

REACH CAC Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 14, 2021

Attendees:

Afam Akemelu	Justin Richter
Joan Cabell, Chair	Brenda Sharpe, Ex Officio
Rachel Jefferson	Matthew Stuckey
Lougene Marsh	Kerri Wade
Patti Miklos Boyd	Dick Works
Rekha Patnaik	Karen Wulfsuhle
Theresa Reyes-Cummings	

Guests:

Pattie Mansur, REACH Staff	Glory Olson, REACH Staff
Jon Marshall, Board of Directors Chair	

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this meeting was held via teleconference.

Chair Joan Cabell called the CAC meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. She welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

Minutes

Joan noted that the minutes for the August 27, 2020, meeting were distributed in the meeting materials and asked for any feedback. None noted, she asked for a motion to approve as presented. Matthew Stuckey made a motion to approve, and Theresa Reyes-Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Report

Joan Cabell reviewed the Board nominations timeline noting key dates and Brenda Sharpe reviewed the nominations process.

Brenda Sharpe then reviewed the 2021 Board Matrix and upcoming vacancies. She noted the Board's ongoing desire to have members who are diverse and inclusive of the community we serve in terms of various demographics and backgrounds, and the need to fill the expertise gaps left by vacating board members.

Brenda reported that 10 people, including five incumbents all eligible for a second term, have submitted their statements of interest and applications to the CAC. The CAC agreed that there is an adequate number of applicants and no additional recruiting efforts are necessary.

At 5:47 p.m., Theresa Reyes-Cummings made a motion to adjourn to executive session for 25 minutes for the purpose of discussing board nominations. Lougene Marsh seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting returned to open session at 6:12 p.m. Matthew Stuckey made a motion to interview incumbent applicants Katherine Ferro, Todd Pleimann, Jerrihlyn McGee, Wendy Neal, Lynette Sparkman-Barnes, as well as new applicants Jermee Jones, Octavio Estrella, Celia Ruiz, Ann Hoffman, and Rachel Alexander. Kerri Wade seconded. Motion carried. Brenda Sharpe was asked to contact all candidates about their status in the process.

Next, the CAC reviewed the interview questions, and the appropriate format given the length of time required of the Committee to interview all 10 candidates virtually. Discussion ensued. By consensus, it was determined that incumbent interviews will be reduced from the standard 30 to 15 minutes. No changes or edits were made for the new candidate interview process. All candidate interviews will be February 5, 2021.

Joan Cabell then turned the meeting over to Brenda Sharpe for the President's report.

President's Report

Brenda Sharpe reported that work on the new strategic plan is underway. She has reported that as part of that process, David Rousseau and Julie Rovner, with Kaiser Health Network will be speaking at the January board meeting regarding potential opportunities for REACH to advance its mission to increase access to coverage and care at the state and regional level in light of the incoming administration's expected plans relative to federal health and healthcare policies and reforms.

Brenda Sharpe gave a high-level update of REACH's response and relief efforts to the COVID-19 crisis. She noted that vaccination planning and support is the next step in REACH's response efforts.

Pattie Mansur directed attention to the 2021 Kansas and 2021 Missouri Policy Priorities included in the meeting materials and noted they are also available on the REACH website. New this year are Public Health Infrastructure and Expanded Use Telehealth. Public health funding and infrastructure challenges and disparities have long been problematic in KS and MO and were underscored in the wake of the pandemic. During this period, telehealth utilization and reimbursement regulations were significantly relaxed during the pandemic allowing expanded access for some underserved populations and need to remain so to increase access to care, while also addressing important parity and reimbursement issues, and inequitable availability of broadband access in certain populations.

At 6:44 p.m., there being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Glory Olson, Executive Assistant & Board Liaison