

**San Diego Accountable Community For Health
Community and Resident Activation Workgroup Meeting
Wednesday, April 4, 2018**

Accountable
Communities for
Health

Members present:

Myleen Abuan
Awichu Akwanya
Tekara Gainey
Edwina Hardieway
Agnes Hajek
Rosa Ana Lozada
Jama Mohamed
Meshate Mongistu
Yolanda Tenorio
Daphyne Watson

Staff Present:

Elizabeth Bustos, BTSD
Sonal Desai, BTSD
Victoria Harris, BTSD
Makenzie Farrimond, BTSD

Welcome and Introductions

Elizabeth Bustos opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees and thanking them for participating. All Attendees introduced themselves and provided an overview of their work. Elizabeth reviewed the agenda and described the purpose for the meeting.

The ACH Story

Elizabeth presented the “story” of the SD ACH, beginning by explaining the larger California Accountable Community for Health Initiative and reflecting on Dr. Bob Ross’ call to action to “create a positive narrative based on authentic inclusion, grassroots participation, and advocacy” from his visit in April 2017.

In order to frame the “why” of the SD ACH, the story of Isaiah was presented to the group and members were asked to think of the Isaiah’s they have known in the past and know in the present. Elizabeth shared the purpose of all of the SD ACH workgroups, how they intersect with one another, each and how the Community and Resident Activation Workgroup will “embed community and resident voices into the DNA of “every moving part” of SD ACH”. The SD ACH Mission, Vision, and First Aim, were shared with the group.

Integrating the Community’s Voice

Elizabeth shared how “community” and “residents” are defined according to CACHI. This included the concepts that residents participate in the leadership team as well as the broader collaborative to help set priorities and goals, and that residents are engaged in carrying out the interventions, “not just being subjects of them”.

A comment from Ms. Diane Moss: When first hearing “community”, I thought of all the residents who live in San Diego. I later realized that for us, the “community” needs to be the groups that are most impacted by inequities.

Discussion: Community and Resident Engagement

How will we make this different from every other effort going on now and in the past?”

Elizabeth asked those who have been participating in SD ACH development since the beginning in April 2017 to share what they believe to be the difference between SD ACH work and other efforts, as well as why they are sticking around now.

Comments from the group included:

- There is no preconceived agenda. The Community and Resident Activation Workgroup is making space for a dialogue that will create/shape the agenda
- The group has the chance to define “community” and “residents” and reshape perceptions of these labels. This language will form the direction of the group
- The community is already “engaged” and “activated”, this group just has to check that they’re listening to the community’s perspective and engaging in return
- The activity and the resources are there, now all that is needed is creativity
- This opportunity allows for looking through equitable lenses and doing something meaningful

Who is missing from the table?

- Engage the senior community by working with community centers or senior homes to tap into their wisdom
- Call on youth perspective to allow the group to effectively address preventive interventions
- Actual community members, not members of community-based organizations, should be in the discussion instead of solely being “discussed”

What can community activation look like county-wide and in Southeastern San Diego (first priority community)?

This conversation is just getting started, but comments from the group included:

- Because the boundaries of Southeastern San Diego differ between entities, using the County’s boundaries would be best for this group since it encompasses more area
- The group should define hard goals for Southeastern San Diego and soft goals for the larger community so that a range of strategies can be transferrable and modeled in different areas
- English is not always the first language spoken in this area; leaders in those communities may not feel comfortable sharing. In order to address this, have representatives from different communities relay information to leaders who can disseminate it as a trusted source
- Use the Promotores model to disseminate information and activate communities for interventions by ensuring material is culturally appropriate and that it’s delivered by someone from the community
- Host meetings in a community location so that it is comfortable for community residents to attend.
- Various attendees offered their meeting spaces.

Next Steps

1. The group agreed to meeting on a monthly basis, but in a more community-based setting. Recommendations for location are welcomed.
2. Dates for a meeting in May will be vetted. Outreach will continue to those interested in serving on the work group but unable to attend this meeting. All were invited to help identify additional stakeholders for participation in the work group.

3. Elizabeth highlighted the importance of not allowing the logistics of meeting in person each month to be a barrier to learning more about ACH and to contributing ideas, especially in the beginning, when conversations are new. Between now and the next meeting if invited she's happy to meet with anyone interested in continuing today's conversation.
4. The ACH website (www.achsandiego.org) was shared and the group was encouraged to visit it as a great resource to learn more about the work of ACH in our region.
5. The group was asked to review/brainstorm about the draft charter provided, including the purpose, membership, and responsibilities, and bring back suggestions to the next meeting.

Closing comment from a group member: "We are empowered to do what we do by the resident voice."