



# Eastern Regional Alliance Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 17, 2013  
11:00a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Conference Call

## Attendees:

Joseph Palm, Joanne Lewis, Valerie Butler, Candace Da Silva, Shelia Leander, Rosetta Keeton, Vanessa Lloyd, Sarah Patrick, Betty Jefferson, Linda Mackey

## Welcome/Introductions

The meeting opened at 11:04 a.m. by Chairperson Candace Da Silva. Everyone on the call introduced themselves.

## OMH Updates

- Joe thanked Candace for her contribution to the Eastern Alliance.
- New OMH employee will start on May 1, 2013 in St. Louis (Eastern District Health Office) and will be working with the Hispanic community.

## Infant Mortality

**Update on Triumph Campaign** – addressing Infant Mortality in the 27<sup>th</sup> Ward. A community awareness event took place. The group surveyed the community and distributed trinkets to make them aware of the initiative. There are 20 – 30 organizations that collaborated together to form this effort. Funding comes from difference organizations in the Infant Mortality Collaborative. It was started by the late Alderman Greg Carter who had some city funding. OMH did a lot of the initial funding for this effort through federal funding. Hopefully the feds will release non-competitive funding to be given to the State Offices of Minority Health for three years. The initiative is now housed through the Maternal Child & Family Health Coalition where Kendra Copanas is the director. The current Epidemiologist has been working with Vetta Saunders Thompson, from Washington University, and created a new survey to get updated demographic information. New Northside Baptist Church's pastor, first lady and members offered their facility and helped canvas the community. The late Alderman Carter's daughter also participated. There were 30 volunteers.

## Medicaid Expansion

**MO not having Medicaid Expansion, would this have any effect on this kind of efforts?** Mr. Palm attended Keep the Funds in Missouri Forum on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Capitol. People from across Missouri came to voice this state's need for Medicaid Expansion. 138% of the poverty level is required by the federal government to receive the funds. House Bill 700 was looking at 100%. 138% of FPL equals to \$32,499 for a family of 4. Second, some people feel this is tied to Obamacare. There were a lot of people there from the hospitals from rural areas, businesses, and law enforcement. If Medicaid is not expanded, hospitals will receive a dish funding (funding to supplement the funding that they lose through serving those who are uninsured or underinsured). Speakers shared that if this is not passed, hospitals will close and people will have to travel a long distance to receive services; people may die. The House and Senate shutdown due to the number of people there.

## Healthy Family Conference

This is a state wide conference looking to be scheduled for 2014 in Columbia, MO. Child support is one issue destroying families and is the largest problem across the state and country. Father's need to be more informed about the rules and laws of child support. A lot of fathers are not aware of income modification.

Sexual violence against men and women, mostly victim blaming, healthy relationships and what it should look like. **Rosetta** shared that there is a gap in the understanding of the youth and how they relate to their parents, friends and other relationships, who is the targeted audience? **Joe** will plan another call for all the alliance chairs to help with the event. Violence will be another topic relating to the conference. Regular health topics will be included in the conference. Healthy Relationships, Healthy Families

- **Budget/partners-**

**Partners-** Halbert Sullivan (Father Support Center), Department of Social Services, Child Support Enforcement (Allison Campbell), St. Louis City Court, Judge Paula Bryant, Sam Dodson (Chief of Police)

**Budget** – Check with Missouri Foundation for Health (Robert Hughes) for support with funding for the conference, highlight findings from the report, Reach Healthcare Foundation possible candidate for funds.

- **Assignments**

1. **Breakout Sessions**

- Child Support
- Sexual Violence Prevention
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Healthy Relationships
- Rape Prevention
- Parent/Child Communication – **Candace Da Silva** and **Rosetta Keeton**
- Homicide
- Health – **Sheila Leander**

2. **Transportation – Rosetta Keeton**
3. **Target Audience:** Minority Families
4. **Logistics – Candace Da Silva** (She will schedule a meeting.)

#### **Report on Community Awareness Event**

- **(Sheila)** Alicia Keys Empowered Campaign about HIV/AIDS-Kaiser Family Foundation is part of the Greater than AIDS initiative. Community Grant for hard hit areas.
- **(Rosetta)** – St. Louis Connect Care will be partnering with the Bentor garden project to form a community garden to grow herbs and vegetables. Proceeds from the garden will go back into the program for supplies and accessories.
- Healthy Brain Conference will take place this month April 24, 2013 which can be located on our website [www.health.mo.gov](http://www.health.mo.gov) and look at the community events calendar.
- **(Rosetta)** St. Louis Connect Care event with the focus on Hepatitis, June 1, 2013, 10-4pm.
- **(Joe)** May is older American months Southside Wellness Center will have Bringing it Together event on May 24, 2013.
- Health Village at the African Arts Festival May 25-27, 2013.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

#### **Special note(s):**

Next meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.  
Call-in Number: (866) 630-9356.