



HLM Collaborative Meeting **HIGHLIGHTS**
February 9, 2016, 2:00 PM- 4:30 PM
YMCA Center for Leadership Development

MEETING ATTENDEES

Aaron Herrera, Hunger Free Texans
Albert Cheng, HCPHES
Aileen Beltran Rago, Texas Children's Hospital
Ann Smith Barnes, Legacy Health Services, *HLM Chair*
Ann Engelhorn, Community Health Choice
Anna Brewster, MD Anderson Cancer Center
Anne Whitlock, Connect Community
Angela Rubio, Pasadena ISD
Alise Neff, Pasadena ISD
Beverly Reed, Collaborative for Children
Beverly Gor Houston Health Department
Caitlin McNeely, Houston Tomorrow
Carra Moroni, Houston Health Department
Chris Browne, EHRA, *HLM Executive Committee*
Chrystal Jordan, HCPHES
Claudia Sanchez-Lopez, Aldine Greenspoint YMCA
Dedra Shealy, Harris Health System
Denny Dao, Recipe for Success Foundation
Doug Waddill, YMCA of Greater Houston
Jovanna David, Recipe for Success Foundation
Ed Gomez, NPCO/ St. Peters
Ellen Schwaller, HCPHES
Ellie Johnson
Gracie Cavnar, Recipe for Success Foundation
Gwen Sims, HCPHES
Helena Wolf, HCPHES
J. Hoxi Jones, Texas Health and Human Services
Jennifer Hadayia, HCPHES
John Puder, Texas Hunger Initiative
Jolene Norbert-Harrell, HCPHES
Kathy McNamara, Gateway to Care
Katie Chennisi, HCPHES
Kathleen Ownby, SPARK School Park Program
Kelly Reed-Hirsch, HCPHES
Kelley Sullivan, Alief ISD
Kimberly Lopez, Connect to Protect
Kim Nguyen, Gateway to Care
Kristi Rangel, Houston Health Department
Kesha McNeil, Houston Health Department

Lharissa Jacobs, YMCA of Greater Houston
Linda Civallero, MD Anderson Cancer Center
Linda Forys, HCPHES
Linda Stevens, Harris County Public Library
Lisa Helfman, HEB
Lisa Kasianowitz, Houston Parks Board
Maggie Solis, MD Anderson Family YMCA
Marcita Galindez, MD Anderson Cancer Center
Maria Aguirre-Borrero, Avenue CDC
Marie Arcos, MD Anderson YMCA
Max Castillo, Texas Hunger Initiative
Mckenzie Watson, Can Do Houston
Melissa Shelton, Houston Health Department
Michelle Caruso, Houston Health Department
Michelle Cromwell, Western Governors
University
Monique Franklin, Alief ISD
Nohemi Castillo, HCPHES
Pam Tevis, Pasadena ISD
Pat Rosenberg, Community Volunteer
Pat Van Houte, City of Pasadena
Patricia Morales, Community Family Centers
Peggy Boice, Office of County Judge Ed Emmett
Rocaille Roberts, HCPHES
Sandra Castro, Dairy MAX, Inc.
Sandy Bristow, Oliver Foundation
Sharon Young
Sharon Zachary, Alliance of Community
Assistance Ministries
Shawn McClain, Gateway to Care
Stephanie Kellan, Fort Bend ISD
Tanweer Kaleemullah, HCPHES
Theresa Strong, Bel Inizio
Tim Schauer, Cornerstone Government Affairs
Thy Ho-Pham, YMCA of Greater Houston
Tracy Jones, Children's Learning Institute
Will Miller, Office of U.S. Senator Ted Cruz

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome

Dr. Ann Barnes, HLM Executive Committee Chair (outgoing)

Dr. Barnes welcomed members to the winter 2016 Collaborative Meeting. She thanked the YMCA for the meeting space. She welcomed the public officials who were present at the meeting: Peggy Boice (Health Policy Advisor, Judge Emmett's office), Pat Van Houte (Council Member, City of Pasadena) and Will Miller (Senator Ted Cruz's office). She said that this was a great opportunity for our public officials because they can hear from us firsthand and see the kinds of things we do in our communities. She introduced the full executive committee, acknowledged project directors. She thanked everyone for her 5 great years as *HLM Executive Committee Chair* and welcomed the incoming Chair Christopher Browne.

“All of you share the passion to provide communities the opportunities they need to be physically active & eat healthy foods and live a full productive life”

– Dr. Ann Barnes

Christopher Browne presented a plaque to Dr. Barnes. He thanked her for her great leadership and said that he is honored to follow in her footsteps.

“I would rinse and repeat what Dr. Barnes has done for the past 5 years”

– Christopher Browne

Rocaille Roberts talked about the history of HLM and the launching of HLM action plan at the HLM Summit. She touched upon HLM successes with Healthy Corner Stores, Healthy Dining Matters and the receipt of National BUILD Health Challenge implementation award. She discussed leadership gaps in the built environment and health care sectors. She also talked about taking the next steps in Northside and Kashmere Gardens.

Gwen Sims explained that HLM is a multi-sector collaborative and each time we try to highlight a different sector in order to work to advance HLMs policy priorities. Ms. Sims introduced each speaker who will provide a brief presentation on their respective initiatives.



Meeting Attendees



Chris Browne & Meeting Attendees

Sector Spotlights

Early Care/Education & Out of School Time (ECE/OST)

Update: **Katie Chennisi**, Public Health Analyst,
Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services

Katie Chennisi presented the policy priorities of HLM focused on ECE/OST. ECE encompasses efforts directed towards childcare, head start and pre-school programs, for children from birth up to 5 years of age. OST refers to public or private activities catering to any youth either before or after school time. She discussed past successes, opportunities and barriers in the ECE/OST sector. Some of the goals include:

- Low fat, low calorie drinks and to ensure water is provided in locations
- Encourage staff to be role models
- Recognition of childcare centers that go beyond the minimum standards (in collaboration with University of Houston, Clear Lake)
- Help child care centers take every opportunity they can to keep the children active.
- Enhance program standards
- Create core competencies and guidelines to ensure that healthy and active living is included
- Improve utilization of the quality improvement that currently exists
- Enhance training and build capacity

Example: **Lharissa Jacobs**, Association Director of Community Health, YMCA

In 2011, YMCA started implementing Healthy Eating & Physical Activity (HEPA) standards at the YMCA sites. It addresses E6 of the HLM CAP, but they have implemented the national standards. YMCA is collectively the largest non-profit child care center. They have:

- Made water readily available inside and outside
- Programs for family education
- Created specific guidelines on what food will be served on YMCA campuses
- Created standards for reducing screen time and encouraging breastfeeding.
- Included frequent breaks for physical activity

“How can we be promoting healthy living for parents and kids at the YMCA, if we don’t toe the line?”
– Lharissa Jacobs

K-12 Education

Update: **Kelly Reed-Hirsch**, Health Education Programs Manager,
Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services

Kelly Reed-Hirsch talked about the School Health Leadership Group (SHLG) which includes stakeholders from a wide variety of sectors (nutrition, clinical health services, counseling services and physical activity) from all Harris County school districts. HLM policy priorities will be included as a standing item on their agenda. Please contact Kelly if you are a district level stakeholder who wants to be a part of the SHLG or if you want to present to the group.

Example: John M. Puder, Regional Manager for Child Hunger Outreach, No Kid Hungry Regional Coordinator, Texas Hunger Initiative (THI), Houston Region

John touched upon the history of THI. He said that to reduce child hunger in Houston/Harris County, they are focusing on 3 things:

1) summer meals program (kids who rely on free breakfast and lunch don't stop being hungry in summer); 2) healthy meals; and 3) sites across Houston/Harris County for children to get their free meals all summer long; no paperwork and no registration needed. He discussed the 3 major challenges a) awareness; b) transportation (how do we get children to come and get free meals vs. how we get the meals to the kids) and c) prevent the huge drop-off that occurs end of June when summer schools end. He talked about their "Summer Going" campaign that aims to provide information to children about the sites/programs throughout the summer. He also talked about working with sponsors and members to create sites where kids are. Currently, there are 1,100 sites in Harris County, and they are now working to put these sites in apartment complexes. They are also looking to enhance/increase the number of children who are utilizing the free breakfast program in schools. They are partnering to create free breakfast and providing breakfast in classrooms (such as the grab and go breakfast program). These programs are all funded by the USDA. All efforts align with HLM policy priority E5.

"Kids who rely on free school breakfast and lunch don't stop being hungry in summer."

- John Puder

Physical Activity Break

Alise Neff & Angela Rubio,

Pasadena Independent School District

The group did a quick rubber band based brain energizer activity set to Soul Man! We also played rock paper scissors as an academic reinforcement tool that uses math.



Health Care Sector

Update: Tanweer Kaleemullah, Public Health Analyst,
Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services

Tanweer talked about the assembly of the health care section action team. The team had their first meeting in October. Prior to this meeting, a survey was sent out to identify priority areas that the groups wanted to focus on. Community health literacy and Community-Clinical Linkages were the top two choices. Currently the team is very action oriented. The team is creating a CCL toolkit with Jolene Norbert-Harrell (HCPHES) as the lead. The team is also creating metrics (what data, sources, who needs to be collecting) for social determinants of health.



Example: Anna Brewster, Program Manager, Cancer Control & Prevention Platform
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Anna discussed the Harris County BUILD partnership. She said that this was an initiative with a mission of eliminating conditions that cause food insecurity in North Pasadena. She briefly mentioned the three arms of the BUILD project: production, distribution and consumption. The core partners in the BUILD project are HCPHES, Houston Food Bank, MD Anderson and UT School of Public Health. The consumption team is creating a community-clinical linkage to develop fruits and vegetables prescription program. They have conducted an assessment of the current landscape for such programs. They have decided to use the Wholesome Wave’s food prescription model. She said that the Wholesome Wave team will provide technical assistance to the BUILD partnership. She also mentioned that they are currently tailoring the Wholesome Wave model using process maps. She discussed the logistics briefly.

“Harris County BUILD partnership is an initiative with a mission to eliminate conditions that cause food insecurity in north Pasadena.”

– Anna Brewster

Built Environment Sector

Update: Christopher D. Browne, Associate/Department Manager,
Land Planning, Edminster, Hinshaw Russ & Associates, Inc.

Christopher Browne reinforced that it was an honor to take over as chair, and said that, to be asked to chair HLM is an acknowledgement of the fact that built environment is an important part of this endeavor. He talked about the need for linking neighborhoods to natural resources and that currently, Parks Bayou is doing just that throughout Harris County and other surrounding counties. He said that the key piece, though, is to get families to these areas. Since bayous run through underserved areas in our community, we have to rebuild sidewalks and improve connectivity to bayou greenways.

Example: Kathleen Ownby, Executive Director,
SPARK School Park Program

SPARK Program started in 1983 in response to a green ribbon study on how to increase parks in Houston. The solution was to “make use of public school grounds” since a major barrier was buying the land to create parks. In 1983, Houston ranked 156 in country with respect to per capita park space. Currently, the program works with 215 schools. There are 160 active SPARK parks in 15 school districts. Kathleen discussed the three tracks for entry into the program a) low-income areas where funding is mainly through the Community Development (CD) block grant b) while schools in affluent areas can raise money on their own, their motivation to partner with SPARK is a push towards the final product and c) schools that fall in between where they can’t raise money and CD grants aren’t available either. She also discussed their funding model and briefly mentioned their partner organizations.

“In 1983, we were ranked 156 in the country with respect to park space per capita.”

– Kathleen Ownby

Gwen Sims gave instructions about the breakout sessions. She pointed out that the goal of this session was to identify barriers, actionable steps and leaders who would move the work forward in their sectors. The breakout session lasted for about 45 minutes, after which, all the groups came back together for the report back and closing.



Roundtable Discussion Groups

When the group came together one final time, *Chris Browne* invited one person from each of the breakout sessions to present the actionable steps they decided to take in the next three months.

Early Care/Education & Out of School Time (ECE/OST)

A communication plan: what can we provide to the ECE/OST professionals to move this forward (such as policy examples)

K-12 Education

1. Disseminating a list of names of SHAC directors to sector members so that they can reach out to him/her directly and get engaged in their local SHACs
2. Metrics: How will we track how many sector members joined their local SHAC between now and May 2016?
3. Survey to capture information for each discussion topic in more detail and to rank priority policies

Health Care Sector

1. CCL toolkit
2. Metrics related to social determinants of health (common metrics)
3. Planning for the 3rd priority
4. Identify ways in which health care sector can engage parents

Built Environment Sector

1. Focus on parks (they are not as contentious as walkability and can be a bi-partisan effort). Share the Parks Asset Mapping report done by the Public Land Trust
2. Identify opportunities to get involved and facilitate the funding of the Bayou Greenways green grid initiative specifically at a regional level

Closing & Adjourn

Christopher Browne, HLM Executive Committee Chair, closed the meeting by asking folks to forward names of people they think should be a part of HLM to HCPHES or the executive committee.

“This group coming together helps us gain a lot of knowledge. You are experts in what you do and in your community”
– Christopher Browne

Stay tuned for information about our next collaborative meeting (May, 2016).

