

## Meeting Minutes #6 – Ohio DPC The Health Collaborative Health Equity Task Force

**Date:** June 11, 2024

**Time:** 1:30 pm EST

**Location:** Zoom

### **Meeting Facilitators:**

- Christina Alfaro
- Dee Grimm
- Dawn Skaggs
- Lauren Philips
- Jessica Skelton

### **Executive Summary:**

- Low response rates for provider partner and client consumer surveys; task force members encouraged to actively distribute surveys through various community channels.
- Outreach suggestions include reaching out to state agencies, attending local events, collaborating with volunteer organizations, and translating surveys into other languages.
- Equity gaps identified include lack of affordable and accessible housing, healthcare provider shortages, lack of transportation resources, overwhelmed emergency services, and insufficient mass care capabilities.

### **Meeting Notes:**

#### **Survey Outreach and Response**

- Concern over low response rates: Only 20 provider partner and 1 client consumer survey results received so far, despite surveys being out for months.
- Task force members encouraged to take active role in distribution:
  - Use QR codes, distribute through community events, libraries, faith-based organizations, etc.
  - Some members offered to print and laminate QR codes to share at their events and centers
  - Suggestion to make survey flyers/emails more visually appealing with clear branding/logos
  - Original email with survey links can be resent for fresh distribution opportunity

- Challenges: Some surveys went to junk/spam folders for members
- Outreach suggestions from members:
  - Reach out to Ohioans with Disabilities (state government agency)
  - Attend local events: parades, farmers markets, Pride events (e.g. 300,000 people tri-state area)
  - Distribute at libraries, community centers, faith-based organizations
  - Involve CERT teams, MRCs, VOADs to assist with survey distribution
  - Share at County Boards of Developmental Disability Services
  - Distribute to small businesses, chambers of commerce
- Clarification: The surveys are fully accessible (screen readers, plain language, etc.). Task force does not need to facilitate taking the survey, just distribute it. Accommodations can be provided if needed.

### Identifying Equity Gaps and Issues

- Key areas of concern discussed:
  - Accessibility and digital divide issues, especially for older adults and rural populations
  - Transportation and evacuation challenges, especially in rural areas
  - Lack of information and services reaching rural populations
  - Need for more collaboration with community organizations
- Examples of access and recovery challenges shared:
  - Lack of housing options and long-term sheltering needs after disasters. Example of Oregon still having 44 people in shelters 3 years after 2020 fires, took 2 years to find housing for 500 evacuated.
  - Overwhelmed healthcare systems and emergency services, even pre-disaster. Example of someone being transferred between 3 hospitals 20-50 mins apart due to lack of services.
  - Limitations in mass care (sheltering, feeding, etc.) capabilities during disasters. Assumption that Red Cross will run shelters, but they lack resources/volunteers. Need to have backup plans using local MRCs, CERTs, for sheltering.
- Equity gaps identified by members:
  - Lack of affordable, accessible housing (even without a disaster)
  - Healthcare provider shortages, especially in rural areas
  - Lack of transportation resources, para-transit wait times



- Overwhelmed emergency services (ER wait times of 6-8 hours currently)
- Lack of mass care capabilities (sheltering, feeding) for large events

[End of Meeting Minutes]