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**Minutes (FINAL)
of the meeting of the
Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity (NOMHE) Advisory Committee
Tuesday, February 11, 2020**

The Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity (NOMHE) Advisory Committee held a public meeting on February 11, 2020, beginning at 12:00 p.m. at the following locations:

555 East Washington Avenue, Room 1400, Las Vegas, NV 89101
4150 Technology Way, Room 303, Carson City, Nevada 89706

The sites were connected by speaker telephones.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Alisa Howard, Designee of the Chair. Present were Advisory Committee members Andrea Gregg (by telephone), Dr. Gillian Barclay, Dr. Jennifer Kawi, and Senator Pat Spearman.

QUORUM NOT achieved – proceed with informational session.

Also present were Tina Dortch, Program Manager, NOMHE; Alisa Howard; Baldo Bobadilla, HiAP (by telephone); Beth Handler, Deputy Director, DHHS; Janet Serial, NAACP Sparks/Reno; Jay Cafferata, UNR Nevada Public Health Training Center; Kari Horn, Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities; Maria Azzarelli, Southern Nevada Health District (by telephone); Sara Hanafi, HiAP; and Sheila James, Public Health Advisor, Region Nine Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health.

Members of the public were asked to sign in, and the sign-in-sheet is attached to the original minutes as Exhibit A.

2. Public Comment

Ms. Howard called for public comment. There was no public Comment.

3. Review/Approve Minutes from November 19, 2019 NOMHE Advisory Committee Meeting

Unable to review or approve the minutes from the November 19, 2019 NOMHE Advisory Committee Meeting due to lack of quorum.

4. NOMHE Legislative Related Functions & Advisory Committee Activity

NOMHE Appointed Committee Placements:

Tina Dortch spoke about the NOMHE's Legislative overview and policy perspectives.

Ms. Dortch introduced Senator Pat Spearman, Legislative Advisor, and Beth Handler, Deputy Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and thanked them for their attendance.

Ms. Dortch listed some activities that are required at the State level, including her role on the Advisory Council for the State Program of Wellness and Prevention of Chronic Disease (CWCD). The CWCD is viewing practices of DHHS agencies who address chronic diseases. Ms. Dortch seeks to bring cultural competency and new information to the NOMHE Advisory Committee from the CWCD. The aim is to grow the support system for individuals who are living with chronic disease. On February 1, 2020, the CWCD met with an organization which is focused on persons living with sarcoidosis.

Ms. Dortch was recently appointed as Vice Chair on the Task Force for Alzheimer's Disease. The Task Force is addressing an update, which will include cultural competency, to the State Action Plan for Alzheimer's Disease.

Ms. Dortch will sit on a panel sponsored by the Reno-Sparks NAACP which will address culturally appropriate ways to address health needs in the Reno-Sparks area.

Ms. Dortch was appointed to the Medicaid Innovation Advisory Committee through the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP), also known as the Nevada Medicaid Program. Susan Bearman will be one of the point people on that committee.

On the community level, Ms. Dortch is interacting with the Office of National Institutes of Health who created the All of Us event. The NOMHE Advisory Committee provided feedback regarding clinical trials which resulted in the modification of avatars to reflect persons of color who are differently abled.

Ms. Dortch attends the Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board meetings regularly and is familiar with the disparities in health care experienced within that population.

The NOMHE Advisory Committee maintains contact with the Nevada Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities and the Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Ms. Dortch solicited suggestions for future activities or events the NOMHE Advisory Committee could attend.

Senator Pat Spearman discussed a study released about a year ago demonstrating the connection between hearing loss and Alzheimer's Disease. Senator Spearman had mentioned the connection to AARP and feels providing hearing devices to persons in the community with hearing loss should be a priority. Many quality of life aspects, such as sociability, are negatively affected by hearing loss. This issue has historically been in the hands of insurance providers. There was a recent legislative bill to address the provision of hearing devices to children with hearing loss. The need for hearing support will grow as the aging population of Nevada grows.

Ms. Dortch, along with Beth Handler, is preparing comments for a meeting of the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum. Ms. Dortch will include the provision of hearing devices in her comments and going forward will seek ways to promote solutions.

Dr. Gillian Barclay commented on the need to identify priorities for the vulnerable populations in the State.

Ms. Dortch said the NOMHE Advisory Committee is coming up on its second-year anniversary. There will be four seats coming up for renewal and Ms. Dortch will send interest emails to those members. There are a total of nine member seats with 7 filled (4 of the 7 are up for renewal) and 2 unfilled.

Legislative Session/Protocol Refresher

Beth Handler, Deputy Director, DHHS, offered technical and data support to the NOMHE Advisory Committee. Ms. Handler acknowledged the Advisory Committee's efforts to gather information, recommendations, and priorities from the community and work with Legislative representatives. The Advisory Committee may want to keep in mind bill number limits, share priorities with the legislative committees and consider efforts already put forth in other states. It is possible results can be achieved through alternate means such as executive orders.

81st Legislative Session (February 2021) – Defining NOMHE Advisory Committee Priorities

Senator Spearman commented that Legislators only have 180 days to present a bill. She asked that the Advisory Committee be prepared to lobby for the supported bills, talk with Legislators, and attend Legislative Sessions in Carson City to testify on the importance of particular bills.

There is a data base through DHHS which shows when Medicaid is paid. Senator Spearman sponsored a bill last Legislative Session which addressed the creation of a data base containing information about insurance plan productiveness and network adequacy. Emerging trends in health care issues for emerging majorities should be reviewed. Senator Spearman plans to revisit this issue and will present information to the NOMHE Advisory Committee at a future date.

Dr. Barclay asked if the Advisory Committee can piggy-back on other bills.

Ms. Handler commented the Advisory Committee could find connections with Legislative Committees or Representatives and make recommendations.

Senator Spearman suggested broadening the focus to include Committees other than those directly involved with health care, such as Business and Commerce.

Dr. Jennifer Kawi asked if the Advisory Committee has preferences in mental health, chronic pain, opioid crisis, or behavioral health in minority health issues.

Ms. Dortch said the NOMHE Advisory Committee has focused their support via sponsorship activity, making sure that the other larger organizations are able and capable of maintaining a presence. If you are familiar with a focus that should be brought under the umbrella, then please put forward those suggestions.

Dr. Kawi said she would check on upcoming events.

Ms. Dortch said some NOMHE sponsored activities include the Community for Better Health Outcomes who put on an educational forum and the Columbia University who distributed yellow clipboards to service providers which were used to help determine needs.

Ms. Handler suggested connecting with the Behavioral Health Commission and the Senior Behavioral Health Advisor, Dr. Stephanie Woodard.

Senator Spearman suggested contacting other groups who do not have the word 'health' in their title.

Ms. Dortch would like to move in a direction that breaks down silos and requested organization names sent to her.

Dr. Barclay discussed the affects of lack of housing and food insecurity on health outcomes and asked if there are organizations focused on these issues.

Ms. Dortch said the next update regarding Health in All Policies (HiAP) Pilot would have information related to Dr. Barclay's question.

5. NOMHE Advisory Committee Sustainability Update

NOMHE Advisory Committee Budget

Ms. Dortch referred the Committee to the budget spreadsheet and asked for suggestions on ways to have the most impact with the existing \$5,000 remaining in the budget which must be spent down between now and June 30, 2020. Ms. Dortch said two possibilities are mental health or HIV. The processing window has not been rigid, if the entity is already a vendor approved by the State then the process goes more quickly. A donor sponsorship form is required along with backup and a cover letter.

Ms. Handler commented this is a base year, building the budget for the next biennium, while showing the alignment with the duties of the office.

Ms. Dortch asked for public comments. There were no public comments.

6. NOMHE Advisory Committee Activities and Impact Report

Jay Cafferata, Ally-related activities

Jay Cafferata, UNR Nevada Public Health Training Center, presented an update to Ally-related activities. Two presentations are scheduled for the upcoming Southern Nevada Health Conference in April to address seniors and cognitive decline and the sexual health of seniors in Nevada.

Ms. Dortch inquired about feedback regarding the newly created cultural competency training.

Mr. Cafferata said both SB 364 and SB 470 include cultural competency training requirements for all medical facilities licensed by the Department of Public and Behavioral Health. Mr. Cafferata is working with the Public Health Training Center (PHTC) to create a version which will be available to those who do not have the resources to create their own training programs. The initial run, last Friday, February 7, 2020, with employees at the Public Health Training Center, went well and useful feedback was received. The next use will be on February 28, 2020, at the Primary Care Health Association. Feedback will also be gathered from people in the field in the primary care sector.

Senator Spearman commented on the importance of cultural competency training for law enforcement and first responder personnel. Senator Spearman asked how engagement is monitored for accountability purposes. Senator Spearman suggested going beyond a simple attendance sheet and possibly using a signature page attesting to the person's understanding of the importance and necessity of the training. Senator Spearman said it will be important for persons who have attended the training to be held accountable if they do not follow the training guidelines.

Ms. Dortch asked Mr. Cafferata if understanding or accountability is included on the exit survey.

Mr. Cafferata said a self-reflection piece is included. The Nevada Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) is the body who would follow up to ensure medical facilities have completed the training. It is hoped proposed regulations adding cultural competency training to the HCQC medical license compliance checklist will be approved at the March meeting of the Board of Health. The regulations also include a requirement for new hires to complete the training within 30 days of hire. Mr. Cafferata is working with the Public Health Training Center to develop a central registration location which could be used to ensure the registered person is the same person attending the training.

Dr. Barclay asked if there is timeline for existing employees to complete training and how the training can be accessed. She also commented accredited schools include cultural competency training as a requirement for graduation. Currently cultural competency training is included under Clinical Training. Dr. Barclay suggested finding out what training already exists in schools.

Mr. Cafferata said training is required on an annual basis for existing employees and is linked to licensure. If training is not completed then HCQC can impose fines, loss of license, and a remediation plan. NRS 449 covers twenty-seven medical facilities who fall under that section of the law. The timeline for initial training will be decided upon when regulations are approved. The State has been approached by several medical facilities seeking to complete the training using outside entities. Before that can happen the Department of Public and Behavioral Health must approve the training courses, which they can't do until the regulations are approved. It is hoped that within 24 months all facilities will incorporate cultural competency training. A Diversity in Curriculum State-wide group meets monthly to discuss how schools have implemented diversity training. Some graduate behavior does not reflect the trainings received. Mr. Cafferata's goal is to have the training ready to go when the bills are passed. It is encouraged for persons to attend in person due to the delicate nature of some of the topics but there will be an online version available for those who can't travel to the trainings or can't attend for other reasons.

Ms. Howard asked how cultural competency training regulations will apply to community health workers.

Mr. Cafferata stated it has been difficult to get legislation passed to include facilities not licensed under NRS 449. A gap does exist. Part of the reason the training is being put forth under NRS 449 is the accountability aspect. By using the facility licensing regulations there is a way to enforce the training. It has been possible to keep this a human resources situation and not make it about individual health workers. It will be possible for community health workers to access the training in the future; however, they would not be held accountable for completing the training.

Ms. Handler commented there was a bill last Legislative Session regarding community health care workers being reimbursed through Medicaid, which did not pass. Perhaps if that bill was reintroduced language regarding cultural competency training could be included.

Ms. Dortch asked if there are other training gaps.

Ms. Howard commented on the cultural competency training gaps within programs such as the HIV program, substance abuse programs, or mental health programs.

Ms. Dortch suggested it would be advantageous to include larger non-profit agencies and employers and asked if costs for training have been determined yet.

Mr. Cafferata commented costs have not been determined not at this time.

Ms. Dortch suggested it would be good to marry work-force development with cultural competency training and that the training would be more accessible if affordable.

Mr. Cafferata said a toolkit will be shared with the workforce. Training will be available on the Department of Public and Behavioral Health web site as well as the Public Health Training Center at UNR and partner with ECHO State-wide clinician training. The cost goal is \$12.50 per person range for 4

hours of training. A train-the-trainer program is in development with a projected need for 100 plus trainers state-wide. The goal is to avoid an un-funded mandate.

Ms. Dortch suggested collaborating with Dr. Jennifer Kawi and Dr. Gillian Barclay regarding the train-the-trainer component.

Mr. Cafferata said he has reached out to the major community health sciences and the medical schools to get more information about their current curriculum requirements.

Health in All Policy (HiAP) Pilot Status

Sara Hanafi discussed the survey responses from the survey which was sent to 500 entities State-wide (see handout). Several organizations have been selected to potentially perform the pilot program. The first Advisory Board meeting will be held on February 18, 2020 in both North and South locations. Ms. Hanafi is currently drafting a Health in All Policies curriculum. An online curriculum will be developed for those who are unable to attend in person.

Dr. Kawi asked about the end outcomes for the pilot programs.

M. Hanafi answered the pilot programs are still being developed and will be used to gather data, build a foundation, and demonstrate that investing in Health in All Policies training will be good for the State long term.

Baldo Bobadilla said the goal is to provide support to the agencies engaging in Health in All Policies.

Ms. Dortch commented the focus has been on agencies performing Health Impact Assessments. It is expected that there will be more successful outcomes if it is possible to partner with those agencies and demonstrate a benefit. Moving forward persons who can help conceptualize action plans will be included in discussions.

Dr. Barclay said some organizations in Southern Nevada are already doing Health in All Policies and are linked to National entities. Assemblyman William McCurdy moved a bill last session on fresh food financing and specifically focused on food insecurities stakeholders to improve health outcomes locally. Dr. Barclay recommends looking at these issues at a policy level and partnering with organizations currently involved with these issues.

Ms. Dortch said each of the potential pilots meets that criteria and commented on the future tiers which will be created such as learning modules will be available. Mr. Bobadilla spoke with Senator Riley and the comment was made that it could be off-putting to use the term Health in All Policies while moving forward to accomplish the goals.

Ms. Howard suggested Ms. Hanafi and Mr. Bobadilla contact Partners for a Health Nevada, Nicole Bungum as they are active in lobbying for legislation to address food insecurity issues.

Ms. Hanafi and Mr. Bobadilla will meet with Ms. Dortch.

Ms. Howard asked for questions or public comment. There were no questions or public comment.

Minority Health Awareness Month 2020

Ms. Dortch said February 8, 2020 was black HIV/AIDS awareness day, February 15, 2020 will be Reno-Sparks NAACP Health Symposium, and February 21, 2020 will be Rare Disease Day. Recently Assemblywoman Dina Neal passed legislation to create standards of care for treating rare diseases in emergency rooms. Bright Focus currently has a movie called Turning Point which is about Alzheimer's disease and clinical trials. Ms. Dortch is working with Ms. Handler to identify folks who may help create a screening opportunity at the State level. The Nevada Minority Health Equity Coalition has been rebranded, their relationship with ASDS ended in December and they are now partnering with UNLV.

Ms. Dortch asked for public comment or questions. There were no public comments or questions.

Senator Spearman spoke about the March 23rd Smart and Health Community Aging in Place Symposium as viewed through the equity lens. Southern Nevada is becoming a technologically smart and connected community. The impact at the community level is not being looked at. Dr. Wendy Nelson serves as a representative on the White House Strategy for Aging in Place at UNLV to talk at the symposium.

Ms. Dortch said the theme for Minority Health Awareness Month is "Active and Healthy". Proclamations have been crafted and drafts will be circulated amongst the Advisory Committee members. NOMHE Advisory Committee has partnered with UNR for the Making Health Happen event. Mr. Bobadilla and Mr. Cafferata will provide poster boards for that event. A forum regarding Health Literacy will be held on Health Care Decisions Day April 16, 2020. The All of Us tour, in partnership with the Cleveland Clinic, will be at three locations.

Dr. Barclay discussed the Small Business Innovation and Research technology transfer investment portfolio. Each federal agency contributes money to the American Seed fund. The money is used to fund SBIR and STTR portfolio of investments. The billion dollars are targeted at funding small businesses, which is done in stages, and prioritizes businesses that are 51% minority or women owned. There will be a meeting in the future to discuss this opportunity. Dr. Barclay will reach out to the Urban and Latin Chambers of Commerce.

Ms. Dortch asked for public comments or questions. There were no public comments or questions.

7. Scheduling Matters

Ms. Howard suggested proposing dates for the next three Advisory Committee meetings since there is no quorum.

Dr. Kawi asked if dates in May, August, and November had already been discussed.

Ms. Dortch will send member seat term information as well as proposed meeting dates.

8. Public Comment

Ms. Howard asked for public comments.

Jane Serial, Sparks-Reno NAACP said the Reno-Sparks NAACP will host the 1st Annual African American Health and Environmental Climate Justice Symposium on February 15, 2020 at UNR. Some of the topics will be Alzheimer's and Dementia in the African American Community, by Dr. Peter Reed, Stanford Center of Aging and Diversification of the Workforce by Andrea Gregg. A Symposium will be held on the state of Black Mental Health Care in Washoe County. The NAACP would like to continue working with other public entities to address these issues.

Ms. Dortch said she will email information about the event to the Advisory Committee members.

There were no further public comments.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:59.

DRAFT