



Task Force on Infant and Maternal Mortality Among African Americans (IMMT)

May 10, 2022

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Gloria Elam
Angela Ellison
Cheryl Floyd
Catherine Harth
Stephannie James
Daniel Johnson
Jeanine Logan
Tamela Milan-Alexander
Pamela Therese Roesch
Dawn Wells

Members Not Present

Richard David
Shirley Fleming
Virginia Julion
Jasmine Martin
Jerrilyn Pearson
Marie Versher
Cheryle Wolfe

IDPH

Cara Bergo
Jelena Debelnogich
Trishna Harris
Ashley Horne
Kenya McRae

Guests

Dara Gray Basley
Tia Britton
Paula Brodie
Jean Davis
Ausannette Garcia-Goyette
Stacie Geller
Lisa Green
Arden Handler
Joseph Harrington
Kristin Hartsaw
Michelle Hoersch
Jenna King
Patricia Lee King
Abeba Lakew
Jessica Lamberson
Lisa Mani
Quintella Matthews
Glenda Morris-Burnett
Angelique Muhammad
Jose Ortiz
Arletha Paraham
Laura Phelan
Jennie Pinkwater
Cynthia Price
Genevieve Stoner
Ashleigh (Unknown lastname)
Yvonne (unknown lastname)
Cynthia Wilson

Virtual Meeting to occur via Cisco WebEx

Meeting Link:

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m3ee77c8c76337d8d767f5e998d0ba08b>

Meeting number: 2451 520 1788

Password: 76SPuMMrms5

Join by phone

415-655-0002 US Toll

Access code: 245 152 01788

Call to Order

The Task Force was called to order at 2:00 pm. Roll was taken, and the agenda reviewed.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes from the February 8, 2022 Meeting were reviewed. Daniel Johnson motioned to approve the minutes with corrections, Cheryl Floyd seconded it, and the Task Force unanimously approved.

Reflections from the Chair

- a. Black Mamas Matter Alliance - Black Maternal Health Conference and Training Institute. Jessica Lamberson informed the group that the poster abstract she submitted for the conference was accepted. She asked if anyone from the task force was interested in co-presenting.
- b. Nominating committee for November/December Elections – Angela Ellison informed the group that it was time to hold elections for the next Chair and vice-Chair for the task force. She asked for volunteers to serve on the nomination committee.
 - a. Requested 3-5 members to put forth a slate for chair and vice chair
 - b. During the meeting, Gloria Elam and David Johnson agreed to serve on the committee.

Presentation from Roots & Structural Causes of Health Inequity Subcommittee (I PROMOTE-IL)

Dara Gray Basley, Chair of the subcommittee, and Stacie Geller, Co-PI of the I PROMOTE-IL grant, shared its three key strategies to address the root causes of maternal health inequities. Strategies include addressing homelessness and pregnant women and partnering with supporting initiatives that encourage savings accounts for children and other bills.

Subcommittee Reports

Community Engagement Subcommittee. The subcommittee will hold its first listening session to capture the voices of women and families with lived experiences on May 25th. The session will be hosted by EverThrive. Stipends will be provided to the participants.

Systems Subcommittee. The systems subcommittee is working on a telemedicine infographic with the help of Alia Jamison and Glenda Burnett. The subcommittee is also working with APORS to examine the challenges with the process and the data. The subcommittee also intends to examine the Medicaid extension to 12 months to provide recommendations regarding implementation.

The subcommittee also indicated that it had changed the frequency of its meetings to every 6 weeks as opposed to every month. This change will provide the subcommittee adequate time to complete various tasks necessary between meetings.

Programs & Best Practices Subcommittee. Subcommittee is currently collecting research and articles on Illinois family case management programs. The subcommittee created a tool assist with identifying key elements of the program. The subcommittee expressed challenges in finding published research and reports and will supplement information with insight gained from program staff.

Next Steps

- The Chair indicated that a key recommendation IMMT will make in the next report to the General Assembly is a change in the frequency of the report from every year to every two years.
- The Chair indicated that while the task force is working on making system changes, it is important that the task force and subcommittee also look to make recommendations that can have an immediate effect on existing programs. People need to see and feel changes in their current situation.
- The Chair also stated that the subcommittees and the task force need to increase their focus on infant health.
- There was a discussion about viewing some of the latest films regarding maternal and infant health such as Toxic, Aftershock and Deliver Us. Kenya will look into obtaining one of the films for the next meeting.

Public Comment

Public Comment #1. ICAAP indicated that it would like to attend the System subcommittee meetings.

Public Comment #2. A guest that works with teen mothers was interested in finding out how her young mothers could share their experiences with the task force. One of the co-leads for the Community Engagement subcommittee suggested she bring them to the listening sessions.

Public Comment #3. A guest who participates on the Programs and Best Practices subcommittee said it would be great to invite current/past participants of the various programs to attend the subcommittee meeting to share how the programs really impacted them.

Public Comment #4. Someone asked if the terms of the IMMT members would be staggered and how. The chairs stated they will need to revisit that matter.

Adjournment

With nothing further to discuss, Catherine Harth made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Daniel Johnson and the Task Force unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm.