

# MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday August 18, 2021

**Called to Order:** 12:00 noon

**Attendees:** Pamala Dame (Co-Chair), Burl Baker, Amy Boivin, Amber Kramer, Jennifer Little, Raquel Mendoza, Melissa Pisan.

**Other Attendees:** Cheryl Newell, Dr Gerald Hill, Bevin Ankrom, Kim Walls, Michael Donarski, Christopher Koski, Princess Osita-Oleribe.

**Apologies:** Signe Porter, Nora Foster, Craig Schuhmann, Rebecca Adams, Wendy Vazquez.

## Meeting Agenda:

1. **Introduction:** All members and other attendees made quick introductions of themselves.

2. **Review and Approve Minutes for July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

Burl Baker moved to adopt the minutes. Amber Kramer seconded. The motion was carried.

3. **Public Comment/Member Feedback**

There was no public comment or member feedback during this meeting.

4. **Grievance and Appeal refresher training**

Kim Walls presented CHA's Grievance and Appeal Process to the CAC. Her presentation and Appeal & Hearing Request Form with Instructions are included in the appendix.

### **Suggestions/Questions and responses included:**

**Dr Gerald Hill:** Who can request Expedited Appeals – the members, or the providers?

**Response:** As stated on the Appeal Request Form, members can ask for an expedited/fast appeal.

Providers can also request appeals for members, but they need to have the member's permission to do so.

The form instruction includes how to ask for expedited request and what would qualify for expedited.

Expedited/fast appeal request can be approved earlier than the normal 16-day time for an appeal decision, if waiting will put the member's life, health, or ability to function in danger.

## **5. SDOH Training**

Christopher Koski presented CHA SDOH/Health Equity training to the CAC. His presentation and training videos are included in the appendix.

### **Suggestions/Questions and responses included:**

**Dr Hill:** What was CHA's workforce demographics by percentage and what was the position breakdown for the diversity across CHA?

**Response:** CHA has a diverse leadership team across the org – CHA CEO, multiple directors and the entire health equity unit.

**Jennifer Little:** Are the positions on the Health Equity Council chart new positions or just additional workgroups that existing positions will participate in?

**Response:** A few are new and yet to be advertised/filled positions. Others are current positions in CHA.

**Jennifer Little:** I'd love to see the whole Health Equity plan and go through it.

**Response:** This will be presented in full in another CAC meeting.

## **6. OHA Update**

COVID hospitalizations have increased drastically. The state is at a critical mass, a worse place than where the state was in November of 2020 and has very little room for non-COVID cases. Per these developments, the governor has reinstated mask mandated for both vaccinated and non-vaccinated persons. Bevin will share information about Oregon COVID updates to share with the CAC through Princess. Members are encouraged to sign up for the state daily update.

About the 3<sup>rd</sup> COVID dose, the recommendation is to have the eligible persons – Transplant recipients, Chemo patients, Immuno-compromised – stick to the initial vaccine type (Pfizer or Moderna (mRNA) vaccine) they received for their booster dose of the vaccine. The state is still waiting to hear about recommendations from those who received a Johnson & Johnson (single shot) vaccine. The OHA will provide additional guidance soon about when immunocompromised people should access a third vaccination.

Jennifer clarified Local Providers in Klamath are yet waiting for clarifications for attestations and requirements. So, this is not yet available in Klamath. The county has a daily epidemiology update to keep community members informed.

Listening sessions on COVID organized by OHA, next one is on Thursday with a registration link with breakout room in English and Spanish August 19 and September 1st. August 25<sup>th</sup> is for Migrant farmers. There are also announcements and help on how to identify COVID-19 scams.

**Other Suggestions/Questions and responses included:**

**Michael Donarski:** Vetted information will help weed out commercial messaging that are already going out about the COVID vaccine booster dose.

**Dr Hill:** Any prohibitions on the Tribal self-attestations for booster COVID vaccines?

**Response:** Bevin will take back the question to the state

In person services by OHA is currently suspended in the light of the surge in COVID cases. State offices were planning to open to in-person services in September but now this date has been put on hold. The State has not provided a new date for opening to the public. Bevin will provide an update once the date has been made public.

All Oregon state employees are expected to be vaccinated or submit an approved exemption (health and religious reasons), on or before October 18<sup>th</sup> or six weeks after FDA approval of the vaccine or risk termination of their employment.

Portland Public school district is requiring all teachers and staff to be vaccinated or submit an approved exemption waiver by August 31<sup>st</sup>. Governor Brown is hopeful more school districts in Oregon to follow suit.

**7. Updates: SHARE Initiative, HRS and Health Equity Plan Evaluation Panel**

Princess Osita-Oleribe stated that CHA has received 3 of the 4 expected applications for the SHARE Initiatives. The review of all the application will be concluded and submitted to OHA before 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The funding for the proposed project will be disbursed by November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. CHA is currently working on an open Request for Funding Application (RFA) process to sponsor Community Based Initiative (CBIs) under its Health-Related Services (HRS). The RFA will be presented in the next CAC meeting.

CHA has submitted reference materials for its Health Equity Progress report to OHA and has opted for Evaluation Panel review of this progress report as against a narrative report. The date and modalities for this panel will be communicated by OHA to CHA soon.

**Meeting was ended by the CAC Co-chair at 1:12 pm.**

**Next meeting September 15, 2021.**