

## Meeting Minutes #13 – Ohio The Health Collaborative Disaster Health Equity Task Force

**Date:** May 13, 2025

**Time:** 1:30 pm EST

**Location:** Zoom

### Meeting Facilitators:

- Nicole Volpenhein
- Allysa Rapadas
- Christina Alfaro

## Executive Summary:

- Focused on improving community service provider competency when assisting people with disabilities, using a "How Might We" activity to generate solution ideas.
- The group prioritized high-impact, lower-effort solutions, including creating a comprehensive list of resources (training materials, community champions, and experts) and identifying organizations that are subject matter experts in disability services for potential partnerships.
- Next steps involve implementing these prioritized solutions, while administrative updates highlighted uncertainty about grant renewal and potential changes in task force facilitation beyond September.

## Meeting Notes:

### Review of Previous Work

- Recap of past meetings and focus areas:
  - Community service provider competency when assisting people with disabilities
  - Accessibility, communication with the community
  - Addressing bias in agencies and implementations
- Previous activities included:
  - Identifying specific issues within focus areas
  - Identifying themes
  - Conducting root cause analysis
- Review of stakeholder groups and known challenges/strengths in the community

### *Provider Competency Discussion*

#### *"How Might We" Activity*

- Problem statement provided: "People with disabilities are not getting their needs met when it comes to receiving services, as provider interactions with patients who have specific types of disabilities may be insufficient. Community providers do not have cultural competency when it comes to interacting with patients or clients with disabilities, and current processes have systematic bias and paternalistic attitudes. There's a lack of disability-related training, and there's a lack of disability representation in decision making."
- Participants were asked to create "How might we" statements to reframe the issues and identify opportunities for solutions
- Key ideas generated included:
  - How might we connect providers who have more experience with people with disabilities to providers who have less experience in order to improve overall provider confidence?
  - How might we increase awareness and understanding of the disability population for our service providers?
  - How might we provide trainings without funding so that trainings can still be prioritized?
  - How might we bring people with disabilities together with service providers to improve provider competency?

### **Solution Ideation**

- Main solution ideas proposed by participants:
  - Workshops bringing people with disabilities and service providers together
  - Mentorship programs for less experienced providers
  - Focus groups with people with disabilities
  - Online trainings
  - Creating a list of resources for training, community champions, and experts
  - Identifying and partnering with organizations who are subject matter experts (SMEs) in disability services
  - Developing community champions to mentor providers

### **Prioritization and Impact Analysis**

- Ideas were evaluated based on potential impact and effort required
- High impact, high effort ideas identified:
  - Workshops
  - Focus groups
  - Online training
- Lower effort, high impact ideas prioritized:
  - Creating a list of resources for training, community champions, and experts
  - Identifying and partnering with organizations who are SMEs in disability services

- Discussion on the importance of leveraging existing resources and knowledge within the task force and community
- Emphasis on the need to identify organizations already working with people with disabilities and partnering with them

### **Next Steps and Action Planning**

- Focus on implementing lower effort, high impact ideas first
- Plan to create a comprehensive list of resources, including organizations, websites, and individuals willing to provide support
- Identify key organizations working with people with disabilities and reach out to them
- Develop a list of discussion questions for potential focus groups or workshops
- Task force members to consider their own organizational capacities and connections to contribute to these efforts

### **Administrative Updates**

- Christina Alfaro announced that only July and September meetings remain for the current phase
- Grant renewal status is uncertain and will not be known until August
- If ASPR funding continues beyond September:
  - WID will transition to a support role for POC Nicole
  - Nicole will facilitate future task force meetings

### **Closing Remarks**

- Nicole Volpenhein encouraged continued engagement and preparation for the remaining two meetings
- Emphasized the importance of discussing the remaining focus areas in upcoming sessions
- Invited participants to provide additional comments or feedback via email or phone call
- Meeting recordings and PDFs will be available on the website under the resources tab

[End of Meeting Minutes]