

## Minutes

**Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council's  
Connecting with the Community Committee  
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust Pavilion  
2609 East Roosevelt Street, Phoenix, AZ 85008  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Auditorium 1  
May 13, 2025, 3:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Chris Hooper, Chairman  
Jason Vail Cruz, Vice Chairman  
Earl Arbuckle, Member  
Shelbi Bahena, Member – *participated remotely*  
Rebecca Birr, Member  
Dr. Nelly Clotter-Woods, Member – *participated remotely*  
Claudia Inabinet, Member  
Scott Jacobson, Member  
Helen Kennedy, Member – *participated remotely*  
Jose Luis Madera, Member  
Jee Moon, Member  
Irene Noriega, Member – *participated remotely*

**Members Absent:** Dr. Michelle Barker, Ex-Officio Member

**Recorded by:** Denise Tapia, Deputy Clerk of the Board

### **Call to Order:**

Chairman Hooper called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

Ms. Tapia called roll. Following roll call, she noted that twelve of the thirteen voting members of the Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council's Connecting with the Community Ad Hoc Committee members were present, which represented a quorum.

For the benefit of all participants, Ms. Tapia announced the Committee members that participated remotely.

### **Call to the Public**

Chairman Hooper called for public comment. There were no comments.

### **General Session, Presentation, Discussion and Action:**

1. Approval of Consent Agenda:
  - a. Minutes:
    - i. Approve Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council's Connecting with the Community meeting minutes dated April 8, 2025

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**General Session, Presentation, Discussion and Action, cont.:**

1. Approval of Consent Agenda, cont.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jacobson moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Madera seconded.

**VOTE:** 12 Ayes: Chairman Hooper, Vice Chairman Vail Cruz, Mr. Arbuckle, Ms. Bahena, Ms. Birr, Dr. Clotter-Woods, Ms. Inabinet, Mr. Jacobson, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Madera, Ms. Moon, Ms. Noriega

0 Nays

1 Absent: Dr. Barker

**Motion passed.**

2. Discuss and Review Connecting with the Community Committee Charter

Vice Chairman Vail Cruz reminded the Committee members about the responsibility of the Committee charter.

3. Discuss and Possible Action on Connecting with the Community Committee Projects: Staff Storytelling; Individual Federal Qualified Health Center Events; and Care for Homebound Patients

Vice Chairman Vail Cruz mentioned at the last Committee meeting that there were three potential projects. He would like to identify the best project to start with. Although there was an opportunity to do more than one project, he would like to focus on one project and its implementation.

Ms. Inabinet asked if the Committee discussed funding options for each project.

Vice Chairman Vail Cruz stated that project funding was not discussed.

Chairman Hooper stated that the Committee had decided on three potential projects: staff storytelling, individual Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) events, and care for homebound patients, however, the Committee should focus on one project. The Committee received information on all scheduled FQHC events for the remainder of fiscal year (FY) 2025.

Vice Chairman Vail Cruz reiterated that one proposed project was for each FQHC location to have one event per year, which would be manageable in terms of budget and planning.

Chairman Hooper emphasized that the Committee could assist FQHCs that have yet to host events, aiming to bring all centers on board with the initiative of organizing at least one event per year.

Vice Chairman Vail Cruz suggested developing a template for FQHC events and testing it during the current fiscal year. Once the process had been streamlined, each location would be required to hold an event within a fiscal year, which would be included in their annual budget.

Mr. Arbuckle stated the Committee should look at new projects that do not require a lot of resources, as the first project needed to be completed within the year. He noted that storytelling was relevant.

Chairman Hooper defined storytelling, explaining that a personal storyteller was a direct connection from one person to an audience. It could be done from the perspective of a patient or an employee at Valleywise Health.

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**General Session, Presentation, Discussion and Action, cont.:**

3. Discuss and Possible Action on Connecting with the Community Committee Projects: Staff Storytelling; Individual Federal Qualified Health Center Events; and Care for Homebound Patients, cont.

Vice Chairman Vail Cruz stated that with the shortages in resources, it was important to have both staff and patient ambassadors who could speak in the community about the importance of safety net health systems and accessing health that was available to the people in the community.

Mr. Jacobson stated that community events, which connect people with their community, should take priority.

Ms. Inabinet mentioned the Committee needed a funding plan for future events, but currently, the Committee could tap into existing events and enhance them.

Chairman Hooper stated storytelling training was important to ensure people were well-prepared and didn't enter situations unprepared

Ms. Birr stated that storytelling should focus on the staff members who engage with their community and that pilot training should be conducted with those staff members.

Ms. Moon mentioned that storytelling enhanced the community partnership.

Vice Chairman Vail Cruz mentioned that storytelling from a patient and professional perspective would help grow relationships with the community surrounding the FQHCs.

**MOTION:** Mr. Arbuckle moved to approve the Individual Federal Qualified Health Center staff storytelling events. Mr. Jacobson seconded.

**VOTE:** 12 Ayes: Chairman Hooper, Vice Chairman Vail Cruz, Mr. Arbuckle, Ms. Bahena, Ms. Birr, Dr. Clotter-Woods, Ms. Inabinet, Mr. Jacobson, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Madera, Ms. Moon, Ms. Noriega

0 Nays

1 Absent: Dr. Barker

**Motion passed.**

4. Discuss and Review Planning, Implementation and Timeline for Approved Connecting with the Community Committee Projects

Vice Chairman Vail Cruz proposed launching a storytelling pilot program for FQHCs that have the capacity to participate, leveraging existing storytelling resources, with the goal of implementing the pilot in the next fiscal year.

Ms. Inabinet suggested incorporating additional storytelling elements into the events that were already scheduled.

Mr. Arbuckle mentioned developing an implementation plan that included clearly defined success criteria, which could be presented for review.

Vice Chairman Vail Cruz stated he would clarify the timeline for the Committee projects.

5. Connecting with the Community Committee Member Closing/Announcements

There were no comments or announcements.

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**Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Mr. Arbuckle moved to adjourn the May 13, 2025, Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council's Connecting with the Community Committee Meeting. Mr. Jacobson seconded.

**VOTE:** 12 Ayes: Chairman Hooper, Vice Chairman Vail Cruz, Mr. Arbuckle, Ms. Bahena, Ms. Birr, Dr. Clotter-Woods, Ms. Inabinet, Mr. Jacobson, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Madera, Ms. Moon, Ms. Noriega

0 Nays

1 Absent: Dr. Barker

**Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

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Denise Tapia  
Deputy Clerk of the Board