

**Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (MHHD)**  
**MARYLAND PLAN TO ELIMINATE HEALTH DISPARITIES**  
**Committee Meeting Notes**



**Committee:** Access to Quality Health Services  
**Date of Meeting:** January 25, 2005, 11am – 1pm  
**Location:** University of Maryland School of Medicine  
401 Redwood Street, Suite 100  
Baltimore, Maryland

**Attendance**

**Committee Members:**

*Co-Chairs:* Dr. Claudia Baquet  
Ms. Bonita Pennino  
Ms. Alma Roberts

*Co- Chair Alternate:* Ms. Sherry McCammon

*Co-Staff:* Arlee W. Gist, MHHD, Lead Co-Staff

*MHHD Staff:* Dr. Carlessia Hussein, MHHD Director  
Dr. David Mann, MHHD  
Nduku Numbu, MHHD

*Committee Members:*

Tashuna Albritton	Pierre Alexandre
Sandra Amaral	Karl Bezak
Carroll Barnes	Karen Caffi-Lalle
Nancy Codori	Marty Cifrese
Tim Farrell	Carrie Freitag
Lisa Green	Pearl Holland
Angela Hunt	Louise Knight
Tina Khoie	Joanne Kraus
Sharon Kreitzer	Terry Langbaum
Jennifer Lee	Donna Lee
Nicole Leonard	Herbert Lodder
Christine Moghimi	Adrian Mosley
Karran Phillips	Elisha Pulivarti
Gary Shapiro	Kathryn Smolinski
Ulder Tillman	Loretta Wall
Rebecca Wiseman	Laurie Zephyrin

*Total Attendees* Forty (40)

## □ Meeting Summary and Key Points

- Meeting opened with greetings from by Dr. Claudia Baquet, host co-chair welcomed members and initiated introductions. All other committee members gave a brief introduction and employment background.
- Dr. Carlessia A. Hussein provided an overview of House Bill 883 and House Bill 86. House Bill 86 established the office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (MHHD) during the 2004 Maryland General Assembly. Dr. Hussein also summarized the content of the folders compiled by MHHD. Folder contained committee charge, Maryland minority population data, recommendations from June 8 conference, HB 883, HB 86, MHHD pamphlet, MHHD poster presentation at Annual Public Health Association and other articles on health disparities.
- The committee members were asked to review the committee charge and make any recommendations to modify. No suggestions were noted by members to amend the charge.
- A question was raised about what the outline of the Health Disparities Plan Report. A work session will be held to discuss the outline of the health disparities plan.
- The June 8 recommendations were made available and key recommendations were emphasized to reinforce the charge of Access to Quality Health Services Committee.
  - Group discussion touched on the benefits of the health disparities plan, obtaining input from across the state, application funding strategies process to obtain funds to support local community based organizations working on health disparities.
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) along with representatives from urban and rural settings must be apart of Access to Quality Health Services Committee. DHMH asked the group to assist with recruiting representatives from rural and ethnic communities to the committees.
- Health Disparities Inventory conducted by Maryland Health Disparities Coalition was summarized and the inventory tool used was passed around the room for review. The inventory will have recommendations.
- Access to Quality Health Services, Health Professional Education, Identifying Funding Strategies and Measuring Health Disparities committees will present their findings and recommendations for the Health Disparities Plan Report due June 30, 2005.
- Teleconference communication was discussed to broaden statewide input and membership.
- Health literacy and education are barriers to health access.
- Question asked on how to define health disparities based on ethnic, gender, religious and legal status. An institution and system approach will be taken to address disparities.

Committee members inquired about data base availability on mental health, Medicaid eligible youths and Health Management Organizations.

## **FOLLOW-UP**

---

### **□ Action Steps**

1. Consider videoconference for wider audience participation.
2. Larger meeting accommodation for future meetings.
3. Provide notes from the meeting to committee members.

### **NEXT MEETING DATES**

Dates under consideration are February 7, 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **PARKING LOT ITEMS**

1. Health Disparities Plan Request Outline to be provided to Committees.