

Florida CHW Coalition Monthly Meeting
March 14, 2013

Attending:

Natali Ramirez
Dr. Elizabeth Young
Sean Dickerson
Patricia Scott
Brittany McNaughton
Katie Ragan
Cheryl Kerr
Tabitha Derenoncourt
Patricia Scott
Luz Corcuera
Lucila Lopez
Josephine Mercado
Susan Fleming
Colleen Reinert
Sornia Joseph
Marie Laurent
Denise Kerwin
Tya Arthur
Marion Banzhaf
Clifton Skipper
Susan Redmon
Martha Hicks
Natoy Baker-Robinson

It was announced that the meeting was being recorded. If you don't want to be recorded, either just listen, or hang up, and learn what happened through the notes.

Sean opened the meeting, reminding people that most of the work of the coalition happens during the Subgroups.

Monthly meeting notes: January and February were reviewed. Hearing no changes or additions, the meeting notes were accepted.

Co-Chair Nominations: A process is in place for choosing another co-chair, the job description was distributed, it is a two-year term, a non-paid volunteer opportunity, and an important job in this particular time when CHWs are such a hot topic. People can self-nominate or nominate someone else. The person should write a paragraph about why they want to be considered as a Co-Chair nominee. Get any nominees to Sean by March 22. Open to any and everyone. Feel free to contact Sean for more information.

Policy Subgroup: Sean gave the report for the Policy Subgroup. He reported on the CHW bill, the House bill made it through its first committee unanimously. It moves next to the Health Appropriations Subcommittee. On the Senate side, the Florida Psychological Association contacted Senator Braynon, about the language “Provide social support and informal counseling” which they had a problem with. Sean has reached out to the Executive Director of the FPA. That issue should be resolved before it goes to the Senate committees. That language could just be stricken from the bill as the resolution.

Denise raised the issue of having Proclamations done for September throughout the state. Members will need to contact their local municipalities to participate in CHW month. President Obama designated September 18 as CHW Day. Josephine Mercado supported the idea, even if we don’t get every county, it is good to be recognized. Luz will work on Manatee County.

Josephine raised that it’s important to decide what the group thinks about “informal counseling”. Sean raised that if you have a strong opinion, get in touch with him. We wouldn’t want anyone else, like the FPA, to speak against the bill during the committee.

The chat box includes volunteers in support of Proclamations, so the Subgroup will take that up during their April meeting.

Networking: Natali reported on the survey, and thanked Dee Snell for working on the survey, getting help from Bethune-Cookman, but we wanted to wait to do another survey. We are getting information from the members about where people are located, looking at social media such as Facebook, other things to make the Coalition more accessible.

We have had a conference call with the folks from UF who are working on the website, and we have developed a schedule. So we are in the process of reviving the website. For a sneak peak, you can go to www.FloridaCHW.org the links have been updated to navigate through the pages. Please send information to repopulate the pages of the web. We hope to have a website review at the next monthly meeting. Marion added that we want the Website to be the “go to” place. We want to put pictures up, training opportunities, research, etc. Natali added that once the web site is a little more together, it would be good to add an organizational chart and include pictures of the co-chairs, and chairs of subgroups. Please let Natali know if you have input for the website.

Curriculum/Practice: Cheryl Kerr reported for the committee. The survey was sent out one last time, and the deadline for closing it is this Friday, March 15. Up to about 75-80 now, in addition to the 64 of the paper surveys. The results will be written up to share. There were no surprises, there was strong agreement on all the survey questions. Cheryl wrote up some draft “tiered” level curriculum components based on what they do down at St Pete College to send to the Practicum group, and the next call will discuss those papers. That meeting is March 28 at 3 pm.

Elizabeth Young joined the call, and she was involved in developing curriculum for Hillsborough College. She didn’t receive the survey, Marion will send it. They have a Maternal and Child Health Applied Technology Diploma, which has been very successful. The reception was bad on Elizabeth’s line, and she was cut off the line.

Spanish WHLI: Marion reported on the planning committee, which is comprised of Brendaly Rodriguez, Colleen Reinert, Dhorka Gonnell, and Sornia Joseph. The first thing the committee decided was that the Institute would be held in Miami, although we will do state-wide outreach. Colleen and Brendaly translated the Announcement and Application which will go out on March 22, and due back on April 26. So we have a month to recruit. The committee will then be involved in selecting the applicants.

Marion also asked for volunteer readers of the Binder contents. People could volunteer to read a module or a couple of power points and have their name included as a reviewer of the curriculum translation and include that on your resume/cv. If you are able to take a module to read, please e-mail Marion and she will send you documents. Colleen agreed that more readers would be good.

People's Scientific Conference: Tya Arthur joined the call for Carolyn Tucker, who was not able to be at the meeting. She reported on the People's Scientific Conference to Promote Health and Eliminate Health Disparities. The goal for this conference is to bring together 700 people, half of them physicians and researchers, and the other half consumers of health care, or the lay public to teach and learn from each other about how to improve the health of minorities and under-served populations.

Go to ufhealthdisparities.med.ufl.edu for more information. The conference will also launch the Health Disparities Research Fellow Mentoring Program for 30 emerging researchers and CHWs. The application deadline is April 15.

SOPHE Conference, Orlando, April 17-19: The exhibitor space is all full, we were too late. If anyone is going, let Marion know so she can get you Coalition brochures to distribute there.

Massachusetts 4th Annual Patient Navigator/CHW Conference, May 9, Boston: The Coalition will be submitting 2 abstracts for poster presentations, one on developing leadership through the WHLI, and the other on the development of the Coalition. The deadline for submitting is March 25. Anyone can submit.

Tai Chi Teacher Training, April 18-19, Orlando: The Florida Department of Elder Affairs is sponsoring this teacher training, because the research shows that Tai Chi is effective in reducing falls among elders since it improves balance and agility. This training is particularly geared toward people in faith-based organizations. Deadline is March 27 to sign up, and then it will open up to people outside of faith based organizations if spots are still available. This is an evidence-based intervention for falls prevention. If you are interested in attending the training, e-mail Natali Ramirez at ramirez@elderaffairs.org

Sean gave an update on his conversation with the Florida Psychological Association, which concern the words "informal counseling". The ED would like to strike those words, since they are incorporated into social support, and it's informal, why is it being legislated? They had a cordial conversation, and Sean was amenable to her suggestion.

Sornia Joseph reported that the bill was passed yesterday in the house that allows pregnant women to have presumptive insurance assigned automatically.

Next meeting is Thursday, April 11.