# New York State Department of Health
## Minority Health Council
### September 13, 2019 - Meeting Minutes

| Attendees | Council Members: Nilda Soto, Antonio Pagan, Lenora Reid-Rose, Daniel Carrion, Guillermo Chacon, Ngozi Moses, Raul Vazquez  
NYSDOH OMH-HDP Staff: Wilma Alvarado-Little, Elizabeth Girolami, Patricia Kehn  
NYSDOH Staff via conference phone: Jackie Sheltry, Legal Counsel  
Other NYSDOH Staff: Claire Simon, AIDS Institute  
Public Participants: Tyeisha Bennett, Marcia Jackson, Rene Johnson, Maria Angela Soto, Doris Suarez, Barbara Jackson, Heid Sieghred, Millicent Freema |

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<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
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| **Nilda Soto, MS, Ed, Chair**  
Call to Order & Introductions | The meeting was convened at 10:15 AM.  
Ms. Soto introduced herself and asked the Council and members of the public to introduce themselves. Then Ms. Soto welcomed Ms. Alvarado-Little from the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Prevention. Ms. Alvarado-Little introduced Elizabeth Girolami, and Patricia Kehn from the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Prevention. Ms. Soto welcomed the public participants present and via phone, 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. |
| Council Business | Ms. Soto gave an overview of the agenda. Since there is no quorum, there would be no review of past meeting minutes. Instead, Council will discuss the survey results and next steps and plan for December’s meeting and the 2020 meeting schedule. |
| Survey Responses Received Discussion | Ms. Alvarado-Little reviewed the raw data survey results with the council.  
Based on the Preliminary review of the data approximately  
- 28 organizations reported 1 program  
- 5 organizations reported 2 programs  
- 11 organizations reported 3 programs  
- 1 organization reported 4 programs  
- 5 organizations reported 8 programs  

Members discussed how to proceed with the survey results. Members discussed the possibility of gathering more data but decided that they had enough information to analyze and write a paper of their findings. Members discussed forming an Ad-hoc Committee to complete the project. |
**Report Format Discussion**

Members discussed having interns assist with analyzing the data and writing the report and whether the intern can run Ad-hoc Committee meetings. Ms. Sheltry clarified the bylaws and meeting requirements that a member must be present. It was decided that Dr. Vazquez and Mr. Chacon will lead the Ad-hoc Committee and the following members would also be part of the committee: Mr. Carrion, Ms. Soto, and Ms. Reid-Rose. Dr. Vasquez will have his intern assist in the project knowing that he or Mr. Chacon must lead the committee. Ms. Moses and Mr. Carrion will look for additional interns to assist on the project.

Ms. Alvarado-Little clarified that the bylaws were rewritten but that because there is no quorum, they cannot be voted on. Mr. Chacon asked for a copy of the current bylaws and Ms. Alvarado-Little will distribute the copy to members.

**Agenda Development for Upcoming Meetings**

Looking forward to December 2019’s meeting, Ms. Soto stated that there will not be new members at the meeting because the Senate is in recess until January 2020. Ms. Alvarado-Little stated that Dr. Zucker is concerned about the membership, too, and that members can only approach a Senator as a concerned citizen and not as a Minority Health Council member.

In reference to possible agenda items: Ms. Reid-Rose asked how the Minority Health Council can provide Dr. Zucker with assistance. Ms. Alvarado-Little will pass on the request from Dr. Zucker and follow up with an answer at the next meeting. Ms. Moses requested to present the ongoing work in Brooklyn, how to share it and whether the opportunity exists to share. Mr. Chacon asked for more information on NYSDOH Prevention Agenda and DSRIP/Medicaid Redesign update.

Members agreed that December’s agenda will be:
- A Presentation by Ms. Moses on an evidence-based community program addressing infant mortality.
- Ad-hoc Committee update progress on the survey
- Presentation or more information on:
  - NYSDOH Prevention Agenda
  - DSRIP/Medicaid Redesign update

Ms. Soto asked Mr. Chacon to coordinate with members proposed 2020 meeting dates.

**Meeting Recap, Feedback, Action Items and Next Steps**

Some action items identified were:
- Dr. Vazquez and Mr. Chacon will lead the Ad-hoc Committee on the survey project.
- Ms. Moses to present at the December 13, 2019 meeting.
- 2020 MHC Meeting dates will be sent out by Mr. Chacon to the members to solidify dates.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Soto opened the floor to any public participants in attendance both in person and on the phone for comments. The Comment were as follows:
- Ms. Doris Suarez from Rockland County Spanish Social Day Center for Seniors stated that the seniors are dual eligible for Medicaid and Medicare but are being signed up for health insurance that doesn’t apply to them. Ms. Soto requested the concern in writing for the council to review.
- Ms. Claire Simon with the AIDS Institute announced that the PrEP Aware Week is 10/20-26. PrEP is HIV Pre Exposure Prophylaxis is a highly effective way of preventing HIV. Ms. Simon handed out materials that promote the PrEP activities. Ms. Simon also announced
### Annual World AIDS Day Summit

Annual World AIDS Day Summit will take place on 12/3-4 in Albany. She will also forward the information to Ms. Alvarado-Little with the request to share the information via the OMH-HDP listserv.

- Ms. Marcia Jackson and Ms. Tyeisha Bennett from Manhattan Island Area Health Education Center stated that their agency provides 6wk internships throughout the summer to junior and senior high school students. The program is always looking for new placements and wanted to be sure the Council knew about their work.

The Chair thanked the Council members and other attendees for the engaging conversations.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

### Next Meeting Details

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Next Meeting Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 13, 2019</td>
<td>9:00 AM - 1:00 PM</td>
<td>90 Church Street, Meeting Room 4C, NYC, NY</td>
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