

## Advisory Council ACHDHE on Health Disparity and Health Equity (ACHDHE)

April 25, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Central Office Madison Building

109 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219

Mezzanine Conference Room– 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Attended in Richmond: **State Health Commissioner: Marissa J. Levine**, MD, MPH, FAAFP,; **Patti Kiger**, M. Ed (PhD); **Luisa F. Soaterna-Castaneda**, BS, MPH; **Linda Redmond**, PhD ; **Adrienne McFadden**, MD, JD, FACEP, FAAEM , FCLM; **Kate S. K. Lim**, MT, (ASCP), FACHE, CPHQ; **J. Elisha Burke**, M.Div., D. Min.; **Keisha L. Smith**, MPA; **Nia Harrison**, MPP, **Karen Reed**, MA, CDE; **Augustine Doe**, MS, MPA;

Attended Via Polycom/Phone: **Maia McCuiston Jackson**, MD, FAAP; **Gloria Addo-Ayensu**, MD, MPH;

Did Not Attend: **Emmanuel Eugenio**, MD, FAAP; **Elizabeth Locke**, PhD, PT; **Melody Armstrong**, MPA, BSNCPHRM; **Kathryn E. MacCormick**, MSc.

Guest Attendees: **Sophie Wenzel**, MPH

### WELCOME

ACHDHE Chair, Ms. Luisa Soaterna, introduced herself and requested the participants at the host site, VDH Central Office and those participating remotely to as well introduce themselves prior to calling the meeting to order.

### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda for the regular April 11, 2017 meeting, which was postponed to April 25, 2017, was approved.

### ACHDHE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSIONER

ACHDHE Chair, Ms. Soaterna read ACHDHE's recommendations from the January 2017 meeting to the State Health Commissioner.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the January 2017 meeting, which was held in February, were approved as submitted.

### STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES

*Dr. Marissa J. Levine*

Dr. Levine thanked ACHDHE members and leadership for their commitment to advancing health equity in Virginia. She acknowledged Fairfax Health Department's 100<sup>th</sup>- year anniversary and its accredited status, saying that accreditation is what the public expects and it enhances the quality of the work we do. She also acknowledged ACHDHE members for making great recommendations, and explained how VDH is working on them:

- Addressing the second bullet point in the recommendation, which she said was insightful and partly agreeable, she observed that VDH is working with other agencies more, which facilitates data sharing. However, she recognized challenges due to silos, requirements

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from grants or other third parties like the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or other federal programs. Our processes and accreditation help us leverage data across agencies as we work towards making our data more available publically and the Opioid situation is one way we can exemplify the need to share data, Dr. Levine indicated. Dr. Levine shared information about the new Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) Addiction Recovery and Treatment Services (ARTS) initiative, a program launched in April to expand community services for recovery and treatment of opioid overdose. She asked ACHDHE assistance in sharing information across Virginia including rural localities, Eastern Shore, and the northern Valley.

- Responding to the ACHDHE second recommendation, Dr. Levine shared that DMAS is working to develop a visual that depicts how the entire state is being served and the agency will use that information to address any established gaps.
- Further, Dr. Levine shared that addiction is not only a criminal justice or public safety issue but it is also a public health concern. She used the “Opioid – A Different Perspective” chart to explain opioid deaths in Virginia by Year of Death, 2007-2016. The entire presentation can be found at – [http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/18/2016/04/Quarterly-Drug-Death-Report-FINAL\\_10.2016](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/18/2016/04/Quarterly-Drug-Death-Report-FINAL_10.2016). Dr. Levine encourage working collaboratively to address the stigma associated with opioid use, keeping people from it in the first place from becoming addicts, and other approaches for pain management. She informed the ACHDHE about her standing order and Virginia General Assembly legislation that expands naloxone access and availability. More information on VDH work can be found at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/home/opioid-overdose-risk-mitigation/>.
  - ACHDHE asked if Emergency Medical Service personnel have access to naloxone.
    - Dr. Levine indicated, several emergency responders have access to naloxone. The commissioner’s standing order enables naloxone access by police precincts as well.
  - ACHDHE Question: How can the public afford opioid treatment/medication?
    - Dr. Levine: it is expensive. However, through local educational training programs and the new Virginia law that goes into effect on July 1, those with no means will be able to access the medication through qualifying local community organizations.
  - ACHDHE Question: is the governor meeting with pharmaceutical companies to discuss and negotiate pricing of the medication?
    - Dr. Levine: this is primarily a federal issue and we are engaging our federal legislators in this situation. She asked for ACHDHE involvement to help lead current local community efforts, suggesting that members could engage philanthropies and community organizations to assist with funding and messaging.
- Dr Levine expressed concerns about federal budget cuts that may impact the state Health Department.

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- Dr. Levine discussed critical public health infrastructure that needs to be in place to further the work we do.
  - ACHDHE Member: shared information of how her organization is working with other non-public health organizations and institutions to incorporate health in all policies and communicating that taking measures to prevent illness (diet, physical activity, tobacco-free campus, vaccines) helps the bottom line and contribute to company success.
    - Dr. Levine observed that we should think about how we talk about health in all policies. It should help individuals do their work differently and achieve better results. While some are including health in all policies, the emphasis could be that a better way to work exists that takes into account health impact, Dr. Levine concluded

## PRESENTATION

### **“Danville YHELI Program Updates”**

*Augustine Doe, MS, MPA, Health Equity Specialist, VDH*

*Sophie Wenzel, MPH, Danville YHELI Program Evaluation Consultant, Associate Director, Virginia Tech Center for Public Health Practice and Research, Virginia Tech*

Mr. Doe shared updates about the Danville Youth Equity Leadership Institute (YHELI) program. He introduced YHELI as a special initiative of the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Health Equity (OHE) that was started in 2015 when OHE received grant funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health, to address health disparities.

The goal of YHELI is to improve public health by addressing racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic disparities in educational attainment through implementing an effective public health best practice models. Danville YHELI program was launched in the summer of 2016 and has since enrolled a cohort of about 55 students in the ninth grade. YHELI students will continue to participate in YHELI curriculum and sponsored activities each year through 12th grade from both Danville high schools, George Washington and Langston Focus High Schools, he shared.

Ms. Wenzel shared information on YHELI Photovoice project, an initiative in which students voluntarily participated to explore challenges and opportunities impacting their education in Danville. The students took several photographs, selected pictures that best represented the topic, and provided a quote to explain each photo. Ms. Wenzel read the quotes, provided some background for the pictures and the associated quotes.

Mr. Doe concluded his presentation by covering YHELI next steps: community engagement, curriculum activities, leadership opportunities, and community support.

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#### **“Increasing Adolescent Well-Being: Promoting Healthy Relationships”**

*Robert Franklin, MS, Sexual and Domestic Violence Community Outreach Coordinator, VDH*

Mr. Franklin discussed characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships. He described dating violence as a type of intimate partner violence occurring between two people in a close relationship. He said that it can be physical, emotional, or sexual. Mr. Franklin presented a chart that showed the prevalence of violence and grade levels nine through twelve. He said that youth in abusive relationships are more likely to have low self-esteem, be depressed, binge drink, use drugs, have eating disorders, get seriously injured, practice unsafe sex with multiple partners, and experience dating abuse in future relationships. Mr. Franklin cited two of Virginia’s initiatives that address youth violence: Teen Dating Violence Prevention program and the Campus Prevention Efforts. In 2017, VDH trained 22 individuals to implement the Green Dot Bystander intervention program on eight Virginia campuses.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES**

##### **State Health Commissioner Recognizes Dr. Adrienne McFadden, Director, Office of Health Equity, VDH**

Dr. Levine shared with the ACHDHE Dr. Adrienne McFadden’s recognition at the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. Richmond Metro Area Chapter’s Phenomenal Women Gala on April 22, 2017. The gala celebrated three women in the Richmond area who “have made an impact in the lives of women and girls who live in poverty, suffer with mental illness and are victims of domestic violence.” Dr. McFadden, was honored in the Anti-Poverty category for her work in both the city of Richmond and across Virginia Dr. Levine concluded.

##### **Office of Health Equity (OHE) Updates**

Dr. Adrienne McFadden shared updates within the Office of Health Equity (OHE):

###### New Employees:

- OHE recently hired Ms. Isra Malik as the Cultural and Linguistic Appropriate Services (CLAS) specialist.

###### Virginia’s Health Opportunity Index (HOI):

- OHE is working to have the HOI updated by late summer 2017. The updated HOI will provide two point comparison data.
- Virginia’s Youth Well-being Index is also available as a tool to inform elements of the state Plan for Well-being.

###### Partners in Prayer and Prevention (P3):

- P3 is a County Health Rankings grant-funded program within the Office of Health Equity (OHE). Ms. Veronica Cosby, P3 program manager recently completed a five-week Community Health Champion training in which 25 congregations participated. Dr. Levine served as one of the subject

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matter expert presenters. The congregations are now involved in activities to artistically capture expressions of what health means to them and in their communities.

#### Training Presentations:

- Ms. Karen Reed presented Danville YHELI overview and best practice webinar to over 800 participants at the Region III, Regional Health Equity Council (RHEC) sponsored health equity webinar. This exemplifies the work OHE is doing.

#### State Office of Rural Health:

- Mike Mallon, a program manager within the Office of Rural Health is working collaboratively with rural partners on opioid prevention measures as well as making naloxone more available in rural communities.

#### ACHDHE MEMBER ACTION ITEMS

ACHDHE members were requested to provide their feedback on the presentations and the draft meeting minutes. The links are indicated below.

- **VDH Presentation Surveys**

1. Danville Youth Health Equity Leadership Institute (YHELI) Program Updates, by Augustine Doe: <https://kwiksurveys.com/s/E1Vnioq5>
2. Increasing Adolescent Well-Being: Promoting Healthy Relationships: by, Robert Franklin: <https://kwiksurveys.com/s/isvKMDdW>

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

- No public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.

**Next ACHDHE MEETING:** Tuesday, July 11, 2017.

**Time:** 11:00am – 2:00 pm

**Location:** Mezzanine Conference Room, VDH Central Office, 109 Governor Street, 23219 or via Polycom upon request.

**Respectfully submitted by:**

**Augustine Doe, Health Equity Specialist**

**Minutes reviewed by:**

**Ms. Luisa Soaterna, Chair**