

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



Committee: Identifying Funding Strategies
Date of Meeting: January 12, 2005, 1pm – 3pm
Location: East County Regional Services Center
 3300 Briggs Chaney Road
 Silver Spring, MD

□ In Attendance

Committee Members: Dr. Chris Gibbons, Committee Co-Chair
 Patricia Horton, Committee Co-Chair
 Michael Preston, Committee Co-Chair

Tina Brown
 Gene Greene, MD
 Ron Lessard
 Michelle McBride
 Bassam Sayad

Larry Gourdine
 Phyllis Kalar
 Maureen Masarik, MS
 Kenneth Pack

New Members:

Last Name	First Name	Title/ Affiliation
Simone	Nicole	JHU
Friar	Wendy	Holy Cross Hospital
Ikeakanam	Roseline	MCDHHS
Reedy	Tricia	MCDHHS
Mora	Sonia	MCDHHS

Co-Staff: Janet Adams, MHHD, Lead Co-Staff

MHHD Staff: Dr. Carlessia Hussein, MHHD Director
 Arlee Gist, MHHD Deputy Director
 Dr. David Mann, MHHD

Total Attendance: 23

□ Absence

Co-Staff: Joyce Pollard, DHMH, MH
 Cyntrice Bellamy-Mills, DHMH

□ Meeting Summary and Key Points

- Patricia Horton, Co-Chair, facilitated the introductions of Committee Co-chairs, Co-staff, Members and MHHD staff

- Dr. Hussein reviewed background information on the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities and an overview of House Bills 86 and 883.
- Informational handouts relative to the MHHD mission were provided to attendees for post-meeting review: (1) Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care, (2) Healthy People 2010, (3) National Healthcare Disparities Report, 2003, (4) Addressing Health Care Disparities, Promising Practices in Maryland (*PowerPoint presentation by Delegate Shirley Nathan-Pulliam and Dr. Carlessia Hussein, APHA Annual Meeting November 2004*), (5) Census Population Report with minority population statistics, July 2002, and (6) What is a “Healthy Disparity”?, 2002.
- Patricia Horton presented the *Identifying Funding Strategies* Committee’s Purpose and Charge.
- Dr. Chris Gibbons presented an overview of the survey results submitted by committee members prior to the meeting. Survey results included summaries of members’ expertise, their interest in the committee, ideas on how the committee can begin to address the issue of eliminating health disparities, and additional suggestions to support the committee’s work and process. Dr. Gibbons also referenced the list of recommendations for action that resulted from the First Annual Statewide Health Disparities Conference held June 8, 2004.
- Two guest speakers gave presentations on The Importance of Partnerships and Collaborations as a Funding Strategy:

Brenda Lockley, Project Director of the African American Health Program, administered by The People’s Community Baptist Church through funding from the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Ms. Lockley noted five key methods of partnering for fundraising and resource leveraging:

- Public/Private Partnership
- Professional and Community-Based Organizations Alliances
- Resource Sharing
- Special Events
- Media Exposure and Public Relations

Sonia Mora, Manager of the Latino Health Initiative of Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Ms. Mora presented lessons learned in building partnerships and collaborations:

- Clearly understand the purpose of the collaboration
- Clearly outline the roles and responsibilities of each partner
- Define a common vision
- Secure partners involvement and ownership in project
- Communicate, Communicate, Communicate!
- Follow through with action plans

- Michael Preston and Dr. Chris Gibbons, Co-Chairs, facilitated brainstorming session. The following topics and proposed committee priorities were discussed:

General Discussion:

- What are the Committee's priorities for identifying resources?
- Health disparities impact on health status as a whole
- Barriers to resource development include communication, public education about health disparities, access to physicians, business and human resource problems, health costs for the underserved, and public policy issues.
- Cultural sensitivity and public or personal responsibility to health care are key considerations in addressing health disparities
- The *Identifying Funding Strategies Committee's* role in relationship to the other Maryland Plan to Eliminate Health Disparities Committees
- The availability of a resource guide listing all the existing programs, projects and funding sources addressing health disparities in Maryland
- Importance of partnerships and resource sharing

Committee's Proposed Priorities:

- A. Committee should consider funding strategies for acquiring and or leveraging monetary, in-kind (non-monetary) and human resources.
- B. Committee should determine, "Where federal and local government agencies and private/public philanthropy sectors are presenting putting health disparities or health care dollars and resources?"
- C. Committee should develop a case for support to clearly define health disparity problem and funding needs.
- D. Committee should consider protocols for funding acquisition and dissemination. For example, MHHD will seek funding for small grant allocations to community-based organizations. MHHD will also seek funding for operational and staffing costs within the Office.
- E. Committee should consider a medical model, identifying an obvious health disparity (i.e., cancer, obesity) and then, determining funding and resources needed to effectively address that disparity.
- F. Committee should identify best practice models for addressing health disparities on a small or large scale and obtain information on the budgetary needs and funding resources available to those successful models.
- G. Committee should identify communication barriers that may hinder funding opportunities; physician-to-patients, physician-to-physician, overall public awareness relative to disparities.

- Dr. Hussein asked [full] committee membership to bring someone with them to the next meeting. She emphasized that the Plan being developed is a 'Maryland Plan' and all committees should be ethnically and geographically diverse.

FOLLOW-UP

□ Action Steps

- Michael Preston, Co-Chair, will determine availability of Med Chi site for next meeting
- Co-chairs will determine date of next meeting and get information to Janet Adams, Lead Staff
- Janet Adams will advise [full] committee of next meeting date and location via email
- In next meeting, the [full] committee will discuss in detail proposed priorities outlined in 1/12/05 session
- Dr. Hussein will follow-up on the inventory of health disparities programs being consolidated as a recommendation from the June 8th Statewide Conference on Health Disparities
- Patricia Horton and Janet Adams considered identifying a resource development professional to speak at future meeting (post-meeting discussion).

□ Parking Lot Items – NONE