



Meeting minutes- San Patricio Health Equity Task Force Meeting

Date/Time: September 28, 2023, 11:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Attendees:

Brenda Elizondo	Viola Monrreal
Melissa De La Garza	April Arzaldua
Amanda Garza	Moriam Ojelade
Sara Williams	Selina Heuston
Paul Pulley	Angelina Garcia
Eloisa Castillo	Hilda Elizondo
Eric Baggerman	Judy Telge
Scott Marsh	Katy Hernandez
Janna Shoe	Meredith Grantham
Armando Castellano	Monica Deitz
Ruth Cristiana	Megan Skrobarcek
Sylvia Balli	

Call to Order

- The meeting was opened by Kimberly Watson as the Public Health representative for the project.
- Attendees and facilitators introduced themselves.
- Ms. Watson thanked everyone for attending.

Open Items

- Christina introduced participants to WID and to the web pages that are being developed for them to use for resources, logistics and communication needs.
- Dee Grimm provided a PowerPoint presentation to explain the project. Key points of the presentation included
 - Terminology review
 - Social inequity

- Health inequity
 - Root causes of inequity and social determinants of health
 - Disabilities and inequities
- Premise of the Project – to look at how prejudice, bias, misconceptions are, and will, impact our local resources and how people are treated in disaster
 - Jim House added in chat that technology is an example of how this can impact individuals who are trying to respond to and recover from disasters.
- Solutions need to begin at the local level to involve local and national issues
- There were lessons learned from COVID that highlighted disparities for people with disabilities in disaster situations. Including increased isolation, separation from support personnel, allocation of scarce resources, bias in perceptions of quality of life.
- Project goals: 1. Improve health outcomes for people with disabilities and other marginalized groups. 2. Improve programs and services for people with disabilities at the local level, focusing on community health resiliency. 3. Engage representatives, identify promising practices and provide technical assistance to generate actionable solutions.
- Anticipated outcomes: decreasing disparities in health outcomes at the local level. Create partnerships with local community partners, improve outcomes for disability populations.
- Project steps 1. Identify jurisdictions, identify task force members, identify what is working in the community and experienced of what works well locally. 2. look at community health assessments to know what is working or not working locally in the jurisdiction.

Looking at a broad spectrum of different environments, rural vs. urban, and being broad based about who is involved in the project. Then developing root cause analysis of local level issues and develop action plans to improve outcomes and hopefully document outcomes to make national recommendations.

This is a multiyear project. We are in year 2 of the 5 year project.

- Expectations of the task force, including making sure that there is racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity in the task force to address intersectionality. Wanting the group to be socioeconomically and geographically diverse, and specific to the demographics and character of the local environment.

New Business

- Task force members were asked to identify other potential task force members who were not in attendance but would be appropriate participants as their homework for next meeting.
- Task force decided to hold hybrid sessions for future meetings to accommodate the long travel for some participants.
- Next meeting November 14th 2023, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Closing

Ms. Watson thanked attendees for coming and the meeting was adjourned.