

**New York State Department of Health
Minority Health Council
March 26, 2021 - Meeting Minutes**

Attendees	<p>Council Members: Nilda Soto, Dr. Daniel Carrion, Rev. Diane Holt, Dr. Raul Vasquez, Helen Arteaga-Landaverde, Louis (Freddy) Molano, Antonio Pagan, Ngozi Moses</p> <p>Partial Attendance: Guillermo Chacon, Lenora Reid-Rose, Tandra LaGrone</p> <p>Absent: 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>
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> <p>Ms. Soto announced the Mecca Mitchell has stepped down as the Senior Vice President of the Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement for the Westchester Medical Center Health Network and will no longer be on the council. The council congratulates her on her new position and thanks her for her participation and support.</p>
Council Business	<p>Ms. Soto welcomed the members and provided an overview of the agenda, a summary of the December 2020 meeting and the discussion. Since there was a quorum, the Council voted on the December 11, 2020 meeting minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Chacon made the first motion to approve the minutes and Rev. Diann Holt made the second motion to approve. • Opposed - None • Approve - D. Carrion, G. Chacon, D. Holt, T. LaGrone, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, R. Vasquez, L. Molano, N. Moses, A. Pagan, L. Reid Rose • Abstain - None
Survey Report Content and Format Discussion	<p>Ms. Soto begins the discussion by noting recommendations and suggestions from the last council meeting have been submitted to Ms. Arteaga and turns the discussion over to her. Ms. Arteaga reviewed updates made to the report with the council.</p> <p>Ms. Arteaga updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ suggested grammar changes and fonts were updated ○ start and end dates were added

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ response received section was added ○ limitation section was added ○ challenging section was added ○ more information in the conclusion section was added ○ noted an appendix section will be added when the report is in the final stages <p>Council reviewed updates; edits were made through track changes.</p>
OMH-HDP Updates	OMH-HDP has provided language access services to all of New York State COVID-19 initiatives and NYS DOH Vaccination sites. These services are provided via in person, virtual relay or telephonic. Services have also been provided to the deaf and hard of hearing communities. OMH-HDP supported the Governor's Vaccine Equity Task Force (VETF) and the VETF Fireside Chats. The Health Equity Report, which uses minor civil division data, will be available after April 1 st
Selection of 2021 Minority Health Council Meetings	Ms. Soto reviewed the remaining 2021 meeting dates as May 21 st , September 17 th and December 17 th . If possible, the September and December meetings may be in-person in New York City. Travel forms were sent to council members on March 26, 2021. Ms. Soto announced that council members, who will travel and request reimbursement, complete and submit travel forms to Karen. 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"> ● Continue discussion on the conclusion of the survey report ● General update of the post pandemic plan from the Office of the Commissioner and/or any other health issues the state is looking at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are the projections and how they address to be prepared for those projections? ○ Terms of the impact it will have on the aging NYS aging residents ○ Will it heighten health disparities?
Meeting Recap, Feedback, Action Items and Next Steps	Some action items identified were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finalizing the Draft Survey Report ● Updates of NYS efforts to address COVID-19 ● Health Equity Report will be out after April 1, 2021
Adjournment	Ms. Soto opened the floor to any public participants in attendance via telecast. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No public comments/questions were entered <p>The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.</p>

Next Meeting Date
May 21, 2021

Time
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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