

Steering Committee November 10, 2020 Meeting Summary

Attendance

Voting Steering Committee Members

Present (via Zoom): Jack Billi, Norman Herbert, Alfreda Rooks, Alonzo Lewis, Ann Davis, Ginny Creasman, Jeremy Lapedis, Pam Smith, Sharon Moore, George Waddles Jr., Doug Strong, Brent Williams, Jimena Loveluck, Nancy Graebner

Phone: N/A

Ex Officio Steering Committee Members Present (via Zoom): Alena Hill, Marianne Udow-Phillips

Absent: Julie Aronica, Rosalie Tocco-Bradley, Elizabeth Vanderpool, Trish Cortes, Marti Walsh, Tony Denton, Greg Dill, Krista Girty, Mark Hausman, Katrina Bozada, Connie Conklin, Liz Conlin, Leah Corneail, Kim Hulbert, Juan Marquez, Sara Szcoztko, Curtis Thornton, Paul Valenstein

CHRT staff (via Zoom): Deana Smith, Terrisca Des Jardins, Jenna Combs, Allie Faulkner, Elizabeth Jahn, Gregory Powers, Robyn Rontal, Ryan Bartholomew, Sam Iovan, Nancy Baum, Andrew Smentkowski, Matt Hill, Erica Matti

Key Summary Points

- **Approval of past meeting notes:**
 - October 30th Meeting notes:
 - Reviewed and approved.
- **Project updates:**
 - **UNITE:**
 - New focus for 2020 is food insecurity. Prior to COVID, the focus was on social isolation which was identified from the 2019 Needs Assessment
 - Due to COVID-19, food access became more difficult:
 - Food distribution sites lost volunteers (primarily older adult volunteers)
 - Ann Arbor Meals-On-Wheels + Ypsilanti Meals-On-Wheels:
 - Dropped down to 3 days of delivery a week to limit interactions with clients
 - Switched to alternating days to ensure that the same amount of food was being distributed
 - Additional Food Pantries launched
 - The UNITE group evaluated this new focus with some key questions in mind:
 - How UNITE could make an impact and what strategies to employ
 - How to really address food insecurity together with other organizations
 - How can current programs be expanded to assist with gaps?
 - Open Communications, emphasis on continued conversations and feedback from the community

- Communications with Washtenaw County Food Policy Council – to ensure there is no duplication of work
- **2021 Priorities:**
 - Reviewed the priorities for 2021 and discussed the context of how the priorities fit within the strategic plan areas developed at the end of 2019; an important component of the strategic plan is to include more community voices in the group's decisions and conversations and moving towards activities of advocacy.
 - Strategic priorities include an intentional emphasis on racial equity, some strategies that are being developed include:
 - Exploring in depth the desired future state
 - Creating awareness; taking an advocacy role in the community
 - Amplifying local initiatives that promote health equity
 - Clearly communicate this work at the system's level and to the Stakeholders working on the ground
- ***Action Item: Approve FY 2021 Budget:**
 - Unanimously approved.
- **Steering Committee position transitions:**
 - **Norman Herbert-**
 - Sharon Moore has volunteered to be the co-chair.
 - **Pastor George Waddles Jr.** – he has chosen not to renew his term
 - He has given his recommendation from the faith community
 - Other open positions could be filled by Community Ambassador, looking for nominations for this role
- **WHI's role in communicating the safety and efficacy of future COVID vaccine:** Steering Committee discussed WHI's role and received guidance from Jimena
 - WCHD is meeting with the health systems to coordinate vaccine efforts
 - It will be awhile before it is available to the public at large
 - Here is a link to the state's plan:
 - https://www.michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/COVID-19_Vaccination_Plan_for_Michigan_InterimDraft10162020_705598_7.pdf
 - Communication and community outreach will be important and a role for WHI
 - The health department is engaging in outreach to understand how to best reach communities with information about the vaccine and understand who and what the best messengers will be
 - Multifaceted effort to get vaccine acceptance, partnering/communication across sectors will be important
 - Utilize community networks to inform/expand messaging and outreach
 - Jimena gave a recommendation of the WHI assisting with community communications.
- **Next Steps:**
 - **December 14th Stakeholder's meeting:**

Action Items

1. Approve Sharon Moore as Co-Chair at next meeting

Next Meeting Tuesday, December 8th, 2020 10:00 –11:30 AM
