

The MetroHealth System
Board of Trustees
Community Engagement Committee
December 20, 2017

Present Committee Members: Maureen Dee, Tom McDonald

Other Trustees: Arlene Anderson

Advisory Committee Members: Linda Bluso, Ted Carter, Fran Dacek, Duane Deskins, Gail Long, Rev. Tony Minor, Karen Mintzer, Rev. Max Rodas, Rev. Paul Hobson Sadler, Sr.

Staff: Dr. Akram Boutros, Michael Phillips, Jane Platten,

Guest: Rita Andolsen, Director System Communications, MHS
Emily Campbell, Assoc. Dir. & Williamson Family Fellow for Applied Research, The Center for Community Solutions
Karen Cook, Manager, Community Health Advocacy, MHS
Dr. Robert Needlman, Physician, MHS
Barbara Grzegorek, Coordinator, Marketing Projects, MHS

The meeting was called to order by Tom McDonald at 12:05 p.m.

(The minutes are written in a format conforming to the printed meeting agenda for the convenience of correlation, recognizing that some of the items were discussed out of sequence.)

I. Approval of Minutes – September 27, 2017

The minutes of the September 27, 2017 Community Engagement Committee meeting were approved as presented.

II. Information Items

1. Reach Out and Read overview by Dr. Robert Needlman.

Dr. Robert Needlman provided an overview of the national Reach Out and Read program which fosters reading in young children. He shared that there are thirty offices in Cuyahoga County. A three-year grant from the Bruening Foundation has provided the initial funds to support a coordinator for this program. Additional funds are needed to continue this position. Dr. Needlman stressed the importance of reading aloud to young children. Dr. Boutros suggested CareSource may want to pilot a program at MetroHealth. Dr. Boutros, Jane Platten and Rita Andolsen will meet to discuss this initiative.

2. Presentation of the final Community Health Needs Assessment study, including the gap analysis.

Emily Campbell reviewed the secondary data analysis and gaps analysis with the committee. Five possible priorities were identified:

- Reducing Infant Mortality
- Addressing the Opioid Epidemic
- Eliminating Racial Disparities in Care Provided for Chronic Diseases
- Mitigating Community Trauma
- Community Building in Clark-Fulton

Ms. Campbell continued by presenting the findings of the patient data analysis and a series of focus groups that were conducted. She highlighted the prevalence of diabetes, hypertension, obesity and smoking of MetroHealth patients by their race and ethnicity. She also discussed the views of the Clark-Fulton residents regarding their neighborhood. Their main concerns were healthy food, transportation and safety. Block club leaders who participated in a focus group considered MetroHealth a stabilizing force within their community.

Karen Cook reminded the committee of their goals for 2017 which included: performing a community health needs assessment, conducting a gap analysis and establishing five top priorities for the next three years. She provided information on each of the identified five priorities.

Rev. Minor informed the committee he met with faith leaders to discuss community trauma and its impact. They discussed the possible development of three healing circles that will target the Buckeye, Mt. Pleasant and Union Miles communities. A small cohort of families will receive a comprehensive assessment and be linked with services to address adverse situations. The model will also have a community advocacy component and build resilience.

3. Discussion and approval of five priorities.

The committee discussed at length the opioid epidemic. Dr. Boutros shared some insights into the problem and possible solutions. The committee also discussed the impact community trauma may have on the prevalence of chronic disease in those areas of the community. MetroHealth has been working on raising the standard of care for individuals with certain chronic diseases so we can obtain similar outcomes for people regardless of their race or ethnicity. Over the next three to six months staff will develop tactics and metrics for each of the priority areas.

III. Non-Consent Action Items - None

IV. Consent Items

1. Recommendation for the acceptance of Community Health Needs Assessment and five top community health priorities for the System.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Heller Allen
Senior Vice President, External Affairs