

Date: October 12, 2011
TO: Members of the Columbus Office of Minority Health Advisory Committee (COMH)
From: Ryan E. Johnson
RE: Meeting Minutes October 11, 2011

Website

Please visit our website for the most current information regarding the local office. <http://www.publichealth.columbus.gov>. On the main page please search under programs.....community health.....minority health

Addition to the Local Office

The COMH has gained a position of employment within the office. Hibo Noor now serves as the Program Manager for the Columbus Office of Minority Health. Prior to full time employment Hibo has been contracted to work 480 hours (15 hours each week).

Hibo has experience working with diverse populations and addressing the needs of our communities and started with our office as an MPH student from Wright State University.

Her full time start date began August 1, 2011. The primary role of this position will be to coordinate initiatives/activities addressing our Somali population in Columbus, Ohio.

NPA

The National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities (NPA) is intended to lead local offices of minority health and its partners toward a shared destination: a nation free of health disparities, with quality health outcomes among racial and ethnic minority populations.

The NPA is an initiative of the US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health in partnership with a broad, diverse array of partners. The NPA is intended to serve as a catalyst for leadership action around five core objectives:

- Increased awareness of health disparities
- Strengthened leadership at all levels
- Improved patient-provider communication
- Improved cultural and linguistic competency
- Improved coordination and utilization of research and evaluation outcomes

Provided Documents include:

- HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities
- National Stakeholder Strategy for Achieving Health Equity
- National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities: Toolkit for Community Action

Asian Briefing Paper

The draft of the briefing paper focusing on the Asian community has been completed and was presented to the committee for review. Committee members were asked to provide any final changes to the document by October 28, 2011. All suggestions should be submitted to Ryan E. Johnson.

Racism and Infant Mortality

The committee received information regarding the Action Learning Collaboration (ALC) and its partnership with the local office of minority Health.

Vision: To eliminate racial inequities to contributing infant mortality within U.S. urban areas

Mission: To increase capacity at community/local/state levels to address the impact of racism on birth outcomes and infant health

The ACL will be meeting on October 19, 2011 from 9am to 10:30pm at Columbus Public Health (Boardroom). The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss strategic next steps, address consumer engagement in the ALC process and explore evaluative measures for the existing work to date. All advisory committee members are encouraged to attend and participate.

October 19th Event

Columbus Public Health invites you to attend "A Conversation on Community Health Improvement," on Wednesday, **October 19, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at 240 Parsons Avenue**. This conversation will bring together public health partners to review the current state of the community's health, get input on health concerns and explore thoughts on community health priorities. The event will be held in our 2nd floor auditorium, with check-in beginning at 8:30 a.m.

As background for the event, we're inviting attendees to review select information which serves as the basis for many of the community's current health initiatives. *Key Community Health Indicators* and *Unequal Health: The Black/White Gap in Franklin County* can be found at <http://publichealth.columbus.gov/health-data-reports.aspx>.

Changes Evaluation

COMH and REEP evaluator have meet on bi-weekly basis to address the core competencies of the local office (office operations). During this reporting quarter, the REEP evaluator formally informed COMH of their intent not to renew the contract as the REEP Evaluator for the Columbus Office after the current state fiscal year.

Rama Consulting Inc. has worked with the office for over two years to provide evaluation support and capacity building consultation. Rama Consulting Inc. is very interested in making sure the office has a new person in this role that can bring both passion and expertise to this important work.

Their work completed with the submission of the final evaluation report July 30, 2011. COMH will continue to discuss what may be good avenues to partner with local researchers and evaluators through the City of Columbus bid process.

Due to evaluation changes, the local office will address the subcommittee structure beginning in 2012. We will also provide committee members with a summary report of the local office of minority health survey in 2012.

Meeting Dates 2012

Columbus Public Health

Conference Room 119-C (240 Parsons Avenue)

- January 10
- April 10
- July 10
- October 9