

DOH COVID-19 Vaccine Implementation Collaborative Minutes:

March 2nd, 2022 | 4:00pm – 5:30pm

I. Welcome & Land Acknowledgment – Zyna Bakari, Thought Partner

- This session was facilitated by Zyna Bakari, who is with Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle. The Urban League is a direct service and advocacy organization in the Central District of Seattle. ULMS serves and empowers the Black community through direct services in housing and financial empowerment; workforce, education and youth development; civic engagement and health.

II. Progress Updates

Access Functional Needs (AFN) Disability Partner Space is intended to center and prioritize people with both disabilities and intersecting marginalized identities who experience compounded oppression, such as BIPOC, queer and/or unhoused persons with a disability.

- i. If you are interested in joining, fill out an interest form here. <https://forms.office.com/r/PtFUjytj0V>
- ii. The group will meet on the 2nd Monday of each month from 4:00-5:30p.m.
- iii. For questions, contact Yen Baynes, Equity Social Justice Strategist – Disability Justice at Yenifer.Baynes@doh.wa.gov

LatinX Community Partner Workgroup Space is intended to center and prioritize community members, leaders, and/or advocates identifying and/or directly serving LatinX population. The space will serve as an opportunity for partners to share concerns and needs, leverage efforts and resources, and collaborate on community-informed strategies.

- iv. If you are interested in joining, fill out an interest form here. <https://forms.office.com/r/eB4d20G70Q>
- v. Upcoming Workgroup Info Sessions are March 10th from 3:00-4:00pm and March 24th from 11:00-12:00pm.
- vi. For questions, contact Bella Mendez, Equity Social Justice Strategist at Bella.Mendez@doh.wa.gov

III. Partner Spotlight – Dr. Abdul-Rahman, Medical Director at Dunia Health Clinic

- ▣ Dunia Health Clinic is a private, Black-owned medical clinic located in south Seattle. The clinic provides medical primary care for underserved communities with a focus on low-income, uninsured families and African immigrants.

- ❑ Dr. Abdul-Rahman shared about the challenges and successes of a community-based clinic
- ❑ The clinic went through the process to be part of the vaccine partnership with DOH and ordered vaccines to distribute. The first batch received was about 1000 doses, much more than expected.
- ❑ Dunia Health Clinic had to quickly create an equitable vaccine distribution plan. Their first vaccine drive was on March 7th 2021 at a church and from there they started to organize more events in March, May, July, and more to make sure the community had access to the vaccine.
- ❑ Another focus was addressing vaccine misinformation or mistrust. Dr. Abdul served on the front line to field questions about the vaccine for those who were hesitant.
- ❑ Along with distributing 1,000+ vaccines, they also manually uploaded health records to report to DOH.
- ❑ There is still a lot of work to do with community members who either are not vaccinated or have not gotten a second dose. It is important to continue to encourage improving COVID-19 vaccine messaging of culture and communication to help reduce vaccine hesitancy among the community that is disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
- ❑ Here is a link to learn more about Dunia Health Clinic:
<https://duniahealthclinic.com/>

IV. COVID-19 Relational Briefing

- ❑ **Guidance Updates (Beth Payne, COVID-19 Guidance & External Affairs Coordinator)**
- ❑ March 12th is when the mask mandate is rescinded and the new guidance goes into effect.
- ❑ DOH is working internally with subject matter experts in outbreak response, testing, clinical, environmental groups. They are also working with local health partners in the education and business sectors to update the guidance.
- ❑ Other sector-specific guidance will happen in this rollout as well. They are working on information about masking so any big changes can be known to everybody.
- ❑ Locations where masks are required include health care settings including long-term care settings, transportation, private businesses, local government are able to require masks for their employees, customers, or residents.
- ❑ Locations where masks are not mandated by the state include schools, childcare facilities, libraries, restaurants, bars, houses of worship, gyms and recreational settings, grocery stores, businesses and retail establishments.
- ❑ From a public health perspective, layered preventions such as staying up to date on vaccines and wearing masks can help prevent severe illness and reduce the potential for strain on the health care system.

- **Below are some links shared by DOH:**
 - i. DOH Data Dashboard: <https://doh.wa.gov/emergencies/covid-19/data-dashboard>
 - ii. DOH Guidance: covidexternalaffairs@doh.wa.gov
 - iii. LNI workplace safety: eyeonsafety@lni.wa.gov
 - iv. TVW Streaming for Press Conferences: <https://tvw.org/>
 - v. COVID-19 Information hotline: 1-800-525-0127, then press # for language.
- **Vaccine Updates (SheAnne Allen, COVID-19 Vaccine Director)**
- ▣ The Department of Health has framed Health as where equity, innovation, and engagement meet. The Collaborative is a perfect example of that.
- A national summary tells us that 75% of adults 18 and older are fully vaccinated nationally.
- ▣ In Washington State, currently 80.9% of the population 5 and up has received at least one dose and about 73% of the population 5 and older is fully vaccinated.
- ▣ When looking at vaccinations by age group, the breakdown can show where we have work to do in thinking of creative messaging. For example, among people 12-15 years old, 59.4% of people have initiated vaccines and 53.9% are fully vaccinated.
- ▣ There has been a pause on the age group 6 months to 5 years old. We are hearing from manufacturers that there will possibly be a review in April because we know that the two-dose regimen wasn't providing full protection, so Pfizer vaccine is looking at a three-dose regimen.
- ▣ For Washington State, the population from 6 months to 4 years old is about 380,999 people. The most trusted place for parents or guardians would be their primary care provider or their pediatrician.
- ▣ The State Board of Health developed a Technical Advisory Group to review the idea of having the COVID vaccine included on the state's list of required immunizations for childcare and for school entry. The group had a split vote. They sent their recommendations to the State Board of Health and they will make a decision in April.
- ▣ You can read the full summary on the state Board of Health website [here](#).
- ▣ Currently running campaigns that focus on different populations and age groups:
 - i. [WeConsider: Josephine's Story](#) - This is a 30-second-long video campaign.
 - ii. [Here For Us](#) – This is a vaccine campaign for the Black/African American community
 - iii. [Mentira Mariachi](#) - This campaign is specifically for Hispanic/Latinx community and addresses misinformation with humor
- There are a couple of vaccines under review. It would follow the two-dose regimen and about three weeks apart.

- ☐ Moderna received their full licensure and the Moderna vaccine is called Spikevax.
- ☐ Through Care-a-Van and the partnership that this project created, there have been over 900 requests since last June and close to 12,000 doses administered through this project.

V. Building w/ Collaborative Thought Partners

- ☐ See the list of Thought Partners [here](#)
- ☐ We heard from several of the current Thought Partners at today's meeting, including:
 - ☐ **Zyna Bakari, ULMS:** Zyna was the facilitator of today's meeting. She has a passion for building relationships and uplifting other people who are doing amazing work. Zyna is excited to play more of a role in being a connector, and being a bridge.
 - ☐ **Gloria Rodriguez, Latinx Unidos of South Sound:** Gloria identifies with and is representing the disability, LatinX, and young adult communities. Some of Gloria's priorities include creating pathways for after-hours testing and vaccine resources, in addition to increasing awareness for free transportation resources. She would also like to see the Collaborative as well as health equity and access work continue beyond COVID-19 in emergency health, emergency preparedness and mental health.
 - ☐ **Jordan Chaney, Community Advocate:** Jordan has been doing work with Art Dojo that focuses on kids in the juvenile justice system, reaching kids in tri-cities, Spokane, and Moses Lake. His work takes kids through creative processes. Through the Collaborative Thought Partner role, Jordan wants to be a beacon of the right information for not only family and friends, but also the communities he is so intimately connected with.
 - ☐ **Todd Holloway, Center For Independence:** Todd's work supports the civil rights of all people living with disabilities. One group that Todd works with is the world independent living network, which is a group of independent living organizations in different countries around the world that have modeled themselves after the United States independent living movement, which was born out of the civil rights legislation and pushes to have rights for all people.
 - ☐ **Lua Pritchard/Leena Vo, Asia Pacific Cultural Center:** Asia Pacific Cultural Center is 25 years old. They bridge communities and generations through arts, culture, education, and business. Because of Asia Pacific's language and cultural capacity, they are sought out by health providers for dealing with the pandemic. They have vaccinated a total of 4,217 people already and tested 4,854 people. Lua loves bringing people together and wants to be part of it as well when it's available.
 - ☐ **Pa Joof, WA West African Cultural Center:** Pa Joof is passionate about serving people and because of his firsthand experience wants to make sure that his community has access to health care and several other things that he didn't have access to. At WA West African Cultural Center,

they act as a 211 for their community, they have several services including after school programs and Care-a-Van services, and they also serve the senior population. He has become a trusted source in the community.

- **Megan Veith, Building Changes:** Building Changes is a statewide nonprofit organization that is focused on children and families who are experiencing homelessness. One of Megan's priorities is the focus on youth who are experiencing homelessness. This population of young people is often ignored. It can be difficult for them to access health care, especially vaccines and COVID testing.
- **Mulki Mohamed, RuntaNews:** RuntaNews is a news organization founded in 1995 in Nairobi, Kenya focused on African, Muslim and immigrant news. Runta translates into 'the trust' in English. That's one of the values: to make sure to push out the right information, correct information, especially with COVID and a lot of misinformation. Another priority is to increase access to important information.
- **Lin Crowley, Asia Pacific Islander Coalition and Multicultural Center of South Sound:** Lin's work is focused on cultural education, resource sharing, and helping the community advocate for themselves. They are hoping to provide appropriate and culturally-sensitive services to everyone. They also work with the Latino, Native American, Hawaiian, and also African-American communities. They have already conducted a few clinics and have helped serve more than 700 people.
- **Chaune Fitzgerald, Women of Wisdom – Tri Cities:** Chaune initially came to the space as a commissioner for African-American Affairs, in a more limited capacity. At the time she did not think she would take the vaccine. Through attending the Collaborative, she started receiving information and education. Education is the beginning of getting control of your personal life. She came to the decision that taking the vaccine is not so bad, and her organization would promote it. Communication is one of the main sources of getting information out to their community. They started community conversations with the Black and brown community as part of their strategy to address fears and dismantle miscommunications and myths.

VI. Closing Remarks