

**New York State Department of Health
Minority Health Council
September 17, 2021 - Meeting Minutes**

Attendees	<p>Council Members: Nilda Soto, Guillermo Chacon, Helen Arteaga-Landaverde, Louis (Freddy) Molano, Dr. Daniel Carrión, Mill Etienne, Dr. Raul Vasquez, Lenora Reid-Rose, Rev. Diann, Holt</p> <p>Partial Attendance: LaRay Brown, Tandra LaGrone, Ngozi Moses</p> <p>Absent: Anthony Pagan</p> <p>NYSDOH OMH-HDP Staff: Wilma Alvarado-Little, Abby Waldow</p> <p>NYSDOH Staff: David Spellman, 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>
Council Business	<p>Ms. Soto welcomed the members and provided an overview of the agenda, a summary of the May 21, 2021 meeting and the discussion. Since there was a quorum, the Council voted on the May 21, 2021 meeting minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guillermo Chacon made the first motion to approve the minutes and D. Carrión made the second motion to approve. • Opposed - None • Approve – N. Soto, D. Carrión, G. Chacon, D. Holt, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, F. Molano, R. Vazquez, L. Molano, N. Moses, M. Etienne • Abstain – None
<p>Survey Report Content and Format Discussion</p> <p>Vote on the Survey Report</p>	<p>Ms. Soto turned the discussion over to Ms. Arteaga. Ms. Arteaga did a brief overview of the Survey Report with the council.</p> <p>Ms. Arteaga’s review included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OMH-HDP and MHC three main goals • MHC’s priority areas (In support of 2019-2024 NYS Prevention Agenda) • Aim of the Report • Methodology • Survey questions • Populations served and impacted by all respondents – addressing the Prevention Agenda • Primary area of focus: Services Categories • Overall findings based on respondents’ comments

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service delivery methods • Respondents – Initiatives Promising Practices • Funding challenges identified • Recommendations • Respondents’ statements • Limitations with survey implementation • Conclusion <p>Since there was a quorum, the Council voted on the Survey Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guillermo Chacon made the first motion to approve the report and N. Moses made the second motion to approve. • Opposed - None • Approve – N. Soto, D. Carrión, G. Chacon, D. Holt, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, F. Molano, R. Vazquez, N. Moses, M. Etienne • Abstain – None
<p>Presentation: Neighborhood-level disparities and subway utilization during the COVID-19 pandemic in NYC</p>	<p>Daniel Carrión presented a study that was published in June of 2021, “Neighborhood-level disparities and subway utilization during the COVID-19 pandemic in NYC.”</p> <p>Ngozi, Guillermo, Rev. Holt, Freddy, Mill and Nilda thanked Daniel for the presentation, it was well received by all members.</p>
<p>Council Member Updates</p>	<p>Rev. Holt shared information about the COVID-19 flashcard campaign “Each one must reach one.” This campaign is using the testimonials of people who have had COVID and write on cards their symptoms, outcomes and encourage people to take the vaccine.</p> <p>Guillermo Chacon shared the release of the first ever New York City Setting our Agenda, Expanding Latinx Health Action agenda for the next four years. The importance of this agenda is to be proactive and not reactive in terms of issues that are impacting our community. This process has been led by the Latino Commission and the Spanish Health Network and the Spanish Federation with many partners throughout the city, including the People's Republic of Staten Island.</p> <p>Freddy Molano shared of being involved in vaccination Points of Distribution (POD’s) at churches, schools and low-income areas. He is also working with Black Nurses Association for the Greater New York area.</p> <p>Ngozi Moses shared the maternal mortality and morbidity crisis in Brooklyn faces challenges that COVID has brought. They are organizing, both at the community level and at the hospital level, to bring some improvements and systems that they feel their community needs to strengthen the opportunities that could be there to improve care. They are introducing a model called the Pathways Community Hub and are encouraging colleagues across the city and the state to become interested in the model.</p> <p>LaRay Brown shared that she agrees with Ngozi but feels there is need for resources from the city and the state. She also feels there is need for policy changes, specifically as it relates to Medicaid and its reimbursement policies for certain services.</p>

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	<p>Mill Etienne shared they are working on finding out which areas are getting less vaccinated and targeting those communities to increase the vaccination rates. Having various community organizations, including faith-based organizations and government organizations, NGOs, and find out where can we bring a bus to have people sign up. He is also working with the YWCA in Westchester, who has been leading the effort for this anti-racism task force for the county to try to eliminate the health inequities. They are in the process of creating a health equity scorecard for the county, which includes those determinates. They've already talked about women's maternal mortality, infant mortality, stroke, COVID infections and COVID deaths.</p>
Selection of 2021 Minority Health Council Meetings	<p>Ms. Soto reviewed the remaining 2021 meeting date: December 17th.</p> <p>At this time, due to the pandemic, meetings will be held virtually.</p>
Agenda Development for Upcoming Meetings	<p>Members discussed the following as potential agenda items for future meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Maternal Health to the list of Post pandemic activities on the agenda items • If the council has DOH representative give a presentation, add these topics on COVID: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the strategy beyond vaccinations? ○ At the state level, what is the role of rapid testing? What strategies are being employed and how to scale them up. • Prioritize agenda items for 2022
Meeting Recap, Feedback, Action Items and Next Steps	<p>Items discussed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalization of the Survey Report and vote to have it forwarded to NYSDOH • D. Carrión's report on "Neighborhood-level disparities and subway utilization during the COVID-19 pandemic in NYC" • MHC members shared the various activities they are involved in • Continuing the discussion on agenda items and the priorities and action items. • Nilda will send the council members a poll for meeting dates in 2022
Public Comment and Adjournment	<p>Ms. Soto opened the floor to any public participants in attendance via telecast.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment: individual was excited to hear of the different programs happening across the state through the updates provided by the members and would like to hear more about the health equity scorecard to share with other partners statewide. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response by M. Etienne: once the scorecard is finished, he be able to show how they've developed it and how they've used it and how people can apply for their own communities. There's an organism called the Prosperity Now that's actually developed a scorecard for nationally where you can actually put in your zip code. It'S ProsperityNow.Org. • Comment: Congratulations to the council on the development of the report. I know it was a labor of love. This will be a great tool to share with the partners as well. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response by W. Alvarado-Little: We will make sure that we review the final drafts that have been submitted and then start to move forward with the approval process. If any questions arise, they will be deferred back to the appropriate members involved in the report. • Comment: Daniel, can you share a link for your article or restate where we can access it?

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Response by D. Carrión: If you go to the NIH's PubMed, and you type in my name, Daniel Carrión, you'll find it there. It was published in Nature Communications. <p>The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.</p>
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Next Meeting Date
December 17, 2021

Time
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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