

Meeting: Regional Equity Advisory Committee for Health (REACH)

Meeting Date: 1/24/2022

KEY DISCUSSION TOPICS

Members:

- Ricardo Bowden
- Debbie Edokpolo
- Afaf Humayun
- Jean Lee
- Shelly Milligan
- Anna Winters

MSHN Support Staff:

- Dani Meier
- Skye Pletcher
- Amanda Slack

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Agenda priorities from REACH member
3. Review of draft charter
4. Discussion of equity, vision & goals
5. Discussion of strategies
6. Recruiting additional REACH members?
7. Next steps?

✓ KEY DECISIONS

- Introduced REACH members
- Positive reception of draft charter; no immediate changes recommended.
- Dani and Skye described how the group is advisory and the intent is for REACH to offer feedback on policies, activities, etc., not be the workgroup that implements the activities.
- Dani also emphasized that a discussion about equity and health disparities will be inevitably broad, but the scope of work for the REACH workgroup must fall within the scope of MSHN's work related to the public behavioral health system in MSHN's 21-counties
- Group agreed that data is necessary to validate future projects and ideas
- Members suggested that the group would benefit from the addition of a person of faith, a youth, a formerly incarcerated individual, a Latino/Hispanic, and a person with a disability
- Debbie mentioned intersectionality, i.e., that we shouldn't assume that the current membership of the REACH doesn't already include persons of faith.
- Group agreed that a rotating chair organization would work best with most schedules and workloads
- Group decided on an approximately monthly meeting schedule to start, with the option to adjust based on schedules and project ideas

<p>✓ ACTION/INPUT REQUIRED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Initial project planning; see attached notes (below) for project ideas ● Dani will follow up with Debbie's Latino recommendation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update: Feliz Rodriguez has agreed to join the group ● Future directions: develop regional policies/best practice guidance around SOGI cultural competence
<p>✓ KEY DATA POINTS/DATES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next meeting: February 14, 2022, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Project Ideas:

Organizational/Infrastructure Development

- Policies/Procedures that support DEI
- Practice guidelines/Trainings around specific areas of competence for providers of behavioral health and SUD prevention/treatment services
- Organizational DEI self-assessment
- Workforce Diversity

Data-Driven Initiatives (Specific Disparities)

- Service Access/Penetration
- Follow-up After ED visit for mental health/SUD
- Gathering data on minorities that is lacking (i.e., gender identity and sexual orientation)