

Latino Health Council Meeting – May 28, 2020

Meeting called to order at 9:30 am. Introductions led by Patricia Tellez-Giron, MD and meditation led by Fernando.

Members: Patricia Tellez-Giron, Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, Abigail Boeck, Fernando Cano, Michele Casas, Chris Chapman, Evelyn Cruz, Hannah Flanagan, Carol Garcia, Cecilia Goldschmidt, Nina Gregerson, Katie Hensel, Tehmina Islam, Kristi Jones, Faatima Khan, Lucia Ledesma, Daniela Martin, Maria Mora, Gloria Morel, William Parke-Sutherland, Christian Pelayo, Andrea Ramirez, Judith Rasmussen, Elizabeth Ringle, Sylvia Eugenia Ruiz, Shelly Shaw, Arely Tinoco, Joaquin Zuniga Paiz, David , Maria , Rodigo

Minutes: Fernando moved to pass the minutes. William seconded. Motion passed. February 2020 minutes were approved.

Announcements:

- Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation has a new Executive Director, Marje Murray, and is currently fundraising for emergency support for medical students and organizations financially struggling due to COVID19.
- Tri4Schools has held Unstoppable Kids Race at home in May during the pandemic and in launch Unstoppable Family Race in June. Please encourage families to register here <https://tri4schools.org/events/sun-prairie/>.
- Primordial Mental Health Center is a new organization established around cultural community building, community health and mental and behavioral support for the Latinx community on the front lines. For more information contact Sylvia Eugenia Ruiz at sylviaru@primordialmhc.com.
- Mendota is hiring for many positions including CNAs with a \$2000 signing bonus and paid training.
- Dane County Public Health also has several openings, however contract tracers are not currently needed in Dane County. There may be positions with the state that are in Dane.
- Journey mental health center is hiring crisis workers and emergency telephone workers. They are increasing staff salaries by \$5 per hour in the crisis programs next week so the salary ranges people see on the job search websites may not be accurate.

2020 Meetings: LHC meetings will be on Zoom going forward and a link to the meetings will be sent with the minutes and agendas.

Financial Report: Current sponsorship balance is \$41,082.20. The current and last year's membership dues were shared. Reminders for remittance have not been sent, however organizations are asked to go ahead and pay their dues without an invoice if possible.

Events: Due to COVID19 the Mental Health Summit had to be cancelled but currently the date of October 24 is still anticipated to be the HealthCare Fair. If going forward it is safe to arrange something outside and weather permits, that might be an option but will need to weigh the needs and concerns of the community.

New Business:

The Latino Consortium for Action quickly responded to COVID 19 by establishing a Relief Fund. To learn more about the fund, to donate, or to encourage others to contribute, please go to: <http://www.micentro.org/lca-covid-19-relief.html>. The fund has already collected over \$600,000 including a \$170,000 donation from UW Health and several one time donations of \$10,000 - \$25,000 as well as many smaller donations. Centro Hispano manages the donations. Over 2100 applications for relief came in under 24 hours. Limitations are \$1000 for Dane County undocumented residents and Latinx small businesses for \$2000 - \$3000. Doctor Beth Potter was one of the original donors to the fund and her generosity has been inspiring and she will be remembered for the many lives she has touched.

Latino Health Council in collaboration with LCA, has created a Latinx Community Mental Health Rapid Response team to make confidential phone calls and create a protocol for referrals. Early on calls were more about anxiety however that is shifting more towards clinical depression. Calls are about half an hour each and there are about 70 per week.

Agrace offers grief support and are holding more support groups for those who are going through challenging times during Covid-19 and or know someone who has passed from coronavirus. Interpreter resources will be provided. For the safety of participants, most of these sessions are 1:1, but are holding virtual support sessions as well. To discuss more if there's a way to create a two-way referral process contact Fernando. <https://www.agrace.org/grief-support/>

The LHC has done several radio and TV programs to put out accurate medical information to the Latinx community and to be used on social media to share information including producing videos. Through a Wisconsin Partnership grant funds were obtained to further develop these materials going forward. Partnerships are also being developed to better reach youth and students. You can look at the list of current videos here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eDq3puhWSLgizp-jhvkNjAzCtBTKetH_JyDa_q7ajaQ/edit?usp=sharing

Please like, follow and link to the LHC page here: <https://www.latinohhealthcouncil.org/> and the Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/LatinoHealthCouncil/> for accurate current information.

Please let us know if you have programs that work with the Latinx Community. LHC is selective in working with programs that are genuine and effective rather than those that are disconnected and more focused on savior types of assistance.

Please know that COVID19 testing is available.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next meeting June 18, 2020 with minutes by Cecilia Goldschmidt.