

Florida CHW Coalition
Monthly Meeting
January 10, 2013
By webinar/conference call

Attending:

Cheryl Kerr
Colleen Reinert
Coni Williams
Luz Corcuera
Maria Cabrera
Natali Ramirez
Natoy Baker-Robinson
Patria Alguila
Vivianne Treharne
Zenesha Barkley
Thometta Brooks
Sornia Joseph
Andry Sweet

Lepena Reid
Josephine Mercado
Susan Fleming
Marion Banzhaf
Marite de Cespedes
Silvia Darias
MR Street
Myriam Monsalve Serna
Denise Kerwin
Molina Ranson for Beverly Post
Sean Dickerson

Sean Dickerson started the meeting, reminding people to sign in so their attendance would be recorded.

The December meeting summary was accepted with no changes.

POLICY SUBGROUP Report:

Members attended Legislative Updates in both Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties, and were well received. The Coalition brochure and policy brief were distributed to educate the policy members about the role of CHWs.

Sean will be in Tallahassee on January 23 and 24, and people are welcome to join him as he meets with representatives and their aides.

Marisel Losa attended the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation meeting. Marite will provide update.

The DVD is almost done. We saw a 15 minute version, which will be cut down to 10 minutes, and it is expected to be ready at the end of January. It will be uploaded to YouTube when it's finally ready.

RESEARCH : Their next meeting is January 25.

NETWORKING: Natali reported that we don't have much an update different from the December meeting. We did meet, with a few members to discuss the member survey, and

are continuing to work on that, and to update the website back pages. The next meeting is Wed, 1/30 at 3 pm. New members are welcome to join this group!

CURRICULUM/PRACTICE:

Cheryl Kerr reviewed the Dec 5 Curriculum survey results, from 64 attendees at the Miami-Dade CHW Symposium. The results were strong in agreeing on the core competencies and roles of practice. Marion asked whether the members thought this survey would be representative or whether we wanted to survey the entire membership. The general feeling was that it would be helpful to send it to the entire coalition. Marite said that people attended the survey from as far as Orlando, the entire coalition is broader.

Natali wondered if we shouldn't do the membership survey first, or that we would just get duplicative answers. Marite suggested also considering surveying the members of the collaboratives which might get a broader view yet.

We also thought about combining the surveys. Although Natali thought that the survey might wind up being too long. We left it that we should do two separate surveys since the subject matters are different. Marion reported that we have some Survey Monkey expertise in the DOH, and since the Miami survey was paper, it would be helpful to computerize the curriculum survey. The two surveys come out of two different sub-groups anyway, so we'll keep them separate.

VISIONING & BRAINSTORMING: continuing from last meeting, what do we want to accomplish over the next six months?

The Policy work is a major focus for the next few months, but what else do we want to focus on for the next six months?

Marion reviewed the topics we had discussed at the last meeting from the meeting summary for those who were not on the webinar..

Marion announced that we will be able to conduct a Spanish Women's Health Leadership Institute in the Spring or the Summer.

Sornia suggested that we develop more outreach strategies to reach CHWs, provide training in other areas which would be helpful for CHWs. We also need to be known, and advertise ourselves so that people know what a CHW is.

Patria seconds and really wants directories for where CHWs are, knowing the regions would be great, and mapping would be a wonderful tool.

Natoy suggested that training as refreshers is important. Recognition comes through networking, and we need mechanisms to get to know each other.

Annual conference, which could include training and getting to know each other. People want more workshop opportunities.

Natali wondered if we could think about webinar options, twice yearly refresher course, could we set up webinar options so that people could also attend who couldn't necessarily travel. We could have regional meetings and watch a training webinar together.

Josephine thought that regional meetings that include trainings would be best, but that webinars are better than nothing.

Issue of sustainability – need to explore looking at Medicaid funding for CHWs. Miriam from Miami also seconded that since she works with a lot of people. Natali proposed that people who were interested in that topic should join the Networking/Sustainability subgroup.

Sornia wants a retreat, which could include workshops on stress management, safety on the job, as well as on-going training.

Sean suggested exploring meeting tools for low-cost ways to support webinars, training done live, but recorded so it can be reviewed. Curriculum subgroup could also look into that once they finish the work on the core competencies.

ITalk allows you record meetings and trainings and send them to people., there are a number of tools, and figuring out which one works the best. We could also look at ways to fund some of these ideas, such as planning grants.

Reminder that most of the work of the Coalition is done in subgroups, so join one!

Thometta announced that the Society of Public Health Education, or SOPHE, is having their annual meeting April 17-19 in Orlando, and Thometta is chair of the local committee. We are in process of reactivating a Florida chapter, so if you are a SOPHE member, get in touch with Thometta. Attending the conference, or exhibiting at the conference would be a good opportunity for the CHW Coalition. Perhaps these conferences would be a good opportunity to tag on a regional meeting for CHWs.

Patria shared that there's a webinar later today in Spanish for CHWs.

Next meeting is February 14.

Florida CHW Coalition Monthly Meeting
February 14, 2013
By conference call

Attending:

Sean Dickerson, Colleen Reinert, Denise Kerwin, Cheryl Kerr, Natoy Baker, Cinitra Williams, Coni Williams, Dee Snell, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Natali Ramirez, Patria Alguila, Josephine Mercado, Clifton Skipper, Susan Fleming, Marion Banzhaf

If you attended the meeting, but your name is not included in the above list, please e-mail Marion at marion_banzhaf@doh.state.fl.us

Sean Dickerson began the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day! Since this was a conference call meeting instead of a webinar, please e-mail your attendance to either Marion or respond to the meeting announcement to Clifton after the meeting. The March meeting will be a webinar.

Notes from the January meeting will be sent out after this meeting, and will be reviewed and approved at the March meeting.

Policy subgroup report:

Denise Kerwin reported that this group has been busy! Rep. Reed filed her bill, HB 241, and it has been referred to the House Health Quality subcommittee. Just this morning, Senator Braynon filed the companion bill, SB 894, in the Senate. Bills get placed on committee agendas if people call for it to be placed on the agenda.

People can always educate their policymakers about the role that CHWs play in improving health care outcomes in their districts, and people can also let their policy makers know that Rep. Reed and Sen. Braynon filed bills concerning CHWs. If you want more information about educating your elected officials, feel free to contact either Sean, Denise or other members of the Policy subgroup.

The DVD is just getting some final editing done and should be ready to upload on the CHW Coalition YouTube site soon. Marion will let everyone know when it can be seen.

Research:

Marion reported that communications continue with Molina Health Care, who is expanding into Florida. Molina is a family-owned HMO, which conducted a Return on Investment (ROI) study about using CHWs with some of their clients in New Mexico. The study showed that those patients who interacted with CHWs had fewer ER visits and hospitalizations which led to a more than 2:1 ROI. As Molina rolls out its services in Florida, it would like to conduct a similar study here.

Networking:

Coni Williams reported on the last meeting, which included information about the membership survey we want to conduct so that we can get more information from our members and can start making maps of where CHWs are. The survey will also ask about using various forms of social media.

The group asked about exhibiting on the Coalition at the SOPHE annual meeting, and Lolita will check with Thometta about what the Coalition might need to do. Patria and Natoy are interested in volunteering at the conference.

Brendaly organized a couple of abstracts about the Coalition to be submitted to the APHA CHW section. The APHA conference will be in Boston in November. We will hear whether the abstracts were accepted in June.

Natali Ramirez gave an update on the website revision. We had a conference call with the folks at UF who host the site and hope to get the staffing situation settled so that it can be updated and become a live site in the next month or so.

Curriculum/Practice:

Cheryl Kerr reported that the survey on core competencies and roles of practice was put into Survey Monkey and sent to the entire coalition. Marion will send it out again and make sure that people understand that we want everyone in the coalition to fill it out, not just members who are CHWs. (There is a question on the survey that asks whether you are a CHW, and if you're not, how you are involved with CHWs.)

Cheryl is drafting some samples for us to discuss about credentialing.

The next meeting is 2/28, the fourth Thursday. The old meeting time, the 3rd Thursday, will be withdrawn and a new recurring cycle for the 4th Thursday will be issued.

Announcements

The draft of the job description for the Coalition Co-Chair is attached. The Steering Committee will be discussing the process to select the Co-Chair. Sean stated that our first preference is for an active CHW to take the position, since we want leadership positions to be filled by CHWs whenever possible. Please read the job description and nominate yourself if you are able to step up to do the job.

Florida Community Health Worker Coalition Co-Chair Job Description

Qualifications:

Experience working in the Community Health Worker field

Active membership within the Florida CHW Coalition

Leadership skills:

- Ability to work well with others

- Ability to plan programmatic initiatives

- Ability to communicate effectively

- Ability to follow through with ideas and tasks decided upon

Responsibilities and duties of the volunteer Co-Chair of the Florida CHW Coalition are:

To work with the other Co-Chair to build the Florida CHW Coalition
To lead monthly meetings of the Coalition
To think strategically about the development of the Coalition
To delegate tasks to subgroups or individuals of the Coalition to work toward achieving the Coalition's goals
To communicate regularly with the chairs/co-chairs of subgroups of the Coalition
To participate in biweekly Steering Committee meetings and assist in follow-up with decisions made
To assist in preparing agendas for the regular Monthly Meetings
To attend sub-group meetings when appropriate
To be a public face for the Coalition
To reach out to the media about Coalition activities and concerns
To steer the Coalition into becoming an independent entity
To liaise with DOH staff to achieve the above

Marion reported that the CDC issues a "Science in Brief" notice and that this month, it synthesizes "The Impact of Community Health Workers on Cardiovascular Risk Reduction", from an article in the January 2013 issue of the American Journal of Public Health. Here is the link:

<..\References\Science-in-Brief Jan 2013 CHW CVD.pdf>

Marion reported that Vivienne Treharne, another Coalition member, shared a link about an approved peer training program around HIV/STIs. Here is the information:

May be of interest re: HIV/STI & CHW

http://www.caiglobal.org/caistage/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=468&Itemid=781
<http://fofintervention.org/index.php/search>

FOF uses trained Peer Health Advisors in clinics to deliver the program. It can be implemented in less than an hour at an inexpensive rate of less than \$32 per client. The intervention can also be adapted and tailored for use in different settings and with different target populations in order to increasing access to contraception and sexual health care.

The program was successfully piloted at the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) in Montgomery in 2012.

Marion also reported that the US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health, is developing a Resource Persons Network Program, a group of professional volunteers to provide capacity building and technical assistance to community-based organizations. Here is the information :

Action Alert

Provided by the Office of Minority Health Resource Center
February 4, 2013

Resource Persons Network Program

We are currently recruiting professional volunteers to provide capacity building and technical assistance to

community-based organizations serving minority populations. Areas of expertise include:

- Program and organizational development
- Conference and workshop presentations
- Guidance on report preparations
- Grant proposal review
- Advice to committees and workgroups

Contact the Office of Minority Health Resource Center at rpninfo@minorityhealth.hhs.gov for more information or go online to apply at minorityhealth.hhs.gov/rpn.

Hispanic Health Institute Grant Application:

Josephine Mercado, of Hispanic Health Initiatives, reported on a grant they are pursuing for which they are seeking letters of support from agencies and institutions statewide. This grant is training CHWs and other community leaders to educate people about their options under the Affordable Care Act. Consumers will start signing up for policies in October 2013, and many people are clueless as to what they are eligible for. In Florida, 1.2 million people should be able to get coverage under Medicaid expansion. All those people need outreach so they and their children can sign up for health coverage.

HHI has divided the state into ACHA regions and they intend to conduct county and regional trainings to put a large dent in the development of navigators to help people learn what is available to them.

Please send letters of support by Tuesday, Feb 19 so they can be included in the grant application.

If HHI is successful in getting this grant, it will be a boon to CHWs and Floridians currently without health care coverage.

Spanish Leadership Institute:

Marion reported that progress is moving forward on conducting a Spanish Women's Health Leadership Institute during the summer for CHWs. The curriculum will be translated, and a committee will be formed to help plan and implement the Institute. If you are interested in being on the committee, please let Marion know.

At the January meeting, we talked about vision and having regional or a statewide meeting probably in the summer. Stay tuned for more information about that.

The next monthly meeting is Thursday, March 14.

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
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 ramirezn@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.

Florida CHW Coalition
Monthly Meeting
Thursday, April 11, 2013

Attending:

Cinitra Williams, Colleen Reinert, Sean Dickerson, Thometta Brooks, Maria Cabrera, Vanessa Rodriguez, Manivone Douan, Denise Kerwin, Cheryl Kerr, Mark Everett, Tabitha Derenoncourt, Susan Redmon, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Marion Banzhaf, Carolyn Tucker, Maisha Standifer, Coni Williams, Brittany McNaughton (if your name isn't here and you attended the meeting, please e-mail Marion)

The meeting is being recorded.

We experienced some technical difficulties, with a bad link in the agenda that was distributed. Joining the webinar through the CHW website was successful, and Marion sent out another e-mail with the correct participant code, but we apologize to those people who wanted to join but couldn't. We will be sure that everything is correct for the next meeting.

Sean opened the meeting, reminding people to join subgroups where the work of the Coalition happens.

The March notes were not sent out yet, but they will be soon, as well as April.

Sean reported on the Co-Chair appointment. He was happy to report that we had interest in being Co-Chair, and that Patria Alguila, lead CHW with Hispanic Health Initiatives, was appointed. She was assigned to do an educational presentation during this meeting, but hopes to be able to join later. Sean's term will be up in a year, so if you are interested, you can apply then. The terms are designed to be staggered, so there will be continuity from term to term. Feel free to reach out to Patria to congratulate her on her appointment.

Policy Subgroup: Denise Kerwin and Carolyn Tucker, co-chairs, started the report. Denise thanked everyone who contacted representatives and senators. On Tuesday, April 9, SB 894 passed unanimously in the Health Policy committee, with an amendment added that would sunset the Task Force six months after the report was completed, which was a good addition to the bill. HB 241 passed out of all of its House committees and is headed to the House floor, but no date has been assigned for that yet. So, whoo-hoo! We're three steps farther than last year. We are approaching the end of committee meetings, with only 3 weeks left, and much of the topic becomes budget. Dewayne Mallory, Rep. Reed's aide, thought that Senator Braynon might consider withdrawing it from at least one of the committees so that it might get pushed through to be able to be heard on the floor. Carolyn thanked Sean and Maisha and others for their work thus far, and the Coalition sent a letter of thanks to Rep Reed and Senator Braynon. Also thank you to Dewayne Mallory.

Proclamation: A sample Proclamation developed for the WHLI last September in Orlando, was displayed. Sornia Joseph is going to pursue getting one for the Spanish WHLI in June in Miami. The Policy group recommended that we have the summit in September, and use that as a reason to get Proclamations

from all over the state. On last month's call, additional people had volunteered to work on getting their counties to issue Proclamations, so we should just keep moving forward with these plans.

Carolyn reported that the DVD has been uploaded! It went live on April 8. It's already on the UF web site, which get disseminated statewide. Ideas for distribution are welcome. Marion reported that it got sent to the National Comprehensive Cancer Control List Serv, to 265 people. Also, it is getting posted to the Department of Health YouTube Channel, and then it will be posted on the Florida CHW Coalition website. Colleen Reinert sent it to the APHA CHW Executive Committee Section.

Marion thanked Carolyn and Tya Arthur and the video trip, and everyone who is on the video, everyone did such a good job. Linda Paige couldn't make the meeting, but said that she was at a presentation, and someone came up to her and said, "I know you, you're famous from the video!" Carolyn showed it to her class on health disparities and they were impressed that you could have a CHW in a barber shop. It's good for showing to policy makers and anyone who needs educating about CHWs.

Marion raised another issue for Policy is the notice from CMS and the grant opportunity for navigating the health insurance marketplace. Carl Rush sent out an e-mail which is copied here:

"This is a big deal. It's a little confusing because (on top of everything else) they are apparently referring to the grantee ORGANIZATIONS as "Navigators." They proposed to award over \$8 million to Texas grantees, due to our number of uninsured. I am not sure that any Texas entity is set up to run that scale of operation for a year starting in August and then stop. Anything involving Promotores/CHWs will probably need to be regionalized, requiring multiple partners.

PROPOSALS ARE DUE JUNE 7.

This on RFP page 10 is particularly interesting (bold is in original):

"At least two types of applicants in each FFE/State Partnership Exchange service area will receive awards, including at least one community and consumer-focused nonprofit. Applicants proposing to serve multiple FFE/State Partnership Exchange service areas must submit only one application, but include a separate Budget Narrative for each FFE/State Partnership Exchange service area.

Small entities and individuals proposing to serve smaller, hard-to-reach, or underserved populations are encouraged to apply, particularly by partnering with other entities and/or individuals to form a consortium² which serves a larger total portion of the population. In the case of an application from more than one entity or individual (i.e., a consortium)..."

Carl

If people are interested in talking about this further, send Marion an e-mail, and she'll set up a conference call to talk about this issue, and she'll also send the notice out to the entire Coalition.

Networking: Coni had intended to be at the meeting and report, but got called to another meeting. Natali is traveling. Marion reported that the Subgroup has postponed the survey to members, but will revive it probably next month. The other main thing the Networking subgroup has been working on is the back pages of the web site: Please send new information so that we can repopulate the website. The next meeting of this subgroup is April 17 at 3 pm.

Curriculum/Practice, Practicum: Now that the core competencies are established (and the survey is being written up, we reached 91 surveymonkey respondents), the group moved on to discussing

certification. At the last meeting, the group discussed the various levels that could confer certification. We are reviewing the various levels using some of the structures developed by St. Pete College and other institutions. The group also wanted to underscore that there needs to be a level of certification that acknowledges proficiency in the core competencies without having to take any college classes. We also confirmed that there needs to be a process for recognizing experience.

Marion also shared that Susan Redmon is working on a training module on disability issues, and she brought the Health Passport, which is available in English and Spanish, that is a handy tool to use with clients. Susan Redmon also said that these Passports are on the University of South Florida's Florida Center for Inclusive Communities' website, so it can be sent out electronically as well.

flfcic.fmhi.usf.edu/docs/FCIC_Health_Passport_Form_Typeable_English.pdf - 2012-08-30

flfcic.fmhi.usf.edu/docs/FCIC_Health_Passport_Form_Typeable_Spanish.pdf - 2012-08-30

Research: Marion gave an update on Molina Health Care, the agency that conducted a Return on Investment (ROI) study about CHWs in New Mexico, and we had thought they might repeat that study when they expanded their services in Florida. As it turns out, their ROI is so clear, and is up to 4:1 now, that they don't need to do another study. They have already hired CHWs in Florida, we don't know many details about how many, but later on in the summer, their new services will roll out.

Spanish Women's Health Leadership Institute: Marion gave an update. Folks still have until April 26 to submit applications. The binder materials have been translated. The Planning Committee is in place and has been meeting. Thanks to Brendaly, Sornia, Luz, Dhorka and Venessa for being on the Planning Committee. Thanks to Luz and Natali (and Natali's father) for reading and reviewing the translated materials – the translators have done a good job. There is still time to recruit! The Institute will be June 20-21, 2013 in Miami.

People's Scientific Conference: Carolyn reported on the People's Scientific Conference to Promote Health and Eliminate Health Disparities. It will be a statewide conference at the UF on Friday, June 14 and Saturday, June 15. It's the first of its kind in that it will bring together 300 physicians and researchers and 350 members of the public and community health workers to provide opportunities for minority patients and their caregivers to teach and learn from each other outside of the clinical setting. Topics to be explored include: what influences medication adherence, what motivates people to engage in health promotion behaviors, why do people participate in research and why do they not, what are behaviors that providers exhibit that are culturally sensitive and what are behaviors that are culturally insensitive, what influences stress and depression, and a panel of men discussing men's reluctance to seek out preventive health care. The panelists will be patients, and the audience will be physicians and researchers who will learn from the patients about those topics. Then the physicians and researchers will be the panelists and have an opportunity to engage on these topics. Most of the time will be spent in exchanging questions and answers. Keynote speakers are Dr. Ana Viamonte Ros, Florida's first Surgeon General and the first Cuban-American to serve as the head of the DOH; Dr. Garth Graham, who was the former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority health at the federal HHS. He is now at UF, and Dr. Ann Beal, who is directing PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute).

There are numerous opportunities for participation as panelists and audience members. There is also a CHW Mentoring Program, and people are encouraged to apply to participate in that opportunity. There will be 8 mentees from Florida who will be granted \$400, and 5 mentees from other states who will be granted \$1000. Each mentee writes in their application what they would like mentoring about, and they will be highlighted in the program book.

There is no cost to community members to attend the conference, but the conference organizers are hoping that organizations, CBOs, churches, or any other group, would sponsor an attendee to make it more possible for people to attend. Please contact Carolyn Tucker if you think your organization would be willing to sponsor someone's attendance (travel, hotel).

For more information, please see <http://ufhealthdisparities.med.ufl.edu/the-peoples-conference/>

Specifically, Carolyn is looking for a CHW keynote speaker (15 minute talk) to address the roles and responsibilities of a CHW, organizations able/willing to sponsor an attendee, and CHW mentee applicants.

Thometta reported that the efforts to re-establish a Florida SOPHE chapter were successful, and that the SOPHE conference is next week. She is coordinating volunteers for the hospitality tables, and you don't have to be registered for the conference to volunteer. If you are attending, also let Thometta know. If you want to be a part of Florida SOPHE, you can attend their first meeting without registering for the entire conference.

Boston: posters were accepted for the conference in Massachusetts, and Patria and Sean will be attending on May 9 in Boston.

CHWs and Asthma webinar: May 16, 2-3 pm, EDT, "Collaborating to Control Asthma in Chicago's Public Housing Using CHWs. Marion will send out the link with the minutes.

Sean reminded everyone to participate in a sub-group, which is where the main work of the Coalition happens. And apologized for the glitches in technology at the beginning of the meeting.

Next meeting: May 9, 11 am! See the web for log-in information.

CHW Coalition Monthly Meeting

May 9, 2013

Attending:

Natoy Baker-Robinson, Coni Williams, Sean Dickerson, Brendaly Rodriguez, Maria Cabrera, Susan Redmon, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Gaye Williams, Sornia Joseph, Josephine Mercado, Brittany McNaughton, Katie Regan, Maisha Standifer, Zenesha Barkley, Catherine Striley, Cheryl Kerr, Marite de Cespedes

The meeting is being recorded.

Sean Dickerson started the meeting, welcoming everyone. He reminded everyone that most of the work of the Coalition happens during sub-groups.

Notes from April meeting: Marion sent them out, does anyone have any corrections? You can also e-mail Marion to let her know of any changes. Coni Williams, Brittany McNaughton (Pinellas) Lolita moves to accept the minutes as presented.

POLICY SUB-GROUP: Co-chairs are not on the call, yet, so we will move on. Lolita chimed in that she was at the last meeting. Senate Bill did not pass, but we were not discouraged, since the bill went further this year than last, since it passed the House unanimously. We need to try harder next year, but not be discouraged. We need to start early in regions, educating our policy makers about who CHWs are. Susan Redmon recommended that thank you notes be sent to the representatives and senators which everyone agreed was a good idea. Are legislators still in Tallahassee? No, they are gone, they might come back if a Special Session is called, but otherwise they won't be back until October or so when committee meetings start. There isn't an election in the fall, so they won't be campaigning. The summer is a good time to make an appointment to educate them on who CHWs are and what they do.

The Policy group decided that the Summit should be Sept. 19-20, we're thinking Orlando for a more central location. If you'd like to be on the Planning Committee, let Marion know.

The Policy group also discussed getting Proclamations from their municipalities around that time since September is Community Health Worker month.

Thank you to Heather Williamson for taking notes for Policy!

NETWORKING: Coni reported that we wanted to move forward on the Facebook page. Dee Snell is going to build us a Facebook page, as another place to put the video and another place to network. The next Networking meeting is May 15, and will be discussing the member survey. Natali Ramirez, who co-chairs the sub-group with Coni, is undergoing a revised job description, and we hope she will be able to continue to chair the call. Natoy raised that afternoon sub-group times are difficult, because many folks are out in the field in the afternoon. Marion said that's one of the issues we wanted to address with the survey.

PRACTICULUM: Cheryl Kerr is compiling the feedback she received on the curriculum drafts. We reaffirmed that we want to focus on core competencies and scopes of practice, and that the survey revealed wide consensus about those. The survey results are being written up for potential publication in a peer-reviewed journal. We also reached out to the Florida Board of Certification to find out more about what they do. Sean reported on the call with the Board of Certification. This Board provides a lot

of certifications already with the state, and an exploratory call was conducted. There could be a fee for their service. The FCB would help develop the defensible position about why certification was provided. If someone gets sued over a certification, the FCB would offer the legal representation about defending the certification. So that's a plus. The process of developing the full description is a 12-18 month process, they would go out into the field and take it on. The role development usually has a cost, but if the process is legislatively mandated, then there is no cost, because the FCB would recoup their costs through the costs of the test. The charge then comes at the end instead of the beginning that way. Nothing is set in stone, but it was good to have the exploratory call. The next meeting is May 23, at 3 pm.

RESEARCH: Folake Odendina sent out an e-mail to the Steering Committee that her grant to PCORI was not selected. Her proposal was to look at whether certification made a difference in outcomes by looking at CHWs in Florida, without state-wide certification, and Texas, which has it. Two proposals were accepted: Dr. Brian Rivers at Moffitt, looking at prostate cancer, and another USF grant looking at chronic disease self-management. Folake did get a million dollar grant from the Department of Defense to look at African-American men and their attitudes about prostate cancer by doing interviews and qualitative analysis. Catherine Striley reported that UF had submitted another PCORI proposal, with Linda Cottler as PI, that would have looked at using CHWs to reduce health disparities, but that it was not funded either. She said that they have another proposal that's outstanding, that they haven't heard about yet. Folake and Catherine both are planning to re-submit in August. Natoy reported that PCORI grants were addressed at the HRSA grantee meeting she attended last week, and that they are really interested in funding projects which are majority research, so community based organizations who want to develop programmatic projects without a primary research component probably don't have much of a chance. Heartland Rural Health decided not to pursue PCORI funding for that reason.

CMS Cooperative Agreements on Navigating Insurance Marketplace: The Coalition sponsored a couple of conference calls to look at potential collaborations in the state, to apply for the \$5.8 million Florida is eligible for to enroll the 3.5 million Floridians under age 65 who are uninsured. The Coalition has heard from one Health Council, about potential collaborations. Josephine Mercado, from Hispanic Health Initiatives in Orlando, said they were building a consortium with the United Farm Workers and hope that the Coalition can be included in some way. Heartland Rural Health is also looking into applying. Marion reported that several Health Councils will be applying, but not as an entire state entity. She also raised that on the conference calls we conducted, the issue of capital for the statewide Coalition came up, but that it is bad timing in that we don't have any mechanisms in place yet to be able to accept grant dollars directly. In order to do that, we would need a relationship with a fiscal agent, a DUNS number, and other institutional accountability mechanisms that the Coalition does not yet have. But after the conference calls, the Steering Committee discussed that regional activities, particularly educational trainings, could happen on behalf of the CHW Coalition. Those activities would be undertaken by the local organization wherever they were. So we're still exploring those options. Gaye Williams, reported that in conjunction with the Florida Association of Community Health Centers, Central Florida Health Care, an FQHC with 7 centers covering Polk, Hardy, and Highlands Counties, is also going to be applying.

Spanish WHLI – application deadline was April 26, we had 33 applications, and selected 21 of them. Sornia Joseph is working diligently to arrange for a Proclamation for the Institute, which is great, the binder is translated, and it will be happening June 20-21. Sornia added that she is exploring getting a proclamation from Miami-Dade County as well as the city of Doral. Sornia is going to get to meet the

mayor at another event. But the County Commissioner from the area will be giving the proclamation, although it has to be in English. Marion said that she will be going to meet the participants, and then would like to set up meetings with Marite and the Health Council, Brendaly, Sornia at Jessie Trice, and the AHEC, and that she looks forward to meeting everyone!

People's Scientific Conference: Marion reported that the PSC is still looking for panel participants on some particular topics – healthy eating, medication compliance, participation in research. In addition, they asked for help in putting together a workshop or two on topics CHWs would find helpful. We thought we could do the Changing Landscape of Health Care with the Affordable Care Act, or some leadership development from the Women's Health Leadership Institute, but if you have good workshop ideas, let Marion know. They are looking for participants, as well as looking for organizational support for sponsoring community participation in terms of providing funds for travel and hotel. Heartland Rural Health is sending 2 CHWs, and HHI is also participating. Sean is going on Friday.

Report on other conferences:

April 12, Treasure Coast Health Council (Palm Beach County), modeled their program on the CHW program that happened in Miami in December. Brendaly attended and presented about the CHW Coalition, and had the table top display on the Coalition.

CHW Colorectal Cancer training – trained 17 CHWs on CRC for the South Florida Cancer Collaborative. Brendaly also highlighted the work of the Coalition, and urged everyone to join.

She will also do that on June 4 at the next South Florida Cancer Collaborative meeting in Miami.

Natoy Baker-Robinson presented on how to use CHWs in quality health provision at the HHS conference in Washington, DC. It was well-received and people were impressed with how Florida is evolving.

Patria Alguila is in Boston right now at the Massachusetts CHW Conference, presenting our poster on leadership development.

Upcoming Webinars:

May 16: Using CHWs to control asthma, 80% reduction in home asthma triggers, ER visits dropped from 30% to 19%

May 22: Using CHWs to combat chronic diseases

Rural South Public Health Training Center, offering free online monthly CEU sessions. This is out of the Swanee River AHEC, so for more information, see www.srahec.org

Sean reminded everyone to join a subgroup, and he also thanked everyone for all that they do, your work is appreciated and valued!

Sornia Joseph brought up a new app, MyFamily, to use in monitoring health. She'll send it to Marion to share with everyone else.

Next meeting: June 13, 2013, 11 am

Florida CHW Coalition
Monthly Meeting Notes
June 13, 2013

Attending: Cheryl Graham, Cinitra Williams, MR Street, Patria Alguila, Natali Ramirez, Sornia Joseph, Brendaly Rodriguez, Brittany McNaughton, Thometta Brooks, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Natoy Baker-Robinson, Denise Kerwin, Cheryl Kerr, Katie Ragan, Coni Williams, Josephine Mercado, Sean Dickerson, Tabitha Derencourt, Vivienne Treharne, Diane Holm, Linda Paige, Kamaria Lafferty, Lepena Reid, Susan Fleming, Marion Banzhaf

Patria Alguila, co-chair of the Coalition, began the meeting. There were some initial issues with the webinar access, which was resolved after about 10 minutes.

The May notes were reviewed, and Lolita moved and Sornia seconded that they be accepted. Marion said that as usual, if your name doesn't appear in the list of those attending, please let her know.

Sub-group Reports:

Networking/Sustainability Report:

Natali reported that we are ready for your input. Our UF partners are putting the finishing touches on the website and are waiting for us to put up content that will help our CHWs in the field. If we can offer good resources, such as knowing who are partners are, training opportunities, success stories, toolkits, and so much more, we can attract more members to our cause. We really need your input at this time to help market ourselves and get all the wonderful resources available out there to those who can really use them.

In the website you will see the contact names and emails of the people you can send your information to so it will be put up on the website. Our website will be as good as we make it so let's make it a great resource.

If you would like to add a dated event, like a webinar or a conference, you can either send it to Marion or to Natali and we will have Dee Snell put it up on the Facebook page. Thanks very much to Dee for setting up and running the Facebook page!

We are also asking for the organizations that are represented at the coalition to showcase themselves in our website. If you would like to be featured in the members page, please submit your logo, a brief description about yourselves, and your website. We are looking to showcase organizations that are active and participating in the subgroup committees and helping us promote the CHW field in our state.

This is a quick plug for those who would like to get more active to check out the sub-group calls where all the wonderful work we share at this meeting happens!

Policy Sub-Group:

Denise started by thanking all those who worked on educating their policy makers and reminded people that getting a bill passed often takes more than one year.

The summer is a really good time to educate policy makers about who CHWs are and what they do. Coalition members can make appointments with their elected officials while they are in town over the summer, away from the statehouse. Show the DVD, and talk about your project and let them know how many people you see and if you have a success story or two, go ahead and share that as well.

We had a general discussion about what a contingency plan could be – does the Coalition want to go ahead with the same bill again next year, or pursue another strategy? For example, following up with the Florida Board of Certification wouldn't require legislation. Regardless, it's still a good plan to educate the policy makers about CHWs and their value. The House members passed the bill, so if members can meet with only one person, try to get a meeting with your State Senator and/or their health aide. The Policy Subgroup will look at strategies to consider and report back.

Sornia Joseph secured a Proclamation from the Miami-Dade Office of the Mayor and County Commissioners recognizing the Florida CHW Coalition which will be presented at the Spanish Women's Health Leadership Institute in Miami on Thursday, June 19. Congratulations, Sornia! She is working on getting media to cover it too, and we can also put photos up on our Facebook page.

Curriculum/Practice:

The subgroup missed the May meeting due to a scheduling error, Marion apologized. The next meeting is June 27. We will return to the certification issue and discuss that some more. Cheryl reported that Pinellas County wants to develop a CHW curriculum, Denise has more details, but had to leave the meeting. We'll find out more about that.

Coni and Lolita reported that the South West Region CHW group, which formed following the WHLI last September, has received a grant! They convened a "meet and greet" session, and learned from attendees that they were interested in learning more about grant writing. Then they found a trainer to lead them in a workshop, and then they wrote and received a grant. The grant (FY 2013-2014) was obtained from Allegany Franciscan Ministries, to provide CHW training to female residents in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties. The grant/project is titled: Front Porch Community Health Workers Outreach Training Academy (C.H.W.O.T.A). The grant provides 10 hours of training to a minimum of 40 women (16 and over). Several training modules and activities were adopted from the Women's Health Leadership Institute (WHLI). Graduates of CHWOTA will receive a cash stipend and Certificate of Completion. Congratulations to all who made this happen!

Sornia submitted a poster which was accepted to the Michigan CHW conference happening in August. Congratulations, Sornia!

Sub-group meetings are where most of the work of the Coalition occurs – please join one (or more)! See the website for meeting dates and times.

Next meeting, July 11, 2013, 11 am

Florida CHW Coalition Monthly Meeting
July 11, 2013

Attending: Denise Kerwin, Melissa Thibodeau, Cheryl Graham, Sornia Joseph, Ann Gentile, Maria Cabrera, Katie Ragan, Maria-Teresa de Cespedes, Ken Peach, Kristal Hall, Marion Banzhaf

(if you didn't sign in, but were on the call, please let Marion know)

Marion started the meeting, and announced that the meeting was being recorded. Sean e-mailed that he was in a budget meeting and would call in when possible.

The June meeting notes were reviewed. The June meeting was not recorded, so Marion asks for any additions that people remember. Denise moved to accept the summary notes.

Policy Subgroup –

We are trying to make contact with our legislative representatives over the summer to educate them about the role of CHWs. The City of Pinellas Park is interested in doing a proclamation in September. Sornia Joseph secured a Proclamation from the City of Miami and the aide for Audrey Edmondson, Misty Brown, came to present the Proclamation. She is the vice-chair of the County Commission, chair of Infrastructure and Land Use Committee, and is the County Commission's representative to the Children's Trust. About a week later, the Health Council had a luncheon, and some of the Commissioners came, so Sornia and others were able to meet them.

Denise asked if Patria and Josephine had made any progress on getting another Orlando Proclamation for the Summit. Not yet, we need to identify the location first. Sornia suggested we might want to check because in Miami, it wound up not having to be the city of Doral where the hotel was. Patria will follow up.

Denise added that the bill went further this year than previously and she thanked everyone who reached out to their policy makers to educate them about the role of CHWs. The next Policy meeting is July 12, at 1 pm (usually the first Friday of the month).

Networking –

We expected Coni, but something must have come up. Natali is traveling. We are still working on collecting stories from members. Especially organizations who are part of the Coalition, please send us your logo and what you do with CHWs, please put that on your To Do list to send to Natali or Marion so we can re-populate the web site and make it more up to date. The next meeting will be July 17 at 3 pm.

Melissa from Heartland Rural Health Network asked whether Natoy had sent in those materials, and she has not, so we look forward to receiving them from Heartland Rural Health.

We also welcome another new member, Ann Gentile, from the Volusia County Health Department.

Curriculum/Practice –

Cheryl is on vacation. At the last meeting, we decided to review the process of the Florida Board of Certification. Patria will share the results of the call. Next call will be July 25.

Upcoming September Summit --

Marion reviewed the draft agenda that the planning committee has been working on. She asked the group for feedback, and people said the agenda is coming together nicely. If you'd like to participate in the Planning Committee, the next meeting is July 23.

Patria asked if anyone wanted to volunteer to work on a Save the Date flyer. Is the date on the Facebook page yet? What is our name on Facebook? It should be the Florida CHW Coalition.

Spanish Women's Health Leadership Institute –

Marion showed the picture of the presentation of the Proclamation, including the members of the Institute and Sornia Joseph and Herman Edwards, the Development Manager for Jessie Trice Community Health Centers, who helped Sornia secure the Proclamation. Brendaly also conducted a workshop for the attendees on the second day, which included information about becoming involved with the Coalition. They wondered if there could be some Coalition meetings in Spanish periodically.

We will consider this idea in the future – we will talk about it more at the Summit, when we make our plans for the upcoming year.

People's Scientific Conference –

Patria reported on the workshops we did at the conference. One was on cultural approaches to working with underserved populations, with Patria, Cintra and Dana. The other was about the Coalition, with Coni, Patria and Marion. Both workshops were well attended and well received. Patria was impressed with all the presenters and all the information. Marion brought up that they are talking about having it again in a couple of years in a different part of the state, and that they will be developing post-conference educational materials to conduct physician and researcher education about how to talk to your patients in respectful and meaningful ways.

DVDs and CHW Display Board –

Marion asked how many people wanted an actual DVD as opposed to getting it virtually. Some people don't always have an internet connection. Another option is to download the DVD from Drop Box, put it on a thumb drive, and take it with you, that way you don't need the internet. We will be sure to make the DVD available on Drop Box and we will also make about 50 DVDs to distribute to people who still put a disc into a DVD player. Request a DVD from Marion at marion_banzhaf@doh.state.fl.us

Marion is also working on getting permissions from real CHWs to replace the stock actors in the display boards. She will show the pictures next meeting.

Next meeting: AUGUST 8, 11 am

Webinars & announcements:

WEBINARS: (although these have passed, many are archived for future viewing, so check the link if you are interested)

- Community Health Worker: New online training opportunity. *Help for Navigating Health Insurance*. The course will begin on July 15, 2013 and finish July 28, 2013. [View Full Announcement](#)
- CMS: Two new Health Insurance Marketplace webinar trainings available. The first training, *Level 1: Health Insurance Marketplace 101*, is a one-hour high-level webinar overview of the accomplishments of the Affordable Care Act and a basic introduction to the Marketplace (Exchanges) highlighting who is eligible and how the Marketplace will work. The second Training, *Level 2: Understanding the Health Insurance Marketplace*, is a two-hour detailed review of the Marketplace (Exchanges), including eligibility, enrollment, plan structure, Medicaid expansion, and the streamlined application. Trainings are available on various dates in June and July, 2013. [Learn More](#) [PDF | 92KB]

SURVEY:

We are researchers from the University of South Florida, College of Public Health and we are looking for participants to take part in a brief (5 minutes) online survey. The purpose of this survey is to assess the need for a breastfeeding education and training program that would train students and professionals to become International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLCs). You are eligible to take this survey if you are interested in working with mothers and babies; attend school in Florida; and do not already have the IBCLC credential. We need students from all disciplines, nurses working with mothers and infants, WIC nutritionists and peer counselors, community health workers who work with mothers and infants, and any other individuals who work with or are interested in working with mothers and babies. All information you share will remain confidential.

If you are interested in completing the survey, please click on the following link:

https://usfhealth.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_a4rVnEPZqOCw4Zv

If the above link does not work, try this link:

https://usfhealth.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6Md1msGcViFdtit

Please forward this information to others who may be interested. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Aimee Eden, PhD, MPH, Erica Anstey, MA, CLC, Deidre Orriola, MPH, Aynmarie Carter, BS, CLC, Kay Perrin, PhD, University of South Florida, College of Public Health

The National Eye Health Education Program launches new online training on diabetic eye disease for community health workers

Community health workers (CHWs) who provide diabetes education often lack information on how this disease affects the eyes. In response, the National Eye Health Education Program (NEHEP) of the National Eye Institute (NEI) has developed a new interactive online training course to help CHWs better understand the eye complications that diabetes can bring. The NEHEP course uses animations, interactive features, and quizzes to teach participants about the anatomy of the eye, the effects of diabetes on vision, and the importance of getting a dilated eye exam.

The training course uses the *Diabetes and Healthy Eyes Toolkit*, which provides resources to educate communities about diabetic eye disease. Participants learn how to use the flipchart and lead an educational session for people who have diabetes. After completing the course, participants receive a personalized certificate.

This free training is ideal for busy health educators who want to help educate their communities about diabetic eye disease and the importance of eye health. To take the training and order the toolkit, visit: <http://www.nei.nih.gov/diabetestoolkit>.



Florida CHW Coalition

Monthly Meeting, August 8, 2013

Attending: Dr. Theresa Madison, Julie Graham, Katie Ragan, Lynda Gowing, Vivienne Treharne, Melissa Thibodeau, Denise Kerwin, Sean Dickerson, Susan Fleming, Patria Alguila, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Frank Rodante, Tabitha Derenoncourt, Dana Kontras, Marite de Cespedes, Catherine Martinez, MR Street, Karen Nutter, Cheryl Kerr, Thometta Brooks, Marie Desinar, Sornia Joseph, Marion Banzhaf

Marion announced that the meeting was being recorded.

Patria called the meeting to order. The first item was to approve the July notes. Denise moved and Melissa seconded.

Policy Subgroup:

The Policy group is always looking for new members and new participants. As with every committee, we are doing good work. We are looking into having another bill this year, and also looking at different possibilities. The DVD is available. Marion reported that physical copies will be available soon, you can download it from DropBox onto a thumb drive, or watch it on YouTube. Talking to our policy makers and educating them about CHWs is still a priority. September is Community Health Worker month and September 18 is CHW Day, declared by President Obama. Patria hasn't heard yet whether the mayor will issue another proclamation. In the Tampa Bay area, Pinellas Park and Largo will be issuing proclamations recognizing CHWs. Denise asked if anyone else

Community Health Action Plan for Pinellas County, the CHW Coalition is listed as a key stakeholder in community improvement. Looking at training/certification is part of the plan.

Denise, Sean and Patria will look into whether we could get a Governor's Proclamation. Patria is for it, others chimed in that it would be great if we could get it. Marion raised that we have a partner who was successful in getting a Lung Cancer Proclamation, Marion will reach out to her to see how she did it.

Networking subgroup – Coni gave the report earlier, as she had another meeting to attend. She reported that there was some delay on the UF side of updating the website, but those issues are being resolved now. At their next meeting, this sub-group will be reviewing the Survey for preparation for the Summit. Also, please send it announcements about your CHW programs to be included on the website. Their next meeting is Aug. 21, at 3 pm.

Practiculum: Cheryl and Martha. Cheryl might be on vacation. Marion reviewed that at the last meeting, we looked at certification requirements for Texas, and decided that we would look at Minnesota's this month.

Annual Summit Report: Marion reported that the hotel has been identified, and will be the Holiday Inn Orlando International Airport. We have some great speakers coming in from both out of state and around the state. The Summit Planning Committee is meeting every other week, and thought we would

add a morning plenary about CHW Hot Topics. Dr. Renard Murray, and Venus Gines, who is a great advocate for CHWs, she is the founder of Dia de la Mujeres. She reviewed the workshops, and the plenary about CHWs at the end of the day. Anne Willis, from Washington, DC will be coming to talk about the City Wide Patient Navigation Network, and the longitudinal system of care they've been able to set up. Our partner, the Florida Coalition of Oncology Nurse Navigators, will be provided CEUs for licensed nurses. Watch your in-box for the on-line registration e-mail.

Melissa asked about talking points for the workshop about "Strengthening Community-Clinical Linkages: Case Studies from the Field." She reviewed what the goal of the workshop would be. Heartland Rural Health will do the diabetes section – tho they don't think that any of the clinical people will be able to attend. Talking Points will be ready by the end of the week.

MD-HAN CHW/PN Symposium Report –Marite reported that the symposium will be on August 28, it will cover what's happening with the insurance marketplace in Florida, and in the afternoon session, there will be trainings in English, Spanish, and Creole. Look for more information this week.

CHW Webinar Series: Jeanette Palencia, from Moffitt Cancer Center, calling in for Linda Paige. During their community health needs assessment, they learned that the community knows they need to live healthier, but don't know how to live healthier. So by providing more information to CHWs, we will be able to reach the public better. Moffitt wants to provide a webinar training series, invite participation, and would like to survey the group to see what topics are most interesting. Goal is to roll out the webinars in October. They don't have plans to do CEUs at this time.

DVDs and CHW Display Boards: Marion reported that we are re-designing the display boards to have real pictures, and she showed a couple of examples of the new displays. Real people! People thought they looked great!

Upcoming Webinars: Sept 5 The Art of Storytelling for Diabetes Prevention

CMS Health Insurance Training Calendar for August and September.

August 17: Lolita announced that the second session of CHWOTA will be happening in Hillsborough. Hopefully, it will be a pathway to work.

Marion asked that people who called in on the phone, who did not sign in to the participant list on the webinar, say their name so she can record their attendance.

Patria adjourned the meeting at noon.

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 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!

Florida CHW Coalition

Monthly Meeting October 10, 2013

By webinar and conference call

Attending: Melissa Thibodeau, Denise Kerwin, Maria Elena Boone, Karen Nutter, Patria Alguila, Jevetta Stanford, Dana Kontras, Cinitra Williams, Coni Williams, Marion Banzhaf, Natali Ramirez, Maisha Standifer, Mark Everett, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Colleen Reinert, Ann Gentile, Lucila Lopez, Josephine Mercado

Patria convened the meeting. Marion reported that the meeting is being recorded.

Minutes from August and September: Natali moved and Denise seconded that the notes be accepted.

NEXT MEETING: INTRODUCE NEW PEOPLE ATTENDING THE CALL.

Policy Subgroup: Denise Kerwin reported

Legislative Updates: Legislative updates are sponsored by the state legislative delegation as an opportunity for the community to tell their elected officials what issues are important.

Pinellas County Legislative Update is October 31, Hillsborough County is later, December 2. We are getting materials together to use for those legislative updates. Lolita Dash-Pitts and Denise Kerwin will be presenting at the Pinellas County update, and Maisha and Sean will be at the Hillsborough one. We're working on updating the Policy Brief to focus more on workforce development. We are distribute the Common Job titles of CHWs. Denise called for input on the flyer.

Marion raised a question about the last bullet point "translating and interpreting for clients and health care/social service providers." This is a controversial statement in the CHW arena, because it takes special training to become an interpreter or translator, and CHWs aren't in the same pay grade as interpreters. In practice, CHWs who are bilingual might be called upon to provide translation services, but perhaps they should be advocating for the agency/provider to provide translation services instead of relying on the CHW to do it for them. Marion wondered what the bilingual CHWs thought. Josephine raised that providers are required to provide translators as part of the agreement they make with funding sources to provide quality care. She thought we should remove that last bullet point. Natali raised that the second bullet point, which is about "facilitating communication and client empowerment in interactions with health care/social services systems" includes advocating for the client's need for a translator. Josephine added that in many instances the CHW will need to be bi-lingual because that CHW will need to interact with health care providers who usually don't speak another language, but that bi-lingual ability is not the same as being a translator. We decided we would take out the responsibility of "translating and interpreting".

Also during the Policy meeting, we discussed the new CMS ruling allowing for potential billing for preventive services through Medicaid. One of the goals we discussed at the Summit was to pursue

working with AHCA (Agency for Health Care Administration) to amend the state plan to allow for such billing practices.

We also discussed a potential grant opportunity. Darren Rivera, from St. Pete College, is here to tell us about these grants. These are TAACT or H1b grants, that become available between November and April. Could the Coalition be involved in the grant process? The Coalition is part of Pinellas County's County Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and CHWs are an integral part of the CHIP. We believe that CHWs are involved in CHIP's throughout the state. Training Adjustment and Assistance Community Training are available for new training if they have lost jobs due to overseas job flight, or veterans. St. Pete College has a number of these grants and they like to partner with community organizations and related businesses to form a partnership and to create educational and job placement opportunities. The grants require business to be involved and St. Pete College welcomes the opportunity to discuss this further.

Who might be the lead agency? Darren said that it would likely be an educational institution, a 501©3 or perhaps a health department. Marion said that the Coalition is not at a point right now capacity-wise to be the lead for a grant of that size. Lolita asked if the Coalition could be a partner. Jevetta Stanford said that she worked at UF with Linda Cottler at the Center for Community Engagement and they have an interest in CHWs. That Center might be interested in being the lead agency. Jevetta and Darren will continue to talk about this. St. Pete College probably is not able to be a lead since they already have some of these grants. Darren Rivera, phone 727-341-7118, e-mail: rivera.darren@spcollege.edu. Jevetta.Stanford@jax.ufl.edu

Networking and Sustainability:

Coni gave a brief update from the Summit, we did a presentation with the website changes, Kamaria Laffrey is our administrator for the facebook page. On the web site, the partners tab is open for people to submit their agency profiles. We also did regional networking, and some of us have already gotten together. The surveys were also collected. Natali has the surveys and is still compiling the results, but for the new people, they are interested in being more involved in the Coalition. The next meeting is October 16 at 3 pm. Natali added her thanks to Kamaria, and also thanked Dee Snell, who had previously set it up, and is back from maternity leave (both mother and baby are doing fine). We created a direct link so go to facebook and type in Florida CHW Coalition and like the page! We have added a "Job Opportunities" tab to both the web site and the facebook page. Send information to flchwcoalition@gmail.com, feel free to send pictures and other information to that address.

Curriculum and Practice:

Cheryl and Martha are not on the call, Marion urged people to attend the meeting on Oct. 24. We will be discussing Cheryl Kerr's conversation with Neal McGarry about the Florida Board of Certification and the next steps toward developing a path to certification for CHWs in Florida. Natali reminded everyone that the schedule for the meetings and conference calls are posted on the website so you can always go to www.FloridaCHW.org to get the monthly meeting times and call-in information.

Summit Evaluation:

Marion reported on the evaluations for the Summit. We collected 73 evaluations out of 126 attendees, so that's a good rate. Overall, the response was very positive. We had nearly equal participation from CHWs and Nurse Navigators, and then the rest identified as managers or "other". Marion displayed the graphs showing the evaluation results and will send them out. She then moved to the written comments provided on the evaluations. While we made a good beginning in dialoguing between CHWs and clinical navigators, one person commented that they still didn't have a good understanding of what CHWs do, and a CHW said that they would like to hear more about what nurse navigators do, so we still have more work to do. Additionally, a number of people commented that they would like a more structured time in the evening to get together – perhaps through having a "hospitality suite" or turning one of the meeting rooms into a kind of hospitality suite. We have started putting up the presentations on the website, along with Anne Willis' webinar presentation, with the audio. FCONN (Florida Coalition of Oncology Nurse Navigators) hired a videographer for the CEU sessions, and they will be posting video on their site when it's available. They will let us know and we will let you know when that happens.

The summit was a big success, we surpassed our attendance goals and met our objectives. Here's a comment from a nurse navigator: "I just wanted to say thank you that you guys partnered with FCONN which I am also very new to. My entire worldview was expanded at this meeting and really gave me a look into what we are doing in our communities in Florida. It has inspired me to really get to know Polk County and its needs and see if there are CHWs out there to partner with as far as cancer prevention and screening... than you again for the invite and look forward to next year." Angella Wiggans chimed in to say that she too was inspired to do more, because CHWs make a difference!

Co-Chair: Patria announced that we are looking for another co-chair. Marion sent out the call with the meeting notes, which includes the job description. Sean has done a great job, but his very busy schedule now that he is in doctoral school and has two jobs means that he might have to take on fewer responsibilities a little sooner than when his term is up in June. If you are interested in serving, send a paragraph about your involvement in CHW work and why you are interested in serving by 10-31-13 to patria@hhi2001.org The coalition steering committee will make the appointment.

We are adding a new item to our agenda: GROUP OF THE MONTH. This a good way to get to know what programs are happening where, to generate more ideas for networking and development. Hispanic Health Initiatives is the Group this month. Josephine Mercado is the executive director. She thanked the Coalition for the opportunity and said that HHI volunteered to be the guinea pigs for this presentation, so if anyone has an idea for how it can be improved, let Patria or Natali know. Natali sent out a template (this is a good way to get stories up on the web as well).

The sections are Mission, Services, special mentions or highlights, and if possible, attach pictures and a link to your website.

Partner #1: Hispanic Health Initiatives, Inc (HHI)

Mission:

Vision: Hispanic Health Initiatives, Inc.'s vision is a Central Florida community, educated and empowered with the ability to make informed decisions about their health, wellness and care options.

Mission: To advocate for, educate and refer medically underserved individuals and families to services available in their community, by disseminating accurate information in a culturally sensitive and linguistically competent manner.

Values: Provide appropriate, meaningful access to healthcare with compassion and respect, for each and every client regardless of social status, gender, race or religion.

Guiding Principle: Creating meaningful access to healthcare will enhance the quality of life for all.

Services:

HHI's focus is on teaching the importance of early detection of chronic diseases, disease symptoms, risk factors, prevention techniques and in making referrals to free or low-cost medical services.

Services:

“Cuidando Mi Salud” (Taking Care of My Health): HHI has designed a Community Health Worker (CHW) model where appropriately trained community volunteers and paid staff perform Health Risk Assessments aimed at giving program participants the opportunity to explore which chronic diseases they are at high risk of suffering in the future. This is an education and prevention program with focus on healthy nutrition and regular exercise techniques.

“Los Amigos/Buddies”: Type 2 Diabetes Forum where volunteer medical experts recruited by HHI explain type 2 diabetes, its process, consequences, the use of nutrition to prevent or control the disease, disease self-management skills as well as easy to follow, at home, exercise techniques. This year a cooking demo is included.

“Mi Salud en Mis Manos” (My Life in My Hands) Provides referrals to free or low cost mammography services. Breast self-examination demonstrations and breast health educational bingo is used to create breast health plan awareness and screening. Volunteers are trained to do the BSE.

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“El Arcoiris de HHI” (HHI's Rainbow) is a Hispanic cancer support group, for men and women, patients, survivors and their care givers, dealing with any type of cancer.

Health Fairs: “Dia de La Mujer Latina” (Day of Latin Women) a one day event where the whole family is invited to participate in educational workshops, free screening and many fun surprises. Vendors are welcomed to provide free services and information. In collaboration with community partners HHI volunteers participate in as many as 50 community events or partner health fairs throughout the year.

“Por Tu Salud” (For Your Health): A Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act advocacy campaign focused on addressing the myths, misinformation and fear the central Florida community is experiencing through nonpartisan education, orientation, motivating the public to enroll for health insurance through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

Special mentions or highlights:

Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act Advocacy Campaign, Por Tu Salud was launched on October 7, 2013 where ACA expert, Sinsi Hernandez-Cancio, JD, the Health Equity Director at Families, USA and Navigator, Anne Packham led the roundtable discussion regarding the need for enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace. More than 75 persons attended this open mike forum held in Spanish with simultaneous translation to English. HHI with the help of Hispanic Federation has 17 ACA advocacy trained CHWs to go into the community to help their family, friends, co-workers, neighbors understand ObamaCare, and encourage the uninsured to enroll in a health plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace created by the Federal government. The campaign is aimed at dispelling myths, misinformation and lies created by those in opposition to the implementation of the law.

Organization’s website and/or contact information:

www.hhi2001.org

Logo:



Natali said that we will post all that information on the web site as well as the links to HHI.

Webinars/ Announcements: Marion said that the government shut down has stopped some webinars such as those from the CDC and the National Heart, Lung, Blood Institute, which does a lot of diabetes programming. Jennifer Knoga, from the American Cancer Society, shared a couple of reports the ACS conducted about CHWs in the states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Iowa. Marion will share links to those reports in the notes.

Josephine announced that the next Orlando Obamacare presentation will be Nov 7 at Barry University. It's a collaboration with the Hispanic Bar Association, so look for announcements about the program.

Natali announced that September was Falls Prevention Month – Elder Affairs and the DOH collaborated in a webinar. It's on the DOH YouTube site and is a really good presentation.

Lolita announced that anyone who wants to participate in the legislative delegation meeting, because it looks good if more people attend than just the presenter. The legislators respond differently when there is a group instead of just one person. The meeting will be at St Pete College from 9-noon on 10-31.

Next meeting is Thursday, Nov. 14 – we are awesome and thank you to everyone who participated! Remember to go to the web page for meeting times.

Florida CHW Coalition Monthly Meeting

November 14, 2013

Minutes

Attendees: Marion Banzhaf, Patria Aguila, Sornia Joseph, Sean Dickerson, Natali Ramirez, Brendaly Rodriguez, Denise Kerwin, Marite DeCespedes, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Linda Paige, Christina Roebling, Dana Kontras, Camilla Reid, Cristy Hom, Coni Williams, Melissa Thibodau, Mark Everett, Ann Gentile, . Maisha Standifer Kambon, Jennifer Nkonga,

The meeting started at 11:04, Patria welcomed the attendees. Minutes from October's meeting were reviewed, a motion to accept the minutes was approved and seconded.

Sornia volunteered to take notes of the meeting and prepare the minutes.

Subgroup Updates:

Policy:

Lolita presented to legislative delegates emphasizing the two Bills and got a written response from Senator **Latvala**. Lepena left a DVD with Rep. Reed when she met with her on another matter.

Marion explained Legislative Updates is an opportunity to meet with, and educate representatives before the start of the Legislative session, about CHWs and their role, and what the Bills being sponsored entails as well as other issues about the community that policy makers should know about.

Denise distributed a brief Policy Brief at the Pinellas County update. Brief is still being revised to:

- Reflect Policy group's decision that CHW is the same as Promotores de Salud,
- Add the Bureau of Labor number
- Add potential CMS rule for reimbursement for preventive services ordered by a Physician.

Dr. Mark Everett reported that Miami Dade College contacted their legislative representative through a Government liaison in regards to SB 306 and HB 211. They are working with some students and Faculty on the policy brief update.

Networking:

Natali reported: The group revised goals from the last Summit meeting and is on the way to getting them accomplished.

Walked attendees through the redesigned website, highlighting the changes and how to access Face Book from the website

Goal for Face book page to have fifty likes by the end of December.

Encouraged members to share information for posting e.g. webinars, jobs listings, state-wide activities etc. via email.

Members' organizations, activities and services can be featured on website. Request a form by email.

Curriculum/Practice:

Will share information on what other states are doing at upcoming meeting, also will connect with the Florida Certification Board.

Sean and Patria gave a brief overview of the role of a co-chair

The Coalition is accepting nominations or applications for the upcoming co-chair vacancy, preferably from CHWs or Stakeholders.

Curriculum/Practice and Policy groups also have vacancies for co-chairs

Brendaly and Marion reported on APHA Annual Conference in Boston:

Brendaly is reaching out to APHA's CHW section of the Latino Caucus to jointly support scholarships for CHWs to attend next year's APHA conference in New Orleans, they will benefit from the extensive networking opportunities

Growing interest among health professionals about working with CHWs and their impact on health outcomes.

Marion presented on behalf of the Coalition

CHW section is attaining prominence in APHA

130 abstracts and two full days of presentations.

Amazing stories of success from across the nation e.g. New York CHW program have lowered ER visits, reduced asthma hospitalization and have a high return of investment with diabetes.

Massachusetts forming independent Board of certification for CHWs with a grandparenting or exams option. CHWs are included on the Board.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation blogger agreed to interview CHWs. Recommended are:

Linda Paige, Patria Aguila, and Valentine Cesar.

People were impressed that Nurses participated at our Summit.

National curriculum very controversial,

Is still in the process of writing notes, will share soon.

Lolita shared an upcoming certificate training for thirty CHWs at the College of Pharmacy. The information will be shared on the website and facebook page.

Marion shared CMS alert sent by Sornia about fraud in the Marketplace.

Signature tab developed for sharing information about the Coalition was sent out yesterday

Diabetes webinar information is on the website

Patria thanked the group for participating, the meeting was adjourned at 12:02p.m

Next meeting (the last for this year), will be on Thursday, December 12, 2013.

Florida CHW Coalition Monthly Meeting
December 12, 2013

Attendees: Ann Gentile, Shelia Starr-Thomas, Maria Elena Boone, Venessa Rivera Colon, Patria Alguila, Lynda Gowing, M.R. Street, Susan Redmon, Camilla Reid, Cheryl Kerr, Mia Rosario, Jessica Peterson, Natali Ramiez, Brendaly Rodriquez, Eric Gipson, Kristal Hall, Colleen Reinert, Sornia Joseph, Marion Banzhaf, Denise Kerwin, Lolita Dash-Pitts (please let Marion know if you attended but your name is not here: marion.banzhaf@flhealth.gov)

The meeting started at 11:01 a.m.

Minutes from the November meeting were reviewed, and a motion to accept the minutes was approved and seconded.

Camilla volunteered to take notes of the meeting and prepared the minutes.

Subgroup Updates:

POLICY:

- The next Policy Subgroup meeting will be on January 3rd at 1:00 p.m.
- The Pinellas County and the Hillsborough County Legislative Updates were attended by members of the Coalition. Lolita Dash Pitts presented for Pinellas County and Maisha Standiford, Connie Williams, and Sean Dickerson presented for Hillsborough County. Senator Braynon and Representative Reed have filed, Bills HB 211 and SB 306, entitled “an act relating to community health workers” . These bills would establish a taskforce to make recommendations about incorporating CHWs into the healthcare team and establish a pathway to certification. The Policy Team will be meeting with other representatives and senators to educate them about the importance of CHWs and to encourage sponsorship of those bills. Last year identical bills were introduced, and the House bill was adopted unanimously. The Senate side got started late, and was bogged down in committees. This year the Senate Bill was filed early, and has already been assigned to committees; the House Bill has not yet received committee assignments.
- The Policy Team discussed the possibility of scheduling a trip to Tallahassee during the Legislative Session; however, independent fund raising for travel would need to be addressed. The session starts March 4th and goes through May 2nd. The group offered other possibilities, instead of traveling to Tallahassee, which included arranging a conference call on Legislative Day, for those CHWs and supporters who cannot be there in person, creating a webinar, playing the CHW DVD, Skype, or uploading 30 second videos, by various CHWs and supporters, or email them to Legislators. The Networking Group also discussed uploading these videos and making a ‘playlist’ on YouTube. Marion agreed to confirm what technology could be supported in Tallahassee to implement these ideas.
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) have formulated a new rule that provides for reimbursement for preventative services which can include CHWs when recommended by a physician. Please let Marion know if you are interested in participating on a working group to

amend the state Medicaid Plan to incorporate that rule to allow for reimbursement. The State Plan amendment (SPA) can take a while but the group will follow the model of Peer Advocates for the Mental Health Field.

NETWORKING:

- The group will discuss the possibility of adding a YouTube account to the social media menu.
- There is also a Florida CHW Coalition Facebook page which has been prepared; everyone is invited to provide input or information of their respective agencies; it is updated regularly so let the group know if you would like to add anything. Also, if you 'like' the page, please indicate so as the group has a goal of receiving 50 'LIKES'.
- Southwest Region was established last year after the Women's Health Leadership Institute and they also met at the last Summit. They've had their first two conference calls and they made a lot of headway. They have a new name, the Southwest Regional CHW Collaborative, and a meeting schedule as well as plans to send a representative to the larger group. It was mentioned that The Center for Equal Health will continue some of their activities although they are approaching the end of their grant.
- Developing criteria for a fiscal agent selection, if you would like to assist please attend the Networking Meeting on December 18th at 3:00 p.m. and/or the Steering Committee Meeting on December 17th; the group will plan to present something to the coalition in January.

CURRICULUM:

- The Group is moving forward on developing a path to certification in Florida with the Florida Certification Board. The next step is creating an Implementation Team and conducting a validation study to look at the frequency and importance of the core competencies and activities to be able to create an exam that reflects the work accurately. We are seeking volunteers to be on the Implementation Team.
- The **Implementation Team** is a temporary body of subject matter experts who help the Florida Certification Board (FCB) set the policy and direction for the credential. It is a temporary appointment/group that tends to run for 6 to 9 months, depending on the credential. As a great deal of work is complete regarding core competencies and recommended standards, the group will probably meet for closer to 6 months. The first kick-off meeting is typically a 1-hour webinar to discuss and finalize the implementation project plan. Depending on the needs of the group, we can continue to conduct business via conference calls/webinars or we can meet face-to-face. The first month there will probably be two (2) one-hour calls, followed by monthly 1-hour calls until the credential is implemented. More information on this process can be found at: www.flcertificationboard.org
- After implementation, the Implementation Team will be retired and a standing **CHW Advisory Board** will be established as an on-going group. Often, the majority of the Implementation Team members transition to the CHW Advisory Board, but not necessarily everyone. Once the CHW Advisory Board is established, they will meet quarterly. Two (2) of the meetings will be conference call/webinars, one (1) meeting will be a 1-day face-to-face meeting, and the fourth

(4th) meeting will be either virtual or face-to-face, depending on the vote of the group. The FCB does not reimburse or pay stipends to Implementation Team or Advisory Board members for participation or travel*. The Implementation Team is usually comprised of 8 – 12 members, but can be larger if the stakeholder population strongly feels that more representation is necessary. In regard to this credential, the Implementation Team would be asked to help identify and recruit participants to respond to the validation survey, make recommendations for grandparenting standards, and to review and make recommendations on Codes of Ethics and related certification policy and procedures. The primary goal of this team is to ensure that standard certification policy and procedures reflect the unique needs of the certified population. If you are interested in being a part of the Implementation Team, contact Marion. An email will be distributed to the full coalition with a job description so everyone will be aware of the commitment and those not at the meeting could sign up to join.

- Group of the Month, Moffitt Cancer Center, M-Power, will be moved to the next month's meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- National Unity Conference Planning Survey, please participate in the survey:
https://usmuw.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_02o4vaBxM0P1mBL

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.