



Kansas Maternal & Child Health Council (KMCHC)

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Members Present: Rebecca Adamson, Carrie Akin, Kourtney Bettinger, Heather Braum, Jennifer Bruning, Cristi Cain, Amy Dean Campmire, Drew Duncan, Geno Fernandez, Kelsee Fout, Lisa Frey Blume, Holly Frye, Jason Geslois, Kirstianna Guerrero, Kari Harris, Shalae Harris, Elaine Johannes Kaitlin Johnson, Karly Lauer, Shannon Kennedy, Jeni McDonald, Jennifer Miller, Oluwakemi Onyenagubo, Karen Perez, Jessie Piper, Cari Schmidt, Christy Schunn, Lisa Shoop, Cora Ungerer, Stephanie Wolf, Kendra Wyatt, Donna Yadrich

Guests: Anna Gregory, Adelina Gutierrez Zavala, Kari Nelson, Jade Ramsdell

Staff: Denise Cyzman, Marisa Guerrero

Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions and Decisions
Welcome and Member Introductions	Dr. Kari Harris, KMCHC Chair, welcomed everyone to this meeting. She introduced three new members and facilitated introductions by all members and guests.	
KMCHC Member Spotlight	Marisa Guerrero, Outreach and Event Coordinator from the Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics presented a special grant project that provides funding to community organizations and local agencies to support the re-enrollment and enrollment of Kansas Medicaid beneficiaries.	Several KMCHC members expressed interest and spoke to Marisa later during the day.

<p>2024 Legislative Update Heather Braum, Health Policy Advisor, Kansas Action for Children</p>	<p>Heather Braum provided a comprehensive review of the 2024 Kansas Legislature. The Legislature is currently on a three-week recess and will reconvene for a few days at the end of May.</p>	<p>The KAC report is found here.</p>
<p>Title V – Kansas Maternal and Child Health Program Chris Tilden, KU Center for Public Partnerships and Research Jennifer Miller, State MCH Director/Title V Director</p>	<p>Chris Tilden gave an update on the Kansas Maternal and Child Health Program’s Title V Needs Assessment and presented ways KMCHC members could provide input.</p> <p>Dr. Jennifer Miller provided an update on the KMCH/Title V program.</p>	<p>Access Dr. Miller’s slides here.</p>
<p>Maternal and Child Health Inequities Jade Ramsdell, Performance Improvement Director, KDHE</p>	<p>Jade Ramsdell presented an overview of health inequities related to Maternal Health. A robust discussion with the Council followed her presentation.</p>	<p>Access Jade Ramsdell’s slides here.</p>
<p>Small Group Discussion by Domain and Focus Area – Special Projects</p>	<p>See Attachment A for Workgroup Action Plans and an Executive Summary of their discussion.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What were the most important takeaways from listening to today’s presentations? 2. Based on the information presented today and the ideas generated at the last meeting, what can this workgroup do as a special project – something that would meet an unmet need or make a difference? 3. Create a special Project Action Plan 	
<p>Domain Work Group Special Projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women/Maternal: TBD at the July meeting; this meeting was focused on idea generation • Perinatal/Infant: Welcoming new babies to Kansas – link to Kansas Newborn Screening Program • Child: Safety warning signs in children ages 5-12 years • Adolescent: Educating older adolescents about voting. 	
<p>Member Announcements and Updates</p>	<p>Several members provided announcements about special events within their organization or community.</p>	

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2024 Meeting Dates: July 10 (virtual), October 9 (in-person)

April 10, 2024 Domain Workgroups Workgroup Domains' Special Projects/Action Items

Perinatal/Infant: Welcoming New Babies in Kansas

Action Item	Responsibility	Resources Needed	Timeline
Create a postcard with QR code to link to newborn screening brochure. (Postcard will also feature translation option for different languages.)	KDHE team create. Workgroup feedback in July meeting	Piloting in rural communities. Postage. Funding to print postcard. (Domain suggested KAAP.)	Next quarterly meeting
Select the communities to pilot for one month to evaluate			Next quarterly meeting

Child:

Provide information on warning signs and things to look for in children aged 5-12. This can be incorporated into professional health and safety training and disseminated through the same channels used for the maternal warning signs.

Adolescent:

Focus on a voter registration campaign for Kansans. Kari Nelson is to set up a meeting with Loudlight/KAC leaders and the domain workgroup.

Women/Maternal:

See page five for a list of potential projects; one will be selected at the July meeting.

Common themes from Domain Workgroup reports:

- Inclusivity and Equity
- Youth and Family Engagement
- Addressing Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)
- Workforce Development
- Policy Advocacy and Collaboration

Doman Workgroup Reports:

Perinatal/Infant

The group discussed key areas of focus for supporting families and promoting health equity in Kansas. One significant takeaway was the KAAP grant opportunity aimed at supporting families in Medicaid re-enrollment event activities, addressing the issue of children losing Medicaid coverage, particularly in Southwest Kansas. Collaboration with KDHE through listserv sharing was highlighted as a potential avenue for contacting families to re-enroll in Medicaid.

Jade's presentation highlighted important initiatives such as the Bureau Tour on Health Equity, efforts to collect data through surveys, and the integration of Community Health Workers (CHWs) into perinatal care, emphasizing language access as a critical aspect for local providers.

In response to today's discussions and previous ideas, several potential special projects were identified. These include:

1. Coordinating with housing authorities to provide medical care to address social determinants of health (SDoH).
2. Ensuring healthcare materials are accessible by translating them to a reading level below fifth grade.
3. Identifying where families seek information and providing resources in those locations, potentially leveraging cell phone usage data for targeted outreach.
4. Establishing a statewide FIMR program to analyze and address factors contributing to infant mortality.
5. Utilizing existing mobile units in maternity care deserts to provide services aimed at reducing unplanned pregnancies and promoting birth spacing.
6. Promoting awareness of sleep-related deaths in the media, potentially through collaboration with experts like Kyran Quinlan.
7. Implementing a postcard campaign to communicate newborn screening results to parents and encourage follow-up care, promoting postpartum visits in a non-overwhelming manner.

These proposed projects aim to address unmet needs and make a significant impact on family health and wellness in Kansas, emphasizing accessibility, education, and community engagement.

Child

Today's presentations offered insights into key areas of focus for Kansas's healthcare and welfare landscape. These include a call for greater utilization of data in Medicaid strategies and emphasizing the need to translate data into actionable policy initiatives. There were discussions on the importance of incorporating family and youth voices into program development, plus aiming for a culture shift towards inclusivity in public health practices.

Several pressing issues were highlighted, such as the need for housing and food equity, adequate K-12 funding, and addressing workforce shortages, particularly in the behavioral health sector. Challenges in accessing services, like ABA providers for autism, underscored the critical need for workforce development initiatives and support structures for providers.

In response to these insights and previous discussions, potential special projects were proposed. These include establishing a statewide lived experience council to inform policy and program development, exploring apprenticeship opportunities for childcare to address workforce shortages, and researching successful campaigns to reduce stigma around behavioral health issues.

Additionally, there were calls for age-appropriate trainings and support systems for providers dealing with behavioral challenges in school-aged children, as well as efforts to disseminate information on warning signs and support resources for children aged 5-12.

These proposed projects aim to address unmet needs and meaningfully impact the healthcare and welfare landscape in Kansas, emphasizing collaboration and innovation in addressing pressing challenges.

Adolescent

The workgroup discussed critical areas of concern regarding youth welfare and healthcare in Kansas. One insight is the recognition of foundational gaps in youth services beyond maternal and child health. There's an opportunity to address this by focusing on building adolescent foundations and utilizing targeted campaigns to bolster support.

The need for a Youth Advisory Council was emphasized, highlighting the necessity for direct youth input in policymaking and program development. Additionally, it was underscored that equity conversations must include foster care and special needs populations, ensuring their inclusion and support in healthcare initiatives.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) showcased efforts emphasizing social determinants of health, signaling a promising direction in addressing broader health disparities. However, there's a call to action to address the invisibility and hyper-visibility of diverse populations, advocating for tailored support to meet their unique needs.

Despite recognition of the importance of Medicaid Expansion, there has been a noted lack of advancement in this area, highlighting a persistent challenge in healthcare policy.

Several potential special projects were identified in response to these insights and the ideas generated in prior meetings. These include:

1. Development of a Youth Advisory Council for Kansas: This project aims to establish a platform for youth voices in policymaking and program development, incorporating existing youth leadership organizations to ensure comprehensive representation.
2. Mentoring Program for Adolescents: Collaborating with the Maternal and Child Health Coalition/Family Advisory Council, this project seeks to establish a mentoring program to support adolescents in navigating healthcare and other critical life domains.
3. Playbook for Medicaid Expansion Advocacy: A comprehensive guide for state allies to effectively advocate for and promote Medicaid Expansion, addressing common challenges and providing strategies for garnering support.
4. Education Campaign on Youth Civic Engagement: This project aims to raise awareness among youth about the importance of policy advocacy and government involvement, fostering a culture of civic health and active participation.

Women/Maternal

This group focused on the potential to connect the Kansas Maternal Child Health Council (KMCH) with the Women's Health Care Services Fund (WHCSF) to address maternal morbidity issues effectively. Additionally, organizing an information session with KONZA, focusing on health information technology integration, presents a promising avenue for advancing maternal health initiatives.

The integration of OBRA, USCDI, and Maternity data through platforms like KONZA offers a comprehensive approach to maternal health management, with specific emphasis on smoking cessation programs facilitated by OBRA. Lisa's proposal for an "API" button to streamline access to smoking cessation resources underscores the importance of technological innovations in healthcare delivery.

Based on today's discussions and previous ideas, several potential special projects were identified:

1. Advocating for Kansas KanCare to apply for the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and leverage CMS/CMMI resources for transforming maternal health initiatives.
2. Facilitating collaboration between the Maternal Child Health Council and the Clark Schultz Mother Mortality Committee to synergize efforts in addressing maternal health challenges.
3. Organizing an information session with KONZA to explore opportunities for leveraging health information technology to enhance maternal health outcomes.
4. Prioritizing efforts on utilizing the OBRA form to promote smoking cessation initiatives, aligning with broader maternal health objectives.

These proposed projects aim to address unmet needs and drive meaningful progress in maternal health and wellness in Kansas, emphasizing collaboration, technology integration, and targeted interventions to improve outcomes.