

**New York State Department of Health  
Minority Health Council  
July 10, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b>Council Members:</b> Nilda Soto, Antonio Pagan, Dr. Daniel Carrion, Ngozi Moses, and Guillermo Chacon</p> <p>Partial Attendance: Dr. Raul Vazquez</p> <p><b>NYSDOH OMH-HDP Staff:</b> Wilma Alvarado-Little and Elizabeth Girolami</p> <p><b>NYSDOH Staff:</b> Peter Stroe, Legal Counsel</p> <p><b>Other NYSDOH Staff:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Public Participants:</b> Maria Perez, Hui Lin and Anita Parker</p>
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<p><b>Nilda Soto, MS, Ed, Chair</b></p> <p><b>Call to Order &amp; Introductions</b></p>	<p><b>The meeting was convened at 9:30 AM.</b></p> <p>Ms. Soto introduced herself and asked the Council and members of the public to introduce themselves before speaking. Ms. Soto welcomed Ms. Alvarado-Little and Ms. Girolami, from the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Prevention. Ms. Soto welcomed the public participants present via Zoom, thanking them for their participation and asking that any suggestions, remarks or information they wish to share, be held until the public comment period of the agenda.</p>
<b>Council Business</b>	<p>Ms. Soto gave an overview of the agenda. Since there is no quorum, there would be no review of past meeting minutes. Instead, Council will continue to the next agenda item.</p>
<b>Survey Report Content and Format Discussion</b>	<p>Ms. Soto and members discussed the survey results and the best ways to analyze the results. After a point was raised by Ms. Moses as to whether the raw data and summary document contained all respondents, Ms. Soto clarified that the summary document included all survey respondents, but the summary narrative only highlighted a few respondents. Members agreed that the results may not been a complete representation of the state both ethnically or regionally. Although, it was a good starting point to identify best practice and evidence-based programs that address health disparities throughout the state. In order to analyze the survey’s open ended question responses, the members agreed to utilize a template and methodology designed by Dr. Carrion. Mr. Chacon volunteered to analyze question 1 and Mr. Pagan volunteered to analyze question 2. Other questions will be assigned in the future and Ms. Girolami will track the assignments. Ms. Soto reminded members that the work of the Council must be done by the Council, however, Ms. Alvarado-Little and Ms. Girolami will investigate the ability of additional support. Members also discussed the possibility of using this survey and its subsequent report as basis for another survey or future work.</p>
<b>COVID-19 Updates</b>	<p>Each member shared efforts about what their respective employer is doing in response to or as a result of COVID-19. Members agreed that the COVID impact on minorities and low-income residents in particular is upsetting. Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses are both members of Governor appointed COVID-19 Task Forces. Information may be shared information such as reports as they become publicly available. Members have a desire to look at COVID-19 reports and data to potentially make recommendations to the Commissioner on lessons learned and ways to engage communities of color.</p>

**New York State Department of Health  
Minority Health Council  
July 10, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

<p><b>Agenda Development for Upcoming Meetings</b></p>	<p>Members discussed the following as potential agenda items for September 11<sup>th</sup> meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of analysis of Survey Results.</li> <li>• Discuss Surveys Report Outcomes and Recommendation.</li> <li>• Discuss and Review COVID-19 Recommendation for the Commissioner.</li> <li>• Presentation of a Survey Respondent.</li> </ul> <p>Considering the current health crisis, OMH-HDP will inform the Council if this will be an in-person meeting in Rochester as previously proposed or a virtually held meeting.</p>
<p><b>Meeting Recap, Feedback, Action Items and Next Steps</b></p>	<p>Some action items identified were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair and Liaison to schedule an internal MHC meeting to discuss the Survey Result and Analysis before 9/11/20 meeting.</li> <li>• 2020 MHC Meeting dates 9/11/2020 and 12/11/2020.</li> <li>• Dr. Carrion to design a template for analyzing the Survey Results and a methodology on how to complete the analysis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Chacon will analyze question 1</li> <li>○ Mr. Pagan will analyze question 2</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reports may be shared as they become public from their Governor appointed COVID-19 Task Forces work.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Ms. Soto opened the floor to any public participants in attendance via telecast. Ms. Girolami received the comments and read the out loud as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Maria Perez- What is the role of FBO, (faith-based organizations), in your discussion as an ally to address social determinants of health contact tracing will be challenging due to the resistance to disclose and INS issues? Faith leaders play an important role to their peers, but unfortunately, they are usually left behind and considered as a last resort. People visit places of worship in time of crisis because they connect and trust the leaders. FBO should be part of the planning and intervention.</li> <li>• Mr. Hu Lin- Is anyone analyzing or planning to release data for age groups, including 50 years or older ethnic and racial groups for COVID nineteen infections and death. And if so, who?</li> <li>• Ms. Nina Parker- Consider substance use issues related to COVID 19, as well as intergenerational issues with youth and COVID 19.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked the Council members for engaging in the conversations.</p> <p><b>The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.</b></p>

**Next Meeting Date**  
September 11, 2020

**Time**  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**Location**  
To Be Determined: Virtually or Tentatively, Western Regional Office,  
335 E. Main Street, Rochester, NY