



## **Well Woman Committee and Black Maternal Health**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** September 20, 2022  
**Chair/Facilitators:** Tiffany Chalk, Susan Noyes, Leah Woodall  
**Recorder:** Vonnetta Graves-Brooks  
**Location:** Zoom

#### **Well Women Committee's Primary Focus:**

- Focuses on comprehensive and evidence-based approach to reproductive health and the health of women before during and after pregnancy
- Focus that is women centered a clinician engaged.

#### **Black Maternal Health Workgroup's Primary Focus:**

- The Black Maternal Health Workgroup focuses on how to bridge the stubborn and persistent disparities gap, by bringing awareness through grassroots organizations, educating consumers so educators and black women can have better outcomes before during and after pregnancy.
- Focuses on maternal mental health

**Welcome and Introductions-** Meeting was called to order by Tiffany Chalk at 1:05 pm.

Tiffany Chalk, Susan Noyes, Leah Woodall, George Yocher, LaToya Brathwaite, Cynthia Guy, Erin Rideout, Anne DeCaire, Joan Kelley, Melissa Minor-Brown, Ida Lewis, Lisa Klein, Lisa Gruss, Carla Aponte Johnson, Matt Bittle, Cindy Biederman, Michelle Mathew

**Review of Minutes** - Review of June 14, 2022 minutes next meeting. All minutes will be posted at the following link:

[Meeting Information & Materials | Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium - Delaware Thrives \(dethrives.com\)](https://dethrives.com)

**Goal of Meeting:** Revisiting DHMIC's strategic planning priorities. Discuss items leading into strategic planning to determine what has been accomplished, what has not been accomplished and what are the remaining priorities. Define and discuss narrowed scope to one or two topical focus areas. Determine the strategies that will be used to achieve the identified goals. Discuss input gathered from different methods, such as focus groups conducted with the DHMIC members. The DHMIC in person strategic planning meeting, held on October 24, 2022.

**Discussion: Well Woman/BMH Strategic Priorities**

**What was done:**

- Focused intensely on elevating the importance of well women care.
- Strategically utilizing social media using simplified messaging and reliable data sources
- Framed messages around increasing access to easily accessible contraception and other related health topics affecting maternal health such as: nutrition, obesity chronic conditions and emotional wellness.
- Utilized blogs, community spokesperson personalities, press releases
- Attempted to develop an infographic marketing piece targeting consumers and providers on the importance of well woman care
- Promoted school base health centers, building out messaging on Dethrives website, conducted webinars: HerStory
- Created maternal health warning signs promotional material
- Implemented rapid cycle performance improvement interventions with HWHBs mini grantees
- Collaborated with mini grantees to identify what is working well within their organizations and improved engagement of women into interventions
- Partnered with the Warehouse, spearheading and facilitating a teen-to-teen collaboration (Peer base approach...train the trainer)
- Elevated preconception peer educators by working with the University of Delaware
- Creation of Black Maternal Health workgroup
- Acknowledgement of Black Maternal Health Awareness Week (i.e. PR, Op-ed, social media, Joint Concurrent Resolution by the Delaware General Assembly, web page with resources, etc.)
- Promoting Black Breastfeeding and breastfeeding overall (i.e. PR, Op-ed, social media, radio, website page with breastfeeding resources and support groups, etc.)
  - Delaware Public Media: [http://ct.moreover.com/?a=48568275570&p=5fi&v=1&x=DiwGDhTOCwGO\\_hTrkwStcA](http://ct.moreover.com/?a=48568275570&p=5fi&v=1&x=DiwGDhTOCwGO_hTrkwStcA)
  - WDDE (aired 6 times): [https://www.dropbox.com/s/p0zszwtflii3mz4/WDDE\\_DEThrives\\_BBW.mp3?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/p0zszwtflii3mz4/WDDE_DEThrives_BBW.mp3?dl=0)
  - WDEL (10-minute interview during drive time): [https://www.dropbox.com/s/hl1c7u8akr5a3gg/BlackBreastfeedingWeek\\_WDEL\\_Part%201.mp3?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/hl1c7u8akr5a3gg/BlackBreastfeedingWeek_WDEL_Part%201.mp3?dl=0); [https://www.dropbox.com/s/6yhu37f9nib2jm8/BlackBreastfeedingWeek\\_WDEL\\_Part%202.mp3?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/6yhu37f9nib2jm8/BlackBreastfeedingWeek_WDEL_Part%202.mp3?dl=0)
  - Delaware Online (op-ed): [http://ct.moreover.com/?a=48622374038&p=5fi&v=1&x=SMqY8oW\\_6G\\_cZQ\\_S4F47w](http://ct.moreover.com/?a=48622374038&p=5fi&v=1&x=SMqY8oW_6G_cZQ_S4F47w)
  - WMDT: Interview took place; AB&C inquiring about segment
  - *Delaware State News*: Ran in print publication on 8/26
- Elevating the voices of mothers through HerStory
- Worked with student interns at DSU and UD to support committee work as well as development of blogs; work to support Community Health Worker intervention for women of reproductive age to spread messages to assist with connecting participants to wrap around services.

### **What was not done:**

- Elevating preconception peer educator community outreach by working with other colleges and universities besides University of Delaware
- We can do more with reaching adolescents and teens
- Greater focus on providing or connecting women of reproductive age to mental health psychiatric resources
- Focus more on ensuring patient/participant has a medical home, engage, and collaborate with multi-disciplined stakeholders in providing valuable input, contributing to comprehensive well women/preconception care (***Susan Noyes, stated, "Any opportunity for women of reproductive age is an opportunity for well women/preconception intervention. (i.e., psychiatrist, cardiologist, endocrinologist), should all be informed about the importance of looking at a woman of reproductive age with intentionality of will she be pregnant by time I see her and how will this affect the provider's plan of care".***)
- Implementing alternative approaches to the one well women's visit model, used by states, such as North Carolina. Think more broadly about what opportunities are available to serve as touch point avenues.
- Engage men in supporting women's maternal health

### **What remains a priority:**

- Improve well woman care (contraception, nutrition/obesity, chronic conditions, mental health, substance use/misuse)
- Continue efforts of CoLLIN (Develop, implement, and disseminate a woman centered, clinician-engaged, community-supported approach to the well-woman visits.)
- Reframe Postpartum/ Interconception Care
- Engage men to promote male health/support women's health

### **Update: Maternal Health Warning Signs**

- The final version of Maternal Health Warning flyer and poster was shared. DPH is working with Maternal and Child Death Review Commission to print and post the education materials on Dethrives.com . Next steps is to develop a dissemination and rollout plan.
- Maternal Health Warning Signs poster and flyer have been translated and are available in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole.
- The Maternal Health Warning Signs promotional material will be given to some hospitals and providers
- Promotional materials will be distributed to less traditionally associated stakeholders, such as, EMT's, community health workers, doulas, WIC care providers, public health nurses, mental health centers and drug treatment centers who have high access to birthing moms.
- The DHMIC will collaborate with Kim Petrella (DPQC), utilizing her network to disseminate the Maternal Health Warning Signs materials
- In response to the DHMIC state meeting, additional responses to the survey were gathered prompting some changes being made to the Maternal Health Warning Signs promotional materials.
- The Maternal Health Warning Signs material will be handed out to some providers. In addition, it may be posted on the DHMIC website for readily downloadable accessibility and unlimited printing

capability

- An introduction letter will accompany The Maternal Health Warning Signs poster and flyers explaining how the materials are to be used as an in tandem comprehensive care quick reference resource assisting in meeting the needs of the providers and consumers of care.

### **Announcements:**

**Tiffany-** Thanks Cynthia Guy, Shamiya Gould and Ida Lewis who served as the Black Breastfeeding Week spokesperson advisory board and participated in supporting promotion.

**Leah-** Will reach out to ABC to get OpEd and links to interviews posted on DeThrives.com

**Anne DeCaire-**Maternal Mental Health Crises Hotline may be more appropriate on the flyer.

**Adjournment:** 1:18pm

**Other Business:** June 14,2022 minutes will be load on DeThrives.com