

FLORIDA CHW COALITION MONTHLY MEETING

SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

ATTENDING: Maisha Standifer, Cristy Hom, Melissa Thibodeau, Karen Nutter, Jennifer Nkonga, Neal McGarry, Dhorka Gonell, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Susan Redmon, Linda Paige, Coni Williams, Cheryl Kerr, Liz Young, Martha Hicks, Heather Williamson, Mark Everett, Cheryl Graham, Lepena Reid, Vickie Marsh, Natali Ramirez, Patria Alguila, Thometta Brooks, Marion Banzhaf

Marion announced that the meeting is being recorded.

CHW Webinar Series Survey, addition to the agenda

Marion has not had a chance to finish the August notes, she will finish them after the Summit.

We believe that this monthly meeting will be relatively short, because so many people are working hard on the summit next week.

Policy Sub-Group: Neither Denise Kerwin nor Carolyn Tucker, co-chairs, could be on this call, so Marion gave their report. The city of Pinellas Park and the City of Largo both issued proclamations recognizing the value of CHWs during September. Lolita reported that the Mayor read the Proclamation and they got up and there were some pictures taken. Lolita, Denise, Denise's husband, and Maisha attended. Denise talked about the Coalition and the Summit, and we were planning to go the Largo meeting, but they just mailed it. It was brief because they were also during service presentations. The next meeting of the Policy group is October 4, they will report on action goals from the Summit.

Networking: Natali or Coni. Marion announced that we have been having problems with Office, that some people have gotten cancellation notices of the meeting when new people are added to the recurring meeting announcement. Coni said that work has happened on the Survey for the Summit, and the web site is working now, new photos should be up soon. Natali reported that we have an actual url www.facebook.com/floridachwcoalition Go on the page and Like Us! Natali has been working with Jill, our web person at UF, and she has been putting up lots of pictures, so that the web will look good for the new expected traffic after the Summit.

Summit: 130 people registered right now, 5 people on the waiting list, anticipate being able to accommodate everyone. Our goal was 100! Marion reviewed the Summit agenda. On Friday, we can begin those discussions between nurse navigators and CHWs. For those who can't come to the Summit, we will be adding the PowerPoint Presentations on the website. We will also be identifying our action goals at the meeting, and we will be sharing them with the rest of the Coalition after the Summit. Marion thanked the Planning Committee: Brendaly Rodriguez, Coni Williams, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Delmarie Butler, Cheryl Kerr for their work in making the Summit happen. Lolita added that Marion needs to be acknowledged too, for all that she does and keeping it all together, and others chimed in. Marion said it was her pleasure, and that it was an exciting time for CHWs! All of our interest is in improved health outcomes, and we know CHWs can do that well!

Liz Young chimed up, she worked on developing the CHW curriculum at Hillsborough Community College. She would like to be on the Practicum group, and Marion will make sure she is added. Liz is in the final stages of reporting the data from 2003 when she was developing a curriculum funded by the CDC. The gist of the article is an interpretation about how the CHWs have turned their lives around from the work they have done, they have advanced their careers. She has follow-up information for 18 people, so it's a small sample, but it will be publishable. Liz could do a presentation about the effects of enabling these workers so they can be all that they can be. CHWs enable themselves as they do the work. The group would like a presentation at a monthly meeting, perhaps November.

Neal McGarry said thank you for being included in the Summit

Curriculum/Practice: Cheryl reported on a 3-tiered proposal for certification, we're in summit mode.

Oral Health Public Engagement Project: Cristy Hom stated that the Florida Public Health Institute, which is one of 32 Public Health Institutes nationally, developed to address public health issues that governmental agencies didn't have latitude or ability to address. The Florida Public Health Institute has been around for 7 years and has a number of initiatives, one of which concerns oral health. Since 2010, have been an incubator for the Florida Oral Health Coalition, results based strategic planning, which will result in a state-wide road map. They are looking to recruit some volunteer community health workers to be on the planning committee, which would meet monthly by conference call. Interested people should reach out to Cristy Hom at the Public Health Institute. Please do consider volunteering – it's good for your resume. Cristy noted that they will not be deploying CHWs into the field as agents and therefore there will not be paid positions. However, we anticipate future collaboration where we can support and help to further the practice of CHWs.

There were some technical issues with an on-hold line, and then there was some dead air.

Marion shared that the New England Journal of Medicine just had a new article about CHWs.

Moffitt Cancer Center and monthly CHW Webinar series: Myriam Escobar, a CHW who works with the Center for Equal Health and M-POWER was just recognized by President Obama! Go Myriam! Marion will send the survey out again.

Next meeting: Thursday, October 10

Marion apologized for the technical difficulties.

Lolita brought up that CHWOTA was denied a grant for more training for CHWs because it wasn't clear what would happen after the training. Where do trained CHWs go once they are trained? This topic should be addressed in a future meeting.

Jennifer Nkonga from ACS is new to group, and new to Florida, transferred from Midwest division where she worked closely with CHWs. She's coming to the Summit and looks forward to meeting people. Wisconsin has been working to develop their CHW Coalition and Jennifer worked with them on that.

Welcome to Jennifer! Jennifer will forward her summary report from the survey they conducted on the role of CHWS in the Midwest. Jennifer.Nkonga@cancer.org

Martha Hicks wanted to share that county health departments are not going to be allowed to use navigators, which she read in the newspaper. Marion said that CHDs will be able to refer people to the navigators, and distribute literature, but that insurance enrollers won't be able to set up a table and work directly out of the health department. Some CHDs also operate FQHC who are involved in enrolling people in the insurance marketplace. Some CHDs are also involved in the Florida Covering Kids and Families. Martha was hoping the Health Department would be involved. Martha will let people know if she hears otherwise – we're in the front lines!

Patria closed the meeting, see you next week!