

Maternal Child Adolescent Health Advisory Board Minutes

September 2, 2021

Members

Attendees

Jeff Miller
Renée Alger
Gina Cuclis
Hannah Watson
Ashley Chavez
Marta Tilling
Stephanie Montez
Rachel Napoli
Natalie Johnson
Elizabeth Smith
Melissa Apuya*
Gina Berry*
Annie Nicol

Absent

Karla Fittipaldi*
Mayra Gallegos*
Bonnie Hayne
Leatisia Mankaa*
Viveka Rydell-Anderson*
Kathy Kane*

*Excused absence

**Pending Approval by Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

Staff Present Janette Allee, Administrative Aide, Colette Mc Geough, RN, PHN Supervisor, MCAH Director.

Call to Order Dr. Jeff Miller called the meeting to order at 12:32 pm, introductions were made.

Meeting Minutes Marta Tilling motioned to approve the August minutes, Gina Cuclis seconded the motion to approve, and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence No correspondence was received.

Dr. Miller reported to the MCAH Advisory Board members that he did hear back from Supervisor Hopkins, who explained there was a change in staff in her office. She was apologetic for her late response and gave him her cell phone number. Dr. Miller also had a conversation with Supervisor Chris Coursey informing him about the MCAH AB.

Dr. Miller reported on the call he had with the recruiter for the Director of Health Services. He shared the AB Board member's views on what experience and characteristics to look for in selecting a new Director. He stated the applicant should have a vision of health equity for the County and be able to inspire the department of health staff. A Director with experience in public health and who understands the impacts of the social determinants of health on health outcomes. A person who understands the effects of ACEs will support MCAH programs that work on these issues. A candidate that will take a long-term view of health and support upstream investing in MCAH programs such as NFP may be expensive, but in the long run, it pays for itself by preventing strategies and improving the health and lives of families. health issues the health of families

Dr. Miller also spoke with Sup Hopkins about ARPA funds distribution. This will be done through the new Sonoma equity commission. They are seeking representatives: people of color and members from community-based organizations. Kathy Kane (as per her email) is applying to participate.

Viveka Rydell-Anderson reached out to Alegria De La Cruz from the Health Equity Team, who responded with enthusiasm and referred her to Denia Candela, Program Manager. They have scheduled an appointment for Friday, September 10, at 2 pm. Viveka also contacted Sup. Coursey to invite him to an upcoming MCAH AB meeting.

State Legislature Melissa Apuya is out on maternity leave, no report.

Staff Report Colette McGeough reported that staffing is stable with no changes since the last AB meeting.

Discussion Dr. Miller suggested developing a pathway for communication between the MCAH AB and the Board of Supervisors (BOS). Sup. Hopkins had promised to assign the MCAH AB a liaison from the County Administrator's Office (CAO) to brief on upcoming matters that would pertain to Maternal Child Adolescent Health subjects. Dr. Miller will follow up with Sup. Hopkins regarding this liaison.

Gina Cuclis proposed submitting an annual written report to the BOS. Dr. Miller proposed coordinating this with the 5-year report that MCAH develops. Colette stated she has just received approval from the State on the MCAH Scope of Work for the FY2021-2022 and is happy to present the details of the goals and objectives of the work at a future meeting. Additionally, Colette offered a future review of the MCAH home visiting programs, their goals, objectives, challenges, and success. She stated the Home Visiting Manager was present in this meeting through the public link. Dr. Miller requested a one-page summary of the programs to be sent out to the members before the next AB meeting for their review and then to use the meeting time to discuss content.

Annie Nicol stated that on the BOS website, they are spending a lot of time on cannabis. Annie works at PHC at the homeless services center, and she sees firsthand the consequences of Cannabis use and other DUDs. She knows that Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) can be a precursor to cannabis use and homelessness and can be a gateway to more serious drug use. Although the BOS may be considering the economic benefits of cannabis, she wonders if they may be ignoring the long-term health impacts and resulting economic downfall of use.

Gina Cuclis enquired how to attend the Health Action Meetings that Sup. Gore was referred to in his previous MCAH AB meeting. Colette stated she would send the link out to the AB members and encouraged them to attend through a public link. Marta Tilling added that there is one overarching meeting for Health Action and smaller local chapter meetings. Colette stated she would look into how they fill vacancies on these very influential committees: Health Action and the Committee for Health Care Improvement and pass the information on to the AB members for a possible future opening of a membership application.

Public Comment Brittany Lobo, Sonoma County Home Visiting Program Manager, and Flora Henningsen from Bridges Pregnancy Center were present. Brittany was invited to introduce herself, and she stated she would present at next month's meeting on the Home Visiting programs.

Announcements Gina Cuclis announced that she read in the Sonoma County Office of Education (SCOE) monthly report Dr. Steve Herrington Superintendent of schools, was a finalist on the hiring team for the new health services director, which gives a child perspective to the hiring team. Mental health is a priority to SCOE who built a new behavioral health department within the school system that didn't exist before 2017. The hiring process must be far along now; Gina thinks there will be an announcement about a new health services director in about a month.

Gina also reported a new flow chart created by SCOE for school staff regarding COVID symptoms.

Dr. Hannah Watson brought up an issue that she is experiencing with clinic patients not finding COVID testing locations and not getting their calls answered by the County Public Health System. The county COVID testing system seems to be by appointment only. Some patients have extreme difficulty navigating this system if they have no phone or cannot make appointments. The tests are required for many different reasons, and there is now an increased demand for an increased frequency of testing. For example, if a woman is in hospital and her baby is in the NICU, her partner cannot be with her unless tested. If a child/staff has symptoms and they are sent home from school, they need testing. Yet, they can not receive the timely test for many, and even walk-up testing centers require appointments. There needs to be more accessible to test without making appointments without a negative difficulty within 72 hours. Colette agreed that timely testing and easy accessibility is critical and needs urgent attention because it affects our most vulnerable population. She stated she would immediately send notification of this concern to the attention of the Health Officers.

Meeting Adjourned- The meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm.

Passed Motions

Minutes from August were approved.

Handouts

Action Items

2021 Meeting Dates - 1st Thursday of the Month

September 2	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
October 7	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
November 4	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
December 2	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms

2022 Meeting Dates

February 3	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
March 3	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
April 7	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
May 5	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
June 2	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
August 4	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
September 1	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
October 6	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
November 3	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms
December 1	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5th Street, City View Rooms

MCAH AB Web Site

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Maternal-Child-and-Adolescent-Health-Advisory-Board/>