

Missouri Women’s Health Council
Webex
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2021

Members Present	Karen Edison, Sue Kendig, Bridget McCandless, Denise Wilfley, Katie Towns
Members Absent	Eboni January, Paula Baker, Karlyle Christian Ritter, Sherry Maxwell, Katherine Mathews, Mary McLennan, Melissa Terry, Denise Willers, Wendy Doyle, Sandra Jackson
Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) Staff	Martha Smith, Sarah Ehrhard Reid
Department of Social Services Staff (DSS)	Jessica Dresner
Guests	Huvona Watkins, Mandy Hagseth, Simone Taylor, Rienna Boyd, Sree Deepthi Immani, Sophia Cantwell

Topic/Presenter	Discussion
Welcome	Sue Kendig welcomed Council members and guests. Sue also gave a shout out to students with the Masters of Public Health Program with St. Louis University. Sue asked for introductions from Council members.
Department of Social Services Update	<p>A new topic that has come up is the emergency rule that the federal government plans to roll out in October around the mandatory vaccinations. It started out focusing on nursing facilities and then included other long-term care facilities and now extends to other healthcare facility businesses with more than 100 people. Bridget asked if the employer of more than 100 means state business as well. Jessica did not know the answer but thought that it has not extended that far yet. Sarah indicated she is on the vaccine team at the DHSS. They are still waiting for the guidance on how to implement. When they have additional information they will be working to disseminate that.</p> <p>Jessica talked about telemedicine and broadband and trying to increase access in rural areas with the money that is coming from the American Rescue Prevention Act. Karen Edison mentioned they would be glad to give some of their background and knowledge on what is going on in different parts of the state. Sue shared that St. Mary’s Medical (SSM) has one of the first high-risk telemedicine efforts in the region. Sue wrote a brief on how they are utilizing that in advance practice professionals to reach rural areas. They also have two RMOMS grants in Missouri that have a telehealth component and she would be happy to share that.</p> <p>The transformation office is working with managed care health plans to put together what will be a public facing dashboard. The vision is to publish three health plans. Jessica also talked about their five placemats that are Medicaid related. She is working to find the unanimous, if you will, across the projects, so they can be identified and can be mapped and put together some public facing dashboards on those. Then they will switch over to the data warehouse to be able to produce records for them to start tracking programs with data. Jessica will send the link to the placemats.</p>

	<p>Alex Daskalakis started as the Managed Care Director on September 1st.</p> <p>Jessica talked about Medicaid Expansion. MO HealthNet is ready to go when the day comes that the claims come in. The system is ready to process and pay the claims. If there are any questions around presumptive eligibility, those questions will need to go through Sarah to send to Jessica. She will need to run them by Kim Evans to get the answers. Jessica also talked about the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). Jessica will let Sarah know when the post date will be for the FAQs so she can send that out to the Council. Bridget asked if they do computer analysis when they look at where people get hung up in the application so that they know where people are struggling. Jessica indicated that they do not have that functionality at this point.</p> <p>Denise Wilfley had a follow up question on the benefits for children and adults for obesity. She doesn't understand exactly how that will all unfold. Denise wondered if it would be best to have the opportunity to talk to Alex about that. Jessica indicated that would be okay. Jessica may get some information from one of their registered nurses and she will pass that along.</p> <p>The pharmacy director, Josh Moore has been in collaboration with others on an effort to eliminate hepatitis C in Missouri. Jessica will send out the web link for this. Sue asked if the hepatitis C initiative was only within the Department of Corrections. Jessica indicated it was for Department of Corrections and then also for Medicaid. Jessica would also like to have Kim Evans come to a future meeting to give an update on expansion.</p>
<p>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Update</p>	<p>Sue welcomed Simone Taylor, MS, RN, Regional Women's Health Analyst, Region 7. Simone has been in the role for three months. She has been a nurse for almost 15 years and has focused on public health in the last six years. Her region covers Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska. She works under the office of the Assistant Secretary of Health. Their mission is health for all by all. She gave an overview of her office and role at OASH. She gave an overview of the priorities and initiative they are working on and also on funding opportunities and challenges. Sarah will send a copy of the presentation out to the Council.</p> <p>Sue asked if Simone could share if any of the region 7 states are included in any of the initiatives around data collection, quality improvement in hospitals. Simone will try to get that information. Sue also mentioned, with the focus on hypertension and one of the maternal health goals around hypertension, Missouri was one of the state that participated with the preeclampsia foundation in their cuff kit project. Missouri Foundation for Health funded blanketing the state with those and it was very well received in the rural areas. Martha Smith indicated that Title V is looking at continuing that initiative and she has all the information from MHA and they are looking at helping to continue that effort as well.</p>
<p>Discussion of Nominations</p>	<p>At the last Council meeting, they came up with a process for nominations as they would like to fill some of the slots on the Council so they can have a full Council in place. Sue asked Sarah to take the Council through the nominations. Sarah walked through the nominations process and who has been nominated so far. A discussion followed.</p>

	<p>Sue asked to send a reminder for the December meeting and perhaps do a Doodle poll.</p> <p>Sarah mentioned the Vaccine Incentive Program. Sarah is on the victims of sexual violence task force and they have been hosting public hearings. She will include the information in an email.</p> <p>Sue shared the Uplift Connection, which is a web-based women's health network that brings together maternal and infant mortality initiatives, is hosting their MCA Convening on September 28th.</p>
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at noon.
Next Meeting	December 3, 2021