

Meeting Minutes #4 – Ohio DPC The Health Collaborative Health Equity Task Force

Date: April 9, 2024

Time: 1:30 pm EST

Location: Zoom

Meeting Facilitators:

- Christina Alfaro
- Dawn Skaggs
- Jessica Skelton

Executive Summary:

- Acknowledgement of the project's focus on health equities and assistance for disability populations.
- A pressing need to improve survey distribution and response rates, with Ohio reporting minimal responses.
- The crucial role of emergency management education, ADA compliance in shelters, and addressing underserved populations.
- Plans to pare down the task force for heightened focus and interaction, with an outreach for more focused participant involvement.

Meeting Notes:

Meeting Introduction and Attendance

- Jessica Skelton welcomed everyone and noted additional attendees were expected.
- Jessica Skelton handed the meeting over to Christina to start off the day's discussions.
- Christina Alfaro thanked everyone and passed it to Dee to begin.
- Denise Grimm welcomed attendees, noted good turnout, and acknowledged new attendees including one from Ohio EMA.

Project Overview and Focus

- Denise Grimm presented the project's emphasis on health equities and assisting disability populations, outlining the steps taken so far and the next steps involving surveying to pinpoint specific community inequities.

Survey Distribution and Response Update

- Christina Alfaro reported survey responses of two provider partner surveys and none from client customers.
- Kim mentioned not recalling receiving the survey and requested re-sending it.

Survey Importance and Distribution Process

- Denise Grimm stressed the critical nature of surveys for obtaining local information, urged efficient distribution, and reassured time availability for completion.
- Jessica Skelton confirmed the survey was sent to around 600 people and outlined plans to resend to ensure full coalition coverage.

Issues and Concerns in Emergency Management and Disaster Services

- Denise Grimm highlighted the necessity of accessible evacuation and relocation services, shared instances of discrimination in shelters, and stressed education on ADA compliance and understanding federal laws concerning mass care delivery.

Task Force's Role and Members' Contributions

- Participants encouraged to share feedback on policy and organization areas.
- Denise Grimm and Jessica Skelton emphasized the value of participant contributions, calling for active involvement and thinking over given homework assignments for improvement strategies.

Homework Assignments and Future Plan

- Denise Grimm provided two homework assignments: survey review and consideration of a list of perception topics, aiming for the identification of issues for strategic improvement on website homework button.

Communication and Involvement Encouragement

- Jessica Skelton encouraged open communication and reminded of the available channels.
- Denise Grimm recommended utilizing the website for information and assured follow-up reminders for full participation.

Next Steps and Task Force Paring Down Process

- Jessica Skelton discussed delay in May meeting process due to minimal survey responses, aiming for a more focused task force in June.
- Plans to designate points of contact for subject matter expertise from various populations.

[End of Meeting Minutes]