Minutes
Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP)
Healthy Birth Outcomes LIHF Steering Committee
United Way of Greater Milwaukee
225 West Vine Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212-3951
Wednesday, November 9, 2011 11:30 AM

Members Present: Georgia Cameron, Ron Cisler, Phil Farrell (Co-Chair), Tito Izard, Murray Katcher, Marilyn Kilgore, Katherine Marks (Co-Chair), and Betty Stinson

Members Absent: Sheri Johnson, Tina Mason, Stephen Ragatz, Laurel Rice, and Bill Solberg

Staff: Quinton Cotton, Madeline Duffy, Cathy Frey, Eileen Smith,

Invited Guests: Nancy Eberle, Lorraine Lathen, Paul Moberg

Guests: Cheryl Jackson, Donna Johnson, Eduardo Manuel, Clarene Mitchell, Valerie Nash, Sharon Schulz, Ashley Stake, Samantha Perry, Angela Moore, Katie Pritchard

1. Welcome and Review of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am. Katherine Marks welcomed committee members and reviewed the agenda meeting materials.

2. Decision on September 14, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Marks requested approval of the draft September 14, 2011 meeting minutes. After a motion made by Cisler and seconded by Cameron, the meeting minutes were approved. In discussion of the meeting minutes, Kilgore requested that the minutes reflect greater detail regarding committee deliberations on funding for LIHF Collaboratives during the implementation phase.

3. LIHF Collaborative and Planning Grant Update

LIHF Site Report-Out Lathen provided an overview of activities in each LIHF community, noting that all communities were working to finalize their community action plans.

Beloit: Representatives from Beloit LIHF Collaboratives are participating in the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute and have started to participate in workshop sessions. Current activities of the Collaborative include the development of a cultural competency creed, the identification of a fiscal sponsor for the implementation phase, and fundraising. The Beloit Foundation provided a $10,000 gift to the Collaborative to support its work during the
continuation planning period. Also, the Infant Mortality Coalition developed a Beloit Healthy Babies calendar to generate support local activities.

Kenosha: The local collaborative is working to formalize its governance structure and identify a fiscal sponsor.

Milwaukee: The Women’s Fund of Greater Milwaukee donated billboards at bus stops to increase public awareness about the root causes of infant mortality. Representatives from Milwaukee provided an update and overview of their community action plan (see Section 5).

Racine: Representatives from Racine provided an update and overview of their community action plan (see Section 5).

LIHF Project Timeline Cotton noted that the continuation planning period is from October 1, 2011 until March 31, 2012. During this period of time, each LIHF site will complete a Community Action Plan and formalize a governance structure for its Collaborative. Cotton reported that more detailed information about the funding process for LIHF Collaboratives during the implementation phase would be forthcoming.

Process to Review Community Action Plans Cotton reported that the review of local plans would include a small team of WPP Staff and LIHF Steering Committee members who would (1) review the local plans and (2) provide feedback to sites on the local plan.

4. Evaluation Outline Overview

Moberg and Eberle provided an overview of the draft evaluation plan for the overall initiative and welcomed Steering Committee members to provide input and feedback into the development of the plan. Moberg noted that there are three distinct levels of evaluation: (1) Community System Change Outcomes (LIHF Collaboratives), (2) Program Outcomes (LIHF Project Grantees), and (3) Overall Project Impact (widespread change leading to improved health, survival, and elimination of racial disparities in birth outcomes). The evaluation includes a broad range of stakeholders and will serve multiple purposes. Moberg described a few components of the evaluation plan.

a. Central Evaluation Team: Representatives from the WPP Staff, the UW Population Health Institute and a new maternal and child health at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health will comprise the central evaluation team. OAC, LIHF Steering Committee members and representatives from the sites would also play important roles in the evaluation process. The evaluation process will be participatory and efforts will be made to assure common reporting.

b. Purposes of the Evaluation: Moberg discussed the difficulty in creating both an evaluation design and budget for a project of this magnitude, as there are different functions and purposes that evaluation can serve.

c. Levels of Evaluation: Moberg describes three different areas of evaluation.
   1. Individually funded local projects (process and outcome evaluation)
   2. LIHF Collaboratives
3. Overall project as a whole

Moberg pointed out the developmental nature of the evaluation planning process and that outcomes may be refined in the future.

Marks noted that process to create the evaluation plan was participatory and included input from representatives from each LIHF site. Marks asked Steering Committee members to carefully review the draft evaluation plan and provide feedback to staff by November 30, 2011. Izard provided some feedback on current outcomes listed in the evaluation plan: (1) include a nutritional attainment measure and (2) consideration that different variables in the evaluation be weighted differently.

5. LIHF Community Action Plan

Cotton introduced Sharon Schulz and Samantha Perry from the Racine LIHF Collaborative and invited them to provide an overview of their Community Action Plan to the Committee.

Key Points listed in Racine LIHF Community Action Plan

- Racine Kenosha Community Action Agency will serve as fiscal agent.
- Group consensus process was identified as the way decisions will be made by the Collaborative.
- Focus areas include: improving access to health care across the life span, strengthening father involvement, improving social and reproductive capital, enhancing coordination and integration of family support services, reducing poverty among African-Americans, and support working mothers and families.
- Collaborative Focus and Recommendations
  - Policies related to fatherhood
  - Fetal and Infant Mortality Review
  - Northern Manhattan Perinatal Project
- Program Level Focus and Recommendations
  - Home visitation programs
  - Centering Pregnancy and Birthing Project USA
  - Well Women Initiative
  - Health Leads
  - Foundations of Maternity
  - Nurturing Fathers
  - Carrera Adolescent Program
  - Baby Fast

Lathen introduce Katie Pritchard and Valerie Nash from the Milwaukee LIHF Collaborative and invited them to provide an overview of their Community Action Plan to the Committee.

Key Points listed in Milwaukee LIHF Community Action Plan

- YWCA will serve as fiscal agent.
- A set of operating policies including membership, voting, additional committees, etc. has been established.
Focus includes: improving health care access over the life span, strengthening father involvement, and reducing poverty.

Collaborative and Program Level Strategies

- Facilitate health care access
- Reduce financial barriers to utilization of medical homes; increase capacity and quality of medical homes
- Expand specialty care (behavioral health, dental care)
- Develop network of fatherhood resources and supports
- Increase relationship building skills and self-worth
- Increase role dads play in the community
- Increase access to education and employment
- Strengthen formal and informal partnership to address structural barriers
- Remove structural barriers to obtaining and retaining jobs
- Increase family sustaining jobs for low-income men and their families

6. Steering Committee Membership

Charge, Role, and Responsibilities Marks provided an overview of the charge, role, and responsibilities of Steering Committee members and noted that the transition into the implementation phase warranted discussions about membership on the Committee. Cotton reported out that the OAC will make appointments and reappoints of committee members. Cotton also noted Steering Committee members to file an annual conflict of interest disclose statement.

Nominations for New Members Farrell noted that 13 potential nominees were identified. Of this group, four nominees were medical doctors, two were social workers, and the remaining nominees were community advocates. Farrell noted that the majority of nominees were from Milwaukee and Madison. Izard noted that the original composition of the Committee included diverse expertise and perspective and asked if the new nominees reflected a range of individuals. Farrell noted that the list of nominees had broad and diverse perspective and representation. Izard inquired about the possibility of having a community doctor not aligned with a hospital involved in the Committee to bring a different perspective.

Cameron pointed out that the LIHF Steering Committee is referred to as a sub-committee of the OAC according to the document describing the committee charge. Smith provided some clarification, noting that the LIHF Steering Committee has always been a sub-committee of the OAC and that there is not mechanism within the WPP to create a stand-alone committee.

Cameron requested that document describing the Committee’s charge provide additional information on the responsibilities of Steering Committee members. The discussion concluded with Marks encouraging the participation of Committee members in workgroups (communication, evaluation, fund development, proposal review).
7. Workgroup Updates

Lathen noted that the Communication and Public Awareness Workgroup would be meeting to discuss the communications plan and develop a template for sites to use in the release of the community action plan.

8. Announcements and Updates

LIHF media coverage Farrell reported that Mayor Tom Barrett announced Milwaukee’s goal to reduce infant mortality and that Barrett spoke highly of LIHF and the coalition of citizens and agencies organized to address the issue.

March of Dimes (Centering Pregnancy Information Session) Cotton reported that 19 practitioners participated in the session, including representation from each LIHF Site. The session was designed to provide additional information on the Centering Model and encourage fidelity to the model.

Women’s Fund of Greater Milwaukee Cotton noted that the Women’s Fund held its annual luncheon and invited Tonya Lewis Lee, the national healthy babies campaign spokesperson, to address the event attendees.

9. Open Forum

Marks opened the meeting discussion up to guests and members for comments.

- Mitchell and Moore noted that their community had both experienced a recent loss of an infant.
- Nash requested that a moment of silence be observed to acknowledge the loss of an infant in meetings.
- Mitchell asked the Committee to expand its membership to increase community participation.

10. Adjourn

Marks adjourned the meeting at 2:00 pm. The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 11:30 am at the YWCA of Greater Milwaukee.

Recorder, Quinton Cotton