

**New York State Department of Health
 Minority Health Council
 December 11, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

Attendees	<p>Council Members: Nilda Soto, Dr Daniel Carrion, Diane Holt Tandra LaGrone Guillermo Chacon Mecca Mitchell, Lenora Reid-Rose, Dr. Raul Vasquez Helen Arteaga Landaverde.</p> <p>Absent: Louis (Freddy) Molano, Ngozi Moses, Antonio Pagan, LaRay Brown</p> <p>NYSDOH OMH-HDP Staff: Wilma Alvarado-Little</p> <p>NYSDOH Staff: Jackie Sheltry, Legal Counsel,</p> <p>Other NYSDOH Staff: Karen Folmsbee</p> <p>Public Participants: Anita Parker, Gail McCallum-Perkins, Tamara Wrenn</p>
Topics	Discussion
<p>Nilda Soto, MS, Ed, Chair</p> <p>Call to Order & Introductions</p>	<p>The meeting was convened at 9:30 AM.</p> <p>Ms. Soto introduced herself and asked the Council and members of the public to introduce themselves before speaking. Ms. Soto welcomed Ms. Alvarado-Little from the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Prevention. Ms. Soto welcomed the public participants present via Zoom, thanking them for their participation and asking that any suggestions, remarks, or information they wish to share, be held until the public comment period of the agenda.</p>
Council Business	<p>Ms. Soto welcomed the members and provided an overview of the agenda, a summary of the September 2020 meeting and the discussion. Since there was a quorum, the Council voted on the September 11, 2020 meeting minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Chacon made the first motion to approve the minutes and Dr. Vasquez made the second motion to approve. • Opposed- None • Approve –D. Carrion, G. Chacon, D. Holt, T. LaGrone, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, M. Mitchell, R. Vasquez • Abstain- L. Reid-Rose
Survey Report Content and Format Discussion	<p>Ms. Soto begins the discussion by providing an overview of the process and outlining next steps.</p> <p>Comments/recommendations about current draft to include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a limitations section ○ survey: start and end dates, number of responses received, distributed via SurveyMonkey by MHC members and OMHHDP listserv ○ challenges section ○ information that survey was developed before the pandemic ○ language to tie in “pre and current” pandemic importance and relevance of programs

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ impact/awareness of racial and ethnic inequities ○ programs which fall within the minority areas as defined by public health law ○ how will this report assist communities moving forward ○ possible next steps as it relates to this report (e.g. how can this assist with organizations identifying their own next steps? What is the current funding source?) ○ a community engagement/community empowerment lens <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms. Arteaga and volunteers working on this report will address recommendations and submit another draft to Ms. Soto and Liaison for review in preparation for final submission. ● Contact George Wright to clarify question about the categories identified. ● Ms. Soto and Ms. Arteaga will contact Mr. Wright. Since he is no longer part of the project, Ms. Sheltry advises that Ms. Soto and Ms. Arteaga both be in attendance. Limiting this to two council members would follow open meeting laws.
Review Covid-19 Current Project and Recommendations	Previously, MHC members have shared information about organizations who can support dissemination efforts. This information has been added to the resources used to support awareness for outreach efforts to Black and Latino/a communities affected by the pandemic. Members will continue discussion regarding messaging for health literacy and cultural and linguistic appropriateness.
Selection of 2021 Minority Health Council Meetings	Ms. Soto provided an overview to the MHC members for selecting 2021 meeting dates. The following months were offered by the members: February, May, September, and December 2021. Ms. Soto will follow up with the MHC members to finalize dates. Traditionally, meetings are held in Albany, NY or in NYC with travel expenses covered for MHC members. Travel forms will be sent to members in the event in person meetings are scheduled later in the year. At this time, due to the pandemic, meetings will be held virtually.
Agenda Development for Upcoming Meetings	Members discussed the following as potential agenda items for future meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discuss Surveys Report Outcomes and Recommendation ● Discuss 2021 DOH's Priorities and the Council's Priorities
Meeting Recap, Feedback, Action Items and Next Steps	Some action items identified were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chair and Liaison will continue to work with the members on the Survey Result and Analysis before the next meeting to be scheduled in February/March 2021. ● Chair and MHC members will identify and confirm 2021 meeting dates. ● Travel forms will be sent to MHC Members for completion prior to 2021 initial meeting.
Adjournment	Ms. Soto opened the floor to any public participants in attendance via telecast. Ms. Alvarado-Little received the comments and read these to the MHC members as follows:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Anita Parker inquired about the number of outreach testing sites in non-cluster COVID-19 area. In Community of Color are lacking and a concern that HIV testing outreach in local community is limited in some areas. • Ms. Gail McCallum-Perkins had a question/comment: Covid-19 does change the way we interpret government participation and behavior towards the vaccine. People are skeptical because of the constant in-house fighting between government officials about what is to be done and the blame game that constantly gets the population confused about what is the right thing to do. • Ms. Tamara Wrenn had a question/comment: Research Alert: https://sacredbirth.ucsf.edu/ NY has about 6 surveys completed. The goal of the SACRED Birth study is to test a new survey tool called a Patient-Reported Experience Measure of Obstetrics racism, also known as the PREM-OB Scale, that was designed for, by, and with Black mothers and birthing people. The PREM-OB Scale allows for Black mothers and birthing people to share information about their unique patient experiences in hospital settings during labor, birth, and postpartum. <p>The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.</p>
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Next Meeting Date
 March 26, 2021

Time
 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Location
 Virtual meeting: <https://www.health.ny.gov/events/webcasts/>