



Health Committee Meeting Summary

Friday, March 26, 2021

10:00 – 12:00

Commissioner Members: Dr. Lourdes Valdez, Seng Yang, Holly Krajl

Staff Support: Anna Bauer, Kimberly Brooke, Stacy Piper

Others:

Item 1 Welcome and Introductions

Item 2 Mothers Strong Update

The committee received an update from staff about the Mothers Strong coalition activities and emerging maternal mental health needs and opportunities.

Staff conducted a survey with coalition members to determine their priorities. The priorities were identified in ranking order as follows: Networking, Learn about Maternal Mental Health research and policy, Agency updates/share, Receive MMH training, Advocate for better services, Ways to bring more funding, Provide training to Community, Join a MS topic specific committee, Provide community training.

WIC requested maternal mental health training, First 5 staff have contracted with two therapist and have coordinated 4 trainings for WIC staff in the month of April.

Healthcare providers requested maternal mental health books to provide to their patients, First 5 have coordinated the purchase and distribution of book kits for therapists and healthcare providers.

The committee discussed the role of First 5 staff with the Mothers Strong coalition, and identified that the role is for staff to provide backbone support and help to coordinate efforts, and the coalition is empowered to be responsible for setting priorities, providing leadership and actively engaging.

Item 3 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

The committee received a report from staff about possible programs and initiatives that the Commission may want to consider applying for local MHSA funds to support. Based on Mothers Strong coalition feedback, there is strong support and need for a coordinated single point of entry for maternal mental health care coordination and navigation. The committee identified this as a possible opportunity to leverage and expand the Help Me Grow program, incorporating additional elements, and seeking funds in addition to Prop 10 to support. The committee stated that: *HMG is a crucial program and there are individual stories of how children have been helped. Going forward, we want to see the program be successful.*



Item 4 Commissioner Comments

- The committee discussed the announcement of pregnancy-related Medicaid expansion
 - MMHLA News flash flier link provides some information: Link to [News flash flier](#)
 - The [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#) allows states to extend pregnancy-related Medicaid coverage for a full year postpartum. <http://bit.ly/rescueplan21>
 - In addition, Medicaid created policies, including reimbursement, for screening new mothers for PMH during well-child visits. <http://bit.ly/wellchild21>
- Enloe Midwives Group Prenatal care through March of dimes project announced.
 - 3 cohorts now and rolling out a 4th. 5 to 8 women per group.
- Commissioner Yang attended HMG meeting. “Raising the Child” program is referring to the HMG program.
- Yang announced April 16, Hmong Cultural Center Mental Health training opportunity.
- Pediatric Mental Health issues topic brought forth and asked to be put on future agenda.
 - ACEs and suicide link example given. Topic of Pediatric Providers discomfort with dealing with Pediatric Mental Health issues.

Item 5 Next Meeting

The Health Committee will meet on May 28, 2021 from 10:00 – 12:00 pm. Members are encouraged to propose agenda items for the May 28 meeting.

For Reference

[January 23, 2021 Health Committee Meeting Summary](#)

[Strategic Plan Health Initiative](#)