

**Missouri Women’s Health Council
Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2023**

Members Present	Sue Kendig, Megan Simmons, Cheryl Robb-Welch, Felisha Richards, Karyn Fowler, Shavanna Spratt, Denise Wilfley,
Members Absent	Brenda Higgins, Melissa Terry, Ebony January, Huvona Watkins, Katie Towns, Sandra Jackson, Karlyle Christian Ritter
Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) Staff	Paula Nickelson, Dr. Jackie Miller, Pat Simmons, Sarah Ehrhard Reid, Martha Smith, Brenna Davidson, Tracy Henson
Department of Social Services Staff (DSS)	Ashley Wilson
Guests	Claire Huber

Topic/Presenter	Discussion
Welcome and Recognition of Former Members	<p>Sarah thanked the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence for hosting the Women’s Health Council (WHC) Meeting. The morning started with the recognition of former WHC members. Sue welcomed the Council and asked for introductions. Sue gave some background history of the WHC and thanked her colleagues at the Department for their support of the Council. Director Nickelson indicated the WHC has been a great partner to the Department in terms of providing input to the state health assessment and state health improvement plan. She is glad to be there to recognize all of the members, but certainly, the membership that has worked for so many years. Certificates will be mailed to the former members.</p>
Lessons Learned and Updates-Facilitated by OPM	<p>Brenna Davidson with Department of Health and Senior Services presented a PowerPoint presentation on Strategic Planning. They are redoing their state health assessment and will be incorporating new data sets and community voices. They will be doing 18 listening sessions all over the state. Brenna will send the Council the social media packets and flyers for the listening sessions. There will also be an online survey. She also talked about the state health improvement plan.</p> <p>The Council will use the vision, mission and values of DHSS, and the Council will define their priorities of what they are doing in the next three years. Brenna talked about the DHSS Strategic Map.</p> <p>Brenna talked about a project she helped facilitate. It was a governor-supported task force and work group around healthcare and public health workforce issues and came up with a report of recommendations that was published on July 1, 2022. There is now a public health and healthcare workforce commission that is housed at the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development. Brenna extended an invitation to the Council to attend.</p> <p>Brenna suggested inviting Daniel Bogle, Health Policy Director and Ben Terrell, legislative liaison, to a Council meeting.</p>

<p>Department of Social Services Update</p>	<p>Ashley Wilson gave an update on the postpartum bill from 60 days to 12 months. Ashley will go back to their education team and try to find out what their plan is to try to share the information on the 12-month post-partum coverage. They have been working with DHSS on Extended Women’s Health. She also talked about the maternal infant work groups.</p> <p>There was a conversation about women who are not pregnant and if they have to pay for the initial exam before they can be let into the DSS system. A discussion followed. They also talked about social determinants of health.</p>
<p>Council Long Range Planning-Facilitated by OPM</p>	<p>The Council does not have a vision or a mission, but they have a charge “to improve the health and wellbeing of all women in Missouri.” Brenna asked if that was still accurate. They talked about adding “across the life course” to the charge. There was a discussion in regard to data, and Sue asked if the Council could get a glossary of the data sources. There was a question on eating disorders and if they are assessed within data sources. There was a discussion on the scope of the council. The Council talked about buckets and actionable objectives under the buckets. The Council discussed having the same priorities as the Department. There was a discussion on women and aging. Breanna suggested Mindy Ulstad, Chief of the Bureau of Senior Programs, come and speak at a Council meeting. The Council also talked about menopause, community voices, community connectedness and building community support and health access.</p> <p>The Council will need nominations for five or six people to join next year. There is a form to fill out for this. It was suggested to take six months to define who the Council is and what they are, do a needs assessment, collaborate, get more membership, and in January of 2024 define their objectives and have a better understanding of what their needs are across the state and then figure out how they can work with the Department. In the next six months, bring the people they want to hear from to learn what they are doing and ways the Council can participate with them and work with them to the next couple of Council meetings. It was also suggested to have monthly meetings between now and the end of the year. They also talked about work groups.</p>
<p>Closing and Next Steps</p>	<p>Set up monthly meetings for the rest of the calendar year with one more in-person meeting. The meetings will be virtual. We will host in-person meetings once a year. Identify how the Council would like to meet in the next year and the format. Share a regional breakdown, as well as a professional breakdown, of the members leaving and what the current structure is so they know what gaps they want to fill. Share the nomination form to nominate council members. A yearly check-in on the Council’s plan. Share the Department’s organizational chart. Sarah will collect bios from the new members and update the directory of members. It was encouraged to have members give updates at the meetings.</p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>August 24, 2023, via Webex</p>