

## **Attendees**

Patricia Tellez-Giron-Physician Dept of Family Medicine, Juan Carlos-Executive Assistant LHC, Mayra Betancourt Ponce-MD PhD student at UW, Garrett Tusler-New Bridge, Faatima Khan-Agrace, Judith Rasmussen-Wisconsin Council of the Blind, William Parke-Sutherland- Health Policy Analyst Kids Forward, Hector Portillo-Padres e hijos en acción, Steve Quintana-Dept of Counseling and Psychology UW Madison, Alyssa Ramirez Stege-UW Madison Counseling Dept/Journey Mental Health, Evelyn Cruz-Centro Hispano, Shelly Shaw-UW Madison Dept. of Family Medicine, Lourdes Shanjani-Public Health, Evie Storto-Journey Clinica Latina, Felipe Mesa-Morales-Bilingual Health Benefit Advocate ABC for Health, Frany Health Benefit Assistant ABC for Health, German Gonzalez-Legal Intern ABC for Health, Carolina Mora-Medical student, Greig Dimailig-Medical student, Jacqueline "Jacky" Rodriguez-PALMA, Anne Plesh-SSM Health Interpreter Services, Fernando Cano-Mendota Mental Health, Chris Chapman-UW Health HIV Care and Prevention, Rosa Rhoden-Quartz, Julio Molina-Vibrant Health, Sachin Gupte-Center for Patient Partnerships, Elizabeth Ringle-Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation, Arely Tinoco-GHC, Ana Karina-Breast and Cervical Cancer UW Health, Karen Menendez-Centro Hispano, Shiva Bidar- UW Health

Fernando led us off with an excellent impromptu mindfulness exercise.  
Minutes from 5/17 were approved.

### **"Does the LHC have by-laws or elections?" -Julio**

The short answer is no. We have a mission, goals, an executive committee and executive assistant, a website, we keep minutes, and we have a fiscal agent (Vivent). But we do not have a Board, our time is volunteered.

Fernando: "We entertained becoming a non-profit about ten years ago but the process for doing so is challenging for a volunteer organization with the amount of work we're already doing and the amount of work it takes to create by-laws and become a non-profit. Additionally, our fiscal agent has been awesome."

Julio: "[I believe it is] worthwhile to have by-laws, and rotation and alternation in the positions because it's good to get different perspectives. The more diverse, the more interchangeable, the more functional we will be. Nobody has all the answers, we are a diverse group with representation from all across Latin America and we all bring diverse ideas and approaches.

Patricia: Historically we have enjoyed a more informal, less structured approach. There has always been an opening for people to share their voices and expertise at our events (whether it be on the radio, through presentations, etc.) People can bring whatever talents they wish to share. In the 25 years since the LHCs inception, nobody has shown much interest in changing the current structure.

(In the future, MOLA will be very structured and formalized with board, by-laws, president, etc.)

Elizabeth posited that there is, "Value in not being a competing non-profit, more a place where all non-profits can come together."

Chris: More structure could help organizations green-light employees who wish to join the LHC (employers may want to see that).

There are benefits in flexibility as well. Less structure allows us to be nimble and dedicate all of our time to our events and mission, rather than on administrative duties and overhead.

If you have thoughts you wish to contribute on this issue, feel free to submit your input. All thoughts and suggestions are welcome.

### **Announcements**

Chris Chapman- UW Health has two full-time Social Work positions (MSW required); bilingual in English and Spanish required. (According to website, these jobs are no longer available.)

Garret Tusler- new NewBridge initiative starting at the end of summer in Fitchburg- 3 month support group for older adults who are caregivers and individuals who are caring for their grandparents. Includes personal care, emotional well-being within care giving, and education. Searching for bilingual facilitators for emotional well-being lead and educational lead. Background in caregiving preferred. They are flexible. Hybrid, based on comfort-level.

Felipe Mesa-Morales- Tackling vaccine hesitancy/misinformation. Welcomes any tips or suggestions on outreach. Looking for bilingual health assistant/advocate (ABC for Health).

Faatima Khan- Grief Support Group for Spanish Speakers- meets Wednesdays: September 8 – October 13 | 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. For adults who are grieving the death of any person. | No cost. Attend using Zoom on a computer, smartphone or tablet. Six sessions (facilitated by Fernando), attend one, any or all. Requirement to be personally impacted by grief (recent and older experiences). No limit on attendees. Presentation and educational resources will be shared.

September 8: ¿Qué es el Duelo y como lo sentimos?

September 15: Entendiendo Las Diferentes Etapas Del Duelo Y El Proceso Del Duelo

September 22: Como Apoyar a Los Niños Y A Los Jóvenes Con El Duelo

September 29: Rituales y Recuerdos: Una manera de sanar el dolor

October 6: Como nos Cuidamos/Como sobrevivimos

October 13: Última sesión, recursos, próximos grupos y evaluación

If any organizations would like to join this last session and share resources that their orgs have to offer in terms of support, therapy, grief, etc., please email Faatima or Fernando.

Fernando Cano- Mendota is hiring registered nurses, includes a \$2000 signing bonus. Go to Wiscjobs. DHS is also hiring Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer. Fernando was also appointed to Health, Equity and Inclusion Council (statewide). Congratulations Fernando!

### **LHC's Vaccination Efforts**

52% of Latinx Dane County population is vaccinated. 70-75% of eligible Latinx have received the vaccine (older than 12 etc.). Radio programming has been an avenue to talk about the vaccine, COVID, hesitancy, etc. However, we recognize many people don't always listen to the radio. What else was needed? Access, priority at first. Last pocket are those who want vaccine

but may still not know how to navigate the system or who may encounter language barriers. Small percent of people will not get it no matter what. Still we should be able to achieve community immunity. With DHS grant, we are contracting with local artist Veronica Figueroa to design a poster in memoriam of COVID. The artwork will pay homage and serve as a tool to educate and will be posted in the front of every restaurant and store that is willing to participate. We will meet with storeowners to orient them and provide them with resources and connections so they can talk to their employees and clients. Mayra and six students will work on these conversations, learning leadership skills while educating the community (where people can go to get more information, promoting the continuation of observing safe measures, etc.)—a collaboration with Latino Chamber of Commerce and Latino Children and Family Council. Maybe we will follow up with storeowners a month later. It helps student build their resumes for med school and helps the community.

Hector Portillo and Padres e Hijos- wants to coordinate services with Latino Health Council, add resources, work to avoid overlap and share information. Supplementing each other's work is our goal.

Lourdes Shanjani- would be willing to help train the students. Public Health is creating community engagement teams that will be doing similar work around the vaccine and Lourdes has put together a training presentation for them before they go out and canvass in the community. Lourdes could use the presentation to train the students for these conversations as well and provide tools and resources—a good opportunity for collaboration. Lourdes loves all the community engagement the LHC is doing.

Karen Menendez- Non-Latino owned companies such Trek/Hycite have reached out about providing vaccine info sessions. Maybe Food Fight and other companies that hire many Latinos would benefit as well. LHC did a vaccine clinic with Centro and full families were able to be vaccinated. Perhaps we could highlight their success stories.

Shiva Bidar- Definitely refer any businesses/organizations because LHC will work with Lourdes and Public Health to provide this information in a way that does not overstep employers' boundaries.

Fernando- If everybody can help spread the word within your circle of friends, sphere of influence, without coercing, we can help be successful. This final push will be the hardest.

Lourdes and PHMDC- mobilizing vaccines is the goal, increasing access in a strategic and mindful way. Integrating the vaccine at other sites such as South Madison clinic, at fests, and other outdoor summer events.

### **Centro Hispano**

Centro's Mission, Vision, Values

Using a Public Health framework based on Social Determinants of Health

1<sup>st</sup> Pillar- Empowering Youth- programs like Juventud and Escalera work to empower students in middle and high schools. Regenaracion. Avanzando- help students transition from HS to college

2<sup>nd</sup> Pillar-Strengthening Families: family support coordination, health care navigator, workforce and employment, immigration services, new routes for adults

3<sup>rd</sup> Pillar- Engaging Community and Fostering a Safe Space

**Esperanza: nuestra cultura de salud**- by Evelyn Cruz and Alyssa Ramirez Stege, Ph.D

Wisconsin Partnership Program Impact Grant

Collaboration with Centro and School of Education Psychology

It is “linguistically and culturally responsive training and upstream community programs to increase mental health and well-being of the Latinx community.”

Motivators for grant include injustices and perpetuation of oppressive systems on the following fronts: Latinx communities under siege, workforce shortage, workforce limitations, oppression, mental health treatment is verbal, lost opportunity, assimilation pressure on Latinx students.

UW wants to create a pipeline of bilingual mental health care providers- in the process of creating a bilingual psychological services certificate for psychology students and maybe others down the road such as social workers.

Centro will work on mental health literacy, leadership curriculum, supporting the well-being of staff, creating advocacy and building bridges across Madison community members.

The School of Education Psychology will recruit and train heritage Spanish-speaking students, take a interdisciplinary approach to psychological services rooted in decolonization frameworks, provide linguistically, culturally, and situationally appropriate psychological services in Madison and Dane. Through this partnership, we can strengthen the resilience and psychological health of the Latinx community.

Esperanza is planning and development, program evaluation, community-engaged work, bilingual certificate oversight and recruitment (which Alyssa will lead) and research.

The model will address structural factors through advocacy, outreach, and policies; as well as social determinants of health, physical environment etc. All these pieces influence social capital, social cohesion, and material circumstances. Institutional levels of intervention need to happen to decrease barriers to access.

UW is in the process of getting approval of the certificate, but all of the courses have been approved. First targeted course offerings will be in the Spring of 2022, with the first official cohort in the Spring of 2023. Goal is to create bilingual mental health providers that promote transformative and radical healing and that engage in culturally and linguistically-affirming student programming. Certificate will be a 2-year program for students to take while in counseling and rehabilitation psychology.

Centro put together a transformative evaluation that will include data collection and a youth evaluation program that WCER lead with Goodman Center and Centro youth evaluation teams. Youth built individual and collective capacity for youth voice in evaluation. They really took ownership of the project and found their voices. Staff Wellness Plan with Daniela Robledo and Danya- we can only take care of others when we take care of ourselves. Evelyn and Lori published *Community Guidelines for Engaging with Researchers and Evaluators* to provide tools to understand the requests from researchers and orgs and how to set appropriate boundaries. Roots4Change conducted Leadership training in Spanish last year, Esperanza has had initial

planning conversations with the State about infusing (HEART) healing ethno racial trauma for the Certified Peer Specialist.