

Latino Health Council – June 30, 2022
9:30 am to 11:30 am

Meeting called to order at 9:30 am. Grounding exercise and introductions followed.

Attendance: Tehmina Islam, Anne Plesh, Rodrigo Valdivia, Elizabeth Ringle, Lourdes Shanjani Marcela Kyngeburye, Rosario Rhoden, Arely Tinoco, Juan Carlos Cabrera, Judith Rasmussen, Moranda Medina Lopez, Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, Araceli Nord, Joseph Eliud Giron, Patricia Tellez-Giron, Chris Chapman, Roberto, Anita, Krystal Velasco.

Meeting Minutes Approval: Judith moved to approve the May 2022 meeting minutes. Tehmina seconded. No abstentions. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements: Christian welcomed study participants who are diabetic and Hispanic. If you know of anyone or would like to refer yourself, please contact Christian at cpelayo@wisc.edu or call 608.265.5777.

Lourdes announced Covid-19 vaccines are now open for children 5 and under. The Public Health appointments were filled very quickly. To make an appointment, please see this website: <http://publichealthmdc.com/appt>

Chris announced a job opening at her agency as she is moving to DHS. Here is the link to apply. <https://jobs.hr.wisc.edu/en-us/job/514170/community-engagement-coordinator>

Membership Agreements: Juan Carlos reported that we're still waiting on a few membership agreements and membership dues. If you are unsure if your organization has completed their agreement and sent in their membership dues, please check with Juan Carlos. If your organization has historically been a sponsor, please consider continuing sponsorship this year. LHC will be hosting their regular conference in October this year.

Covid-19 update: In Dane County, overall vaccination rates are 76% for the Latinx community. The Latinx community is behind on the booster rates – still low at 34.6%. We do not have data yet for rates for children under 5. LHC has been on the radio recently to announce the eligibility of children under 5. Please call 608.441.9188 to register anyone who needs a vaccination – they can be scheduled at the Equity clinic or at other clinics. Thank you to Lourdes for being an amazing partner with LHC during the pandemic.

PALMA update: Krystal updated the group that they updated the LHC posters. Their group also has been working on recruiting more Latinx-owned businesses to participate in having PALMA students and volunteers to have conversations with their customers about vaccine education.

Consulting: LHC will be partnering with Chamber of Commerce to provide mental health and Covid workshops. LHC will also be working with rural areas and populations with a grant they received. LHC will continue mentoring, community shadowing, and clinical experience training

with medical students. There will be a launching event in September regarding mentorship and the medical school.

Well Badger Resource Center: Moranda presented on this organization that is managed by the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation since 2018. Well Badger focuses on health-related resources. 211 and Well Badger work closely together to refer callers back and forth if needed. The goal of Well Badger is to improve health literacy. Well Badger has an online information & referral service and they also have an online searchable directory. They also have a resource management team that follow up with clients, specializing in parenting, pregnancy, and Covid.

UW Health HIV Care & Prevention Program: Chris and her colleagues, Roberto & Ana, presented on the program. Over the past 10 years, the number of new HIV diagnoses has slowly declined. Chris reviewed how racism, oppression, education level, poverty, etc. have a role in increasing the HIV risk. She discussed the impact of stigma on physical, mental, and emotional health of someone living with HIV. Prevention medications are very effective and only 23% of people who are eligible for these medications have been prescribed them; and an even lower percentage of BIPOC people are receiving these medications.

Presentation followed to include ways to support people living with HIV and reduce stigma and discrimination. A reminder that U=U; people living with HIV who have an undetectable viral load cannot pass HIV to anyone through sex. www.greaterthan.org is an excellent resource for community members. Housing resources, partner support, nutritional resources and assistance are also available through this program. Community resources for testing, education, and outreach are also available.

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 am.