television statewide (not just captions)	Jeannette	3/20
3. Follow up on HEAL request to prioritize community health centers to receive COVID-19 test kits	Deb	3/20
4. Follow up on HEAL request to explicitly name addressing structural and institutional racism in MDH strategic plan	Deb/Kou	4/3
5. Follow up on HEAL request to ask Blue Ribbon Commission how they are taking into account community experiences/research	Kou	4/3

Agenda

Networking Idea – Cassie Silveira

- Take next two years to get to know each other.
- Goal is to understand how we can strengthen and support our communities together
- Short survey to share information about yourself. Complete by March 30, 2020. Individual council members will choose which council members they would like to get to know better.

- Take the time to get to know one or two other council members a month.
- Can a picture/head shot be included? – MDH will take headshots of members and collect headshots of those not local

HEAL Updates & Business

- Legislative Update
 - HEAL statute has been moving through. Rep. Vang co-authored bill for HEAL Statute w/ Rep. Brand. Dr. Farah gave a testimony to all the great work HEAL has done. Went through the House, to Government operations. Now will go to House floor.
 - Rep. Ruth Richardson (former HEAL member) was elected into office and has been an advocate for health equity in the House. Introduced several bills MDH is tracking.
- COVID-19
 - Refer to link Kou sent out related to MDH resources related to COVID-19
 - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>
 - Dedicated website in Somali, Hmong, and Spanish. Working on the audio/video PSA in other languages as well.
 - MDH has put out information about stigma/racism. Posters stating viruses do not discriminate. People discriminated against can call DHR.
 - MDH is having conversations about how communities affected will know where to go for resources.
 - HEAL to write to local media to ask they have interpreters to relay messages. Jeannette will suggest to response team.
 - We need information on how most vulnerable people will be treated.
 - How to frame and create messages about COVID-19 for those that have fear.
 - MDH website has the updated recommendations for schools. <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>
 - How do we manage childcare, not being able to work or pay bills? How do we make sure we are doing everything we can not to spread this dz. Center is working with Communications and Community Engagement to compile different things different countries are doing. San Jose is trying to ban evictions. If anyone has any resources please send to Kou.
 - City of St. Paul decided not to shut off water.
 - Commissioner and Governor are having a press conference at 1pm where there will be more specific recommendation coming out from MDH. Media will also be sharing those.
 - Bill on the floor introduced in U.S. Congress called HR6201 related to COVID-19
 - MDH has a hotline set up and prepared to use the language line. Staff has talking points related to racism with some of the calls coming in.
- Public Charge
 - Sent a note about this with link to flyer. DHS has taken the lead to create outreach materials. Flyers will be translated into Somali, Spanish, Hmong and Karen. If you would like flyers contact Helly Lee at DHS: helly.lee@state.mn.us
 - Statewide legal hotline to call if they have questions. Multiple languages available.
 - DHS leading community conversations around the state.
 - In light of everything going on worried people will not seek help or get care that they need. People will be suffering in silence. How can we make sure we are prioritizing people that

need the help they need to make sure we are all protected and safe? Making sure we are doing whatever we can to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

- Advocacy Committee
 - No response that anyone wanted to be on the advocacy committee
 - Maybe there is another way we can do this? Dr. Farah and Therese will discuss offline.

Governor's One Minnesota Plan & MDH Strategic Plan

- One Minnesota plan will be released soon. Priorities identified are focused on children and families, equity and inclusion, thriving communities, reducing infant mortality, improving the health care system. There will be a webpage available. Kou can send out a link when it is released. It may be put off a bit in light of COVID-19.
- Draft of MDH strategic plan shared. HEAL recommendations are embedded within the plan in several areas. Main pillars of the plan are: Achieving excellence in all our work, designing for the future, supporting One Minnesota, Building an excellent work place. Some of the things we will be doing right away and some are aspirational.
- Examples of where HEAL memo is reflected:
 - Data we collect, how we share data, and how we exchange with our partners
 - Redesigning MN public health system in 21st century will consults with counties and Tribal partners.
 - Closing health equity gaps. Continuing support from HEAL and I-HEALTH.
 - Insure MDH is environment where everyone is included. Having employee resource groups for employees most impacted.

I-HEALTH Updates

- Internal Health equity advisory council to support agency leadership
- Supports Performance and Strategy Team (PST) on implementation of health equity strategies at MDH. I-HEALTH will give quarterly updates to PST. Most of work plan will align with HEAL recommendations.
- Yazmin Odawa and Lauren Piper are the co-chairs.
- Work plan is a draft and subject to change. For this month, we will look at what has been done with grants and equity.
- Scoping sessions on finance and equity. There are many barriers in using targeted vendors/community partners.
- HR/Inclusion looking at retaining diverse talent at the state.
- Monthly meetings. HEAL Council members are always welcome to these meetings. Contact Sara Chute if you'd like to be sent calendar invites.

Updates & Announcements

- MDH Updates/Announcements
 - MDH sent out new COVID-19 recommendations from Governor's press conference. Kou sent the email to HEAL Council members.
 - Planning for Health Equity Summit for April. Will take it day by day as to if it can or cannot happen. Pre-registration is to open on Monday if it proceeds.

- Community Solutions Fund grant: Council is making funding decisions within the next few weeks.
- Working with Children's Cabinet on infant mortality
- Putting a report out to align with Health Equity Summit and EHDI grant program. Approaching 20th year of EHDI. This should be coming out in April.
- Making crosswalk between One Minnesota Plan, Community Engagement Plan, and MDH strategic plan. Hopefully we will be able to discuss at the next meeting.

- HEAL Council Member Updates/Announcements
 - Laurelle has been working with the MDH/DHS Blue Ribbon Commission. It has been very enlightening and seems like more opportunities to work with communities most impacted.

- Public Comment- None.

Next Meeting and Tasks

- Next Meeting: Friday, April 10, 2020 from 12-2pm via WebEx.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00PM