

Minutes

Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council Valleywise Health Medical Center January 5, 2022 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Ryan Winkle, Chairman - *participated remotely*
Michelle Barker, Vice Chairman - *participated remotely*
Nelly Clotter-Woods, Ph.D., Treasurer - *participated remotely*
Terry Benelli, Member - *participated remotely*
Salina Imam, Member - *participated remotely*
Scott Jacobson, Member - *participated remotely*
Liz McCarty, Member - *participated remotely*
Daniel Messick, Member - *participated remotely*

Members Absent: Joseph Larios, Member

Others/Guest Presenters: Barbara Harding, Chief Executive Officer, Federally Qualified Health Center Clinics - *participated remotely*
Steve Purves, President & Chief Executive Officer, Valleywise Health - *participated remotely*
Claire Agnew, Chief Financial Officer - *participated remotely*
Ijana Harris, Assistant General Counsel - *participated remotely*
Annie Daymude, MPH, Community Health Impact Analyst, Maricopa County Department of Public Health - *participated remotely*
Melanie Talbot, Chief Governance Officer - *participated remotely*

Recorded by: Cassandra Santos, Assistant Clerk - *participated remotely*

Call to Order

Chairman Winkle called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Ms. Talbot called roll. Following roll call, it was noted that seven of the nine voting members of the Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council were present, which represented a quorum. Ms. Imam joined the meeting shortly after roll call.

For the benefit of all participants, Ms. Talbot announced the Governing Council members participating remotely.

NOTE: Ms. Imam joined the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Call to the Public

Chairman Winkle called for public comment.

There were no comments.

**Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council
Meeting Minutes – General Session – January 5, 2022**

General Session, Presentation, Discussion and Action:

1. Approval of Consent Agenda:
 - a. Minutes:
 - i. Approve Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council meeting minutes dated December 1, 2021
 - b. Contracts:
 - i. INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK
 - c. Governance:
 - i. Accept Recommendations from the Finance Committee to Accept the Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, annual audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, including information related to the Federally Qualified Health Center Clinics
 - ii. Approve revisions to the organizational chart for the Federally Qualified Health Center Clinics
 - iii. Approve registration fee for Nelly Clotter-Woods, Ph.D., to attend the Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers (AACHC) conference held April 20, 2022 through April 21, 2022
 - iv. Approve Health Resources and Services Administration grant application for funding in the amount of \$680,985, for four years, for Ryan White Part D, Women/Infant/Children/Youth (WICY), to provide health care services for low-income patients with human immunodeficiency virus
 - v. Acknowledge grant application to Arizona Women's Board for funding in the amount of \$100,000, for one year, for the expansion of the food pharmacy program at Valleywise Community Health Centers-South Phoenix/Laveen and South Central, to assist patients with obesity, hypertension, and/or pre-diabetes
 - d. Medical Staff:
 - i. Acknowledge the Federally Qualified Health Centers Medical Staff and Allied Health Professional Staff Credentials

MOTION: Mr. Jacobson moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. McCarty seconded.

VOTE: 8 Ayes: Chairman Winkle, Vice Chairman Barker, Ms. Benelli, Dr. Clotter-Woods, Ms. Imam, Mr. Jacobson, Ms. McCarty, Mr. Messick
0 Nays
1 Absent: Mr. Larios
Motion passed.

**Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council
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General Session, Presentation, Discussion and Action, cont.:

2. Presentation on Arizona State University Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center COVID-19 focus groups report

Ms. Daymude said that the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) COVID-19 focus group questionnaires were conducted by Arizona State University (ASU) Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center. She explained that data was collected virtually from February 2021 through June 2021, with a total of 186 participants divided into 33 groups. She said that 158 of those participants also took part in a supplemental questionnaire.

She gave examples of the special population focus groups surveyed, including but not limited to seniors, veterans, immigrants, African American women, Hispanic/Latino men and refugee advocates. She highlighted details about the individual themes stemming from the questionnaires.

Ms. Daymude said that the quality-of-life portion of the questionnaire zeroed in on loss of employment and minimized work hours, loss of childcare and school, and food and transportation availability. She quoted a response from a participant, an expectant mother, who stated that her hours at work were dramatically cut.

Survey questions associated with the physical and mental health impacts of COVID-19, touched on aspects of depression from isolation, anxiety about sickness, and long-term effects. Responses from this group revealed concern about family members becoming ill from COVID-19.

Ms. Daymude stated that regarding access and barriers to health care, participants were asked about challenges related to telehealth, experiences with insurance coverage, and issues for communities of color. She said that one respondent stated concern with the geriatric population's ability to utilize telehealth, due to lack of knowledge.

Participants were asked their opinion on prevention measures for safety, including mask wearing, ambivalence on masking and social distancing enforcement, and concerns surrounding COVID-19 testing. One participant revealed mixed emotions and anxiety about the lack of seriousness surrounding mask wearing.

Ms. Daymude said that the COVID-19 vaccine information and decision questionnaire portion was guided by three questions. Participants were asked about their concerns with the vaccine, how they received information about the vaccine, and from whom they trusted receiving that information.

She said participants shared their concern with long term vaccine side effects, infertility, rushed vaccine development, and vaccine cost. Participants said they received vaccine information through multiple sources including social media, news platforms, close family, friends, and doctors. Results from this portion of the survey indicated that people trusted doctors, their faith, and community leaders.

Ms. Daymude said that participants additionally expressed fear about other possible side effects including blood clots and Alzheimer's disease.

She said there was also apprehension about rumors that vaccines were developed using human cell lines which contained aborted fetus particles. Other concerns were that vaccines contained microchips and would be used for population control measures.

Ms. Daymude gave examples of how culturally diverse populations perceived information about vaccines and highlighted the channels they preferred receiving information from.

Mr. Jacobson asked what percentage of focus group participants had a previous COVID-19 infection.

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

2. Presentation on Arizona State University Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center COVID-19 focus groups report, cont.

Ms. Daymude was unsure about the exact percentage and would provide the information once obtained.

Chairman Winkle asked if focus groups were chosen based on various predefined demographic traits.

Ms. Daymude explained that participants were specifically recruited from populations with historically low representation rates in past health surveys. Participants were also recruited from vaccine events held in Maricopa County within zip codes of known marginalized populations.

Mr. Jacobson asked how Maricopa County currently compared nationally regarding positive COVID-19 cases.

Ms. Daymude was uncertain; however, she would provide the information once retrieved.

Mr. Messick asked what more could be learned from analyzing conclusions of the survey, in conjunction with action items taken from the information.

Ms. Daymude said that multiple funding streams were received to address health equity as it related to COVID-19 response. Information from the questionnaires would be utilized to geographically specify areas extremely impacted by COVID-19. Strategic action plans and the community health improvement plan would be created to support those in areas where overall health disparities were greatest.

She would follow up with more details related to COVID-19 response efforts related to funding resources and request for proposals (RFPs).

Chairman Winkle asked if any participants expressed challenges accessing medical insurance coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Daymude said that 43% of responders indicated that obtaining medical insurance coverage during the pandemic was a challenge.

3. Recent meeting reports from the Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council's committees
 - a. Compliance and Quality Committee
 - b. Executive Committee
 - c. Finance Committee
 - d. Strategic Planning and Outreach Committee

Vice Chairman Barker said there was nothing to report related to the Compliance and Quality Committee.

Chairman Winkle noted there was nothing to report from the Executive Committee.

Dr. Clotter-Woods said the Finance Committee met and reviewed financial statistics for November 2021. She highlighted details on Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) clinic visits compared to budget.

Mr. Jacobson said that the Strategic Planning and Outreach Committee met and discussed resources needed to support diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ) efforts. He said the Committee talked about a promotional communication on programs and services offered at Valleywise Health FQHC clinics.

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

3. Recent meeting reports from the Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council's committees, cont.

Ms. Harding added that the Strategic Planning and Outreach Committee discussed details related to the outcome of the Governing Council retreat.

4. Federally Qualified Health Center Clinics Chief Executive Officer's report

Ms. Harding highlighted details surrounding the National Research Corporation (NRC) patient experience, financial aspects, FQHC clinic visits, vacancy rates, staffing initiatives, and COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

She spoke about Valleywise Health's holiday angel event that supported the refugee population.

5. Valleywise Health's President and Chief Executive Officer's report

Mr. Purves discussed information associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and the consistent rate of positive cases at Valleywise Health. He spoke about the ongoing and demanding clinical staffing challenges and provided minor detail surrounding the organization's current financial status.

He reported that the human resources management company Kronos experienced a ransomware attack that would keep its systems offline until resolved. The outage would impact aspects of timekeeping and payroll operations at Valleywise Health. Staff would continue to address the issue.

Mr. Purves announced that the Valleywise Health Foundation received a substantial donation from the Halle Foundation to benefit and name the burn center at Valleywise Health Medical Center. The new name would be the Diane and Bruce Halle Arizona Burn Center.

In closing, he informed the Governing Council that Susan Lara-Willars was chosen as Valleywise Health's Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO), effective February 7, 2022.

6. Chairman and Council Member Closing Comments/Announcements

There were no closing comments or announcements.

7. Review Staff Assignments

Ms. Talbot reviewed staff assignments and follow up stemming from the meeting.

She recapped old business from December 1, 2021 regarding the Strategic Planning and Outreach Committee being tasked with discussion on DEI efforts. She noted the item was considered satisfied.

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Adjourn

MOTION: Mr. Jacobson moved to adjourn the January 5, 2022 Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council meeting. Ms. Benelli seconded.

VOTE: 8 Ayes: Chairman Winkle, Vice Chairman Barker, Ms. Benelli, Dr. Clotter-Woods,
Ms. Imam, Mr. Jacobson, McCarty, Mr. Messick
0 Nays
1 Absent: Mr. Larios
Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Cassandra Santos,
Assistant Clerk