
FHCQ | Social Needs and Health Equity Steering Committee

Advancing Equity Workgroup
May 19th, 2023 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Virtual

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jessica Beach, Molina Health Care	Quality
Michael Garret, MSW, Consultant	Kendra Peterson, Washington State Medical Association
Karie Nicholas, MSc, Foundation for Health Care	

STAFF AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Nick Locke, MPH, Bree Collaborative

WELCOME

Mr. Locke welcomed everyone to the Advancing Equity workgroup, a subgroup of the Foundation for Health Care Quality's Social Need and Health Equity steering committee. Members briefly introduced themselves and their roles. Michael Garret, MSW, shared about the Washington Health Alliance's recent cost, quality, and equity report that borrows from the Area Deprivation Index data.

Action: Adopt April Minutes

DISCUSS: DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Locke reminded the workgroup of the timeline for recommendations. At today's meeting, members will discuss the current recommendations. Between meetings, FHCQ staff will solicit additional feedback from subject matter experts, similar to a public comment period. Members will re-convene in June to make final edits and approve the draft.

- Health Equity Planning:
 - Much of this section is actionable, but members discussed some changes.
 - Culture of equity: add resources for psychological safety in particular.
 - Structural inequities: include health access, location/geography, and how organizations are addressing access.
 - Partnerships: a recent article in health affairs described how CBOs are often under resourced. Additionally, we should not put the expectation on people of color to do the work of reaching out to community organizations of color. This should always involve paid work.
 - This recommendation is similar to employee resource groups and other initiatives. Recognize equity work with paid staff, do not force people to work on the side.
 - Avoid performative equity.
- Using Data:
 - Ensure there are multiyear plans to collect demographic data and incorporate into analysis and intervention.
 - Social need data should start with Area/Social Deprivation Index and move toward individual screening.
 - We should also consider patient reported outcome measures and monitor implementation of an evaluation plan.

DISCUSS: SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS

Mr. Locke invited feedback on who should be invited to provide outreach.

- Members provided suggestions of organizations to connect with:
 - WSNA
 - WSMA
 - WHA
 - Tribal organizations
 - Governor's Council on Health Disparities
 - HCA
 - CBOs or the consortium of health boards.

NEXT STEPS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Locke thanked all for attending and closed the meeting. The workgroup will meet on Friday, June 16th, 2023.

DRAFT