

Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 19, 2016

11:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

WILDER FOUNDATION

COUNCIL CHAIR	Vayong Moua
ACTING CHAIR IN COUNCIL CHAIR'S ABSENCE	
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular monthly
NOTE TAKER	Dawn Duffy
ATTENDEES	Anne Barry, Titilayo Bediako, Annastacia Belladonna, Michael Birchard, Patricia Brady, Tikki Brown, Beverly Bushyhead, Sia Her, Ann Hill, Babette Jamison, Vayong Moua, Susie Nanney, Brendabell Njee, Adesola Oni, Louis Porter, Maria Sarabia, Nyagatare Valens, Aaron Wittnebel, Pahoua Yang
NOT IN ATTENDANCE	Sen. Michelle Benson, Mitchell Davis, Jr., Rep. Matt Dean, Tenzin Dolkar, Jill Kehaulani Esch, LaRone Greer, Muriel Gubasta, Dave Haley, Kamaludin Hassan, Sen. Jeff Hayden, Rev. Janet Johnson, Rep. Tina Liebling, Rep. Diane Loeffler, Pa H. Lor, Sen. Tony Lourey, Rep. Tara Mack, Chelsea Magadance, Anna Mazig, Louis Porter III, Rep. Rena Moran, Rep. Joe Mullery, Bauz Nengchu, Sen. Julie Rosen, Saciido Shaie, Sen. Kathy Sheran, Steve Yang
DHS STAFF	Brian Ambuel, Dawn Duffy, Huda Farah, Rong Cao
SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTERS:	Marissa Hinnenkamp (with Olufemi Fajolu, Jessica Cintorino and Charity Friederichs), Diogo Reis
PUBLIC:	Jean Lee

Agenda topics

11 MINUTES

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

VAYONG MOUA

DISCUSSION		
<p>The meeting opened at 12:03 p.m.</p> <p>Vayong Moua welcomed the new council members and noted that they had an orientation just before the opening of today's monthly meeting.</p> <p>Introductions were made around the room.</p> <p>Patricia Brady and Jay Colond recently lost family members. Our thoughts are with them and their families.</p> <p>To learn more about working with equity and policy analysis, Antonia Wilcoxon is working on a March 13-18 training taught by Dr. Sam Myers. The focus is making equity central in how you create policy. It also will help with budgeting and policy development.. There are 20 slots available. Contact Antonia if you are interested in participating in this week-long event.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

1 MINUTE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY'S MEETING

VAYONG MOUA

DISCUSSION		
<p>The January 2016 minutes were approved.</p>		
MOTION TO APPROVE:	Ann Hill	

MOTION 2ND:	Brendabell Njee

1 MINUTE **APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY'S MEETING** **VAYONG MOUA**

DISCUSSION	
The February 2016 agenda was approved.	
MOTION TO APPROVE:	Susie Nanney
MOTION 2ND:	Annastacia Belladonna

10 MINUTES **THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIR** **VAYONG MOUA**

DISCUSSION		
<p>This is a tipping point moment in the equity movement. Vayong heard a legislative preview at the Humphrey Institute, where the top legislative priorities were a balance budget, long term transportation funding, tax relief and eliminating equity disparities. Equity is becoming public and policy-focused. It is a priority of magnitude.</p> <p>There is an equity note – HF2198 / SF2054. Annastacia Belladonna says the bill does not have a compliance piece. She is working with the legislators to get that language into the bill and she will update the council at the next meeting. Vayong said that the council may be asked to testify, write letters and/or exercise our community voice to put our full force on display. Let the council know if you are willing to participate.</p> <p>Vayong also mentioned a recent Star Tribune article and the perception of racial justice.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

16 MINUTES **DHS EQUITY POLICY UPDATE** **ANNE BARRY,
DHS ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER**

DISCUSSION		
<p>Four times a year, the DHS leaders meet. Vayong will be at the next meeting.</p> <p>At the January 2016 CECLC meeting, Anne Barry distributed some confusing DHS client notices. DHS program and communications staff are working to better and more clearly reach their clients. Anne asked for volunteers to work with this DHS group.</p> <p>Anne also called for volunteers for the child foster care work groups. Anne doesn't see equity in the final report and recommendations and she recommends the council to respond with feedback to the Commissioner. Annastacia Belladonna asked about the best way to respond – as our job title or as the council member? Anne says as both. Vayong Moua recommends that all legislative reports get to be reviewed by the CECLC. Anne made a call for volunteers to work with LaRone Greer and Vayong. Those expressing interest were Annastacia Belladonna, Brendabell Njee, Babette Jamison, Ann Hill, Beverly Bushyhead, Aaron Wittnebel and Jean Lee. Ann Hill said there are two work groups that Rep. Rena Moran is on that already are working on this. There also is a professional development work group.</p> <p>Maria Sarabia brought up the Star Tribune article that Vayong discussed earlier. DHS is doing communications to clarify that, as of 1993, this is federally required to participate in estate recovery when it comes to Medicaid. If you have questions or concerns, contact Maria. She works with eligibility policy, not liens.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

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26 MINUTES

DHS PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS FOR COUNTIES

**MARISA HINNENKAMP,
CHARITY FRIEDERICH AND
OLUFEMI FAJOLU**

DISCUSSION		
<p>Legislated in 2013, DHS has a performance management system in place to address county performance re: mandated human services. The accountability piece of the program started last summer.</p> <p>Mathematically, the legislative language of this performance program doesn't work. As example, it showed that there were no disparities with any counties. There is a policy proposal to change the language (page 5 of her handout) to loosen up the language. We anticipate this language will pass.</p> <p>Charity Friederichs discussed page 6 of the handout document. There was a workgroup about one year ago that identified the language wasn't working. They now are reconvening the workgroup to address what is lacking with the language. They will set thresholds for measurement and accountability. They would like to invite anyone who is interested to participate with them. FYI, Susie Nanney expressed interest last summer. The workgroup will meet in late March and meets quarterly.</p> <p>Aaron Wittnebel asked who is eligible vs. who is receiving services, and how do you capture those who miss services. Marissa Femdi is new with statistics aggregating data for the program.</p> <p>Anastacia Belladonna asked how rural communities fit in this dialogue and with the dynamics of the workgroup. Marisa said that this is being considered.</p> <p>Patricia Brady heard that, if people check too many ethnic groups' boxes on a form, it defaults the race response to Caucasian. If so and it this is a programming issue, this should be fixed.</p> <p>Aaron said that responders should fill out demographic info because they may then be eligible for additional services.</p> <p>Marissa asked if she could come back in May 2016</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

40 MINUTES

HEALTH CARE FINANCING TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

DIOGO REIS

DISCUSSION		
<p>According to Diogo Reis, there are three main categories to this program – continuity of coverage, sustainability for the state and health disparities</p> <p>There were 29 members appointed for this taskforce. The bill passed in May 2015 and began meeting at the end of August last year. They had nine meetings and some additional sub-group meetings. This report came out end of January 2016.</p> <p>Vayong Moua said this information needs to be understandable to the lay person and he recommends that this is translated for those who are most impacted. Diogo pointed out that the taskforce no longer exists. It was a legislatively mandated task force, not a DHS taskforce, so that is why this wasn't brought to the CECLC.</p> <p>Vayong said that the council's role is to see if an equity lens was used when DHS looks at things. Diogo responded that this goes beyond DHS.</p> <p>Anastacia Belladonna inquired if there were people of color on the task force and Antonia Wilcoxon said yes: Sahra Noor, the co-chair with the commissioner of human services and Monica Hurtado, were two she knew.</p> <p>Council members can follow up with Diogo. Anne Barry, Maria Sarabia and/or Diogo may also sit down to discuss.</p> <p>It was pointed out that not all health care programs collect demographic data in the same way.</p> <p>Vayong recommends a health equity analysis and Diogo recommended that the conversations happen this year even though passage may not happen until next year.</p>		

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

10 MINUTES

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OTHERS

DISCUSSION		
<p>Antonia Wilcoxon reminded the council that, next month, the CECLC meeting will be held at DHS so as to hear the oral presentations from Dr. Sam Myers training (The Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice, at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs). Dawn will provide parking information when meeting information is distributed in March.</p> <p>Jean Lee said that MNsure forms require participants to “sign away your right re: information.” Sen. Lourey is working on some of these non-disclosure issues. Also, there is a Health Impact Coalition at the Department. Of Health, and they have a health impact assessment. They are eliminating disparities by putting in cultural pieces every time a bill or policy is looked at.</p> <p>Susie Nanney said that, last month, she mentioned she was a Robert Johnson finalist. She recently learned that she is one of the candidates who was selected to go to Washington, D.C., in September to work for one year.</p> <p>Aaron Wittnebel said they are offering grants to native Minnesota artists at Art to Hearts.</p> <p>Titi Bediako reminded that today, at 5:30 p.m., part of the panel discussion with the community intersecting foundation beliefs will be at Augsburg College.</p> <p>Ann Hill highlighted that the Science museum has the Race exhibit. It is back here for about 20 months.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

1 MINUTE

CLOSE OF MEETING

VAYONG MOUA

DISCUSSION		
<p>The meeting was closed at 1:59 p.m.</p>		
MOTION TO END:	Anastacia Belladonna	
MOTION 2 ND :	Susie Nanney	