

Minutes

Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council
Valleywise Health Medical Center
Administration and Conference Center, Navajo East and West Rooms
July 5, 2023
6:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Scott Jacobson, Chairman – *participated remotely*
Eileen Sullivan, Vice Chairman – *participated remotely*
Earl Arbuckle, Treasurer – *participated remotely*
Chris Hooper, Member – *participated remotely*
Norma Muñoz, Member – *participated remotely*
Jane Wilson, Member – *participated remotely*

Members Absent:

Salina Imam, Member

Others/Guest Presenters:

Michelle Barker, DHSc, Chief Executive Officer of the Federally Qualified Health Centers – *participated remotely*
Steve Purves, FACHE, President and Chief Executive Officer, Valleywise Health – *participated remotely*
Claire Agnew, CPA, MBA, Chief Financial Officer – *participated remotely*
Michael D. White, MD, MBA, Chief Clinical Officer – *participated remotely*
Melanie Talbot, Chief Governance Officer – *participated remotely*
Matthew Meier, MBA, Vice President, Financial Services – *participated remotely*
Martin C. Demos, JD, General Counsel – *participated remotely*
Annie Daymude, Maricopa County Dept. of Public Health – *participated remotely*
Hamza Rafique, Maricopa County Dept. of Public Health – *participated remotely*
Tiffany Tu, Maricopa County Dept. of Public Health – *participated remotely*
Pearl Gore, Maricopa County Dept. of Public Health – *participated remotely*

Recorded by:

Cynthia Cornejo, Senior Deputy Clerk of the Board – *participated remotely*
Denise Kreidler, Deputy Clerk of the Board – *participated remotely*

Call to Order:

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

Roll Call

Ms. Talbot called roll. Following roll call, she noted that five of the seven voting members of the Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council were present, which represented a quorum. Mr. Arbuckle joined the meeting after roll call.

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

Call to the Public

Chairman Jacobson called for public comment.

Ms. Talbot introduced Ms. Denise Kreidler, new Deputy Clerk of the Board.

**Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council
Meeting Minutes – General Session – July 5, 2023**

General Session, Presentation, Discussion and Action:

1. Approval of Consent Agenda:
 - a. Minutes:
 - i. Approve Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council Meeting Minutes dated May 18, 2023
 - b. Contracts:
 - i. INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK
 - c. Governance:
 - i. Approve revisions to Governing Council Policy 89102 T – Member Orientation
 - ii. Approve revisions to Valleywise Health Policy 060503 S – HRSA Legislative Mandate Compliance Policy
 - d. Medical Staff:
 - i. Acknowledge the Federally Qualified Health Centers Medical Staff and Advanced Practice Clinician/Allied Health Professional Staff Credentials

MOTION: Ms. Wilson moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Muñoz seconded.

VOTE: 5 Ayes: Chairman Jacobson, Vice Chairman Sullivan, Mr. Hooper, Ms. Muñoz, Ms. Wilson
0 Nays
2 Absent: Mr. Arbuckle, Ms. Imam
Motion passed.

2. Review Data for a Community Health Needs Assessment for Valleywise Health

Ms. Daymude reviewed the process of creating a community health needs assessment (CHNA). She shared CHNA data that was collected in 2019 and 2021.

NOTE: Mr. Arbuckle joined the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

Ms. Daymude explained that a CHNA is developed in partnership with health care providers in Maricopa County. Once a CHNA is developed, an action plan is created to prioritize the needs of the community.

Ms. Daymude said that in 2019, the top health issue in Maricopa County was alcohol/substance abuse. However, in 2021, the top issue was mental health issues. In 2019, the top social issue was distracted driving. Yet in 2021, the top issue was lack of people immunized. Although not included in the 2019 and 2021 CHNA data, Ms. Daymude said that racism/discrimination was the top overall social issue.

Ms. Daymude asked the Governing Council members for feedback on what they thought were the top health priorities affecting Maricopa County.

Both Chairman Jacobson and Mr. Arbuckle commented that they believed it to be mental health.

Ms. Muñoz said that she felt it was diabetes and children with asthma.

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

2. Review Data for a Community Health Needs Assessment for Valleywise Health, cont.

Vice Chairman Sullivan considered substance abuse to be a top health issue.

Mr. Hooper stated that he agreed with everyone and that he perceived poor air quality, which attributed to asthma, as a top concern.

Mr. Rafique reviewed the top ten health indicators in Valleywise Health's primary service area. Top health indicators for both inpatient hospitalizations and emergency department (ED) visits included but were not limited to mental health disorders, diabetes, cardiovascular disease (CVD), falls, motor vehicle traffic related accidents, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Top reasons for deaths included drug overdose, COPD, CVD, diabetes, stroke, and suicide.

Using various sources, including Maricopa County Public Health Community Surveys from 2019 and 2021, data from 2021 for inpatient hospitalizations, ED visits, deaths, and births, Mr. Rafique reviewed race and gender disparity statistics for various health indicators in Valleywise Health's primary service area compared to Maricopa County overall.

Ms. Tu asked the Governing Council if the health indicator statistics that were shared was an accurate reflection of what they saw in the community.

Mr. Arbuckle asked why it appeared that Black/African Americans had higher health disparities than Hispanics when most of Valleywise Health's population was Hispanic. He asked what determined which races appeared on the reports.

Mr. Rafique said that they reported the races that had a higher prevalence than Maricopa County's overall rate.

Chairman Jacobson asked about the mental disorders ED visit statistics and if it the information contained just Valleywise Health's ED visits, or if the statistics included visits to the psychiatric urgent care centers.

Mr. Rafique stated that they analyze data throughout Maricopa County, not just Valleywise Health's statistics.

Chairman Jacobson asked if data was available for teen suicide by zip code.

If zip code information is provided, Mr. Rafique said he could pull the data.

Ms. Barker clarified that although Valleywise Health has a large population of Hispanic patients who have the top 10 health issues listed, they do not exceed the Maricopa County statistics overall.

Ms. Daymude asked the Governing Council what they thought were the top social issues affecting Maricopa County.

Ms. Wilson expressed concerns about homelessness.

Ms. Muñoz stated that she felt substance abuse was a top social issue.

Chairman Jacobson said the political environment was a top social issue and the fact that people do not believe in science.

Ms. Gore and Ms. Tu shared social issues statistics for homelessness, transportation, utilities and food insecurity.

Ms. Daymude asked the Governing Council members if the social issues statistics that were shared was an accurate reflection of what they saw in the community.

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

2. Review Data for a Community Health Needs Assessment for Valleywise Health, cont.

Ms. Muñoz agreed that each one of the social issues affected the community.

Chairman Jacobson also agreed and said that when he ran a homeless shelter, many times utilities were a factor in homelessness.

Ms. Wilson added that substance abuse and mental health played roles in homelessness.

Mr. Hooper said that the social issues had become worse in the past year, with the cost of utilities and rent increasing.

Ms. Daymude asks which issues, if any, the Governing Council members wanted more information or if there were any issues that weren't addressed.

Chairman Jacobson said that religion and politics are social issues.

Ms. Muñoz commented that she wanted to know how COVID was being address now that the pandemic is over. There are still people that are unvaccinated against the virus.

Mr. Hooper commented that although diabetes and stroke were included as a top health indicator, controlling body mass index (BMI) can help to manage diabetes and hypertension can reduce the number of strokes.

Mr. Arbuckle added that he believed there will be a lasting impact from home schooling during the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a less than an ideal situation that could have a lasting impact on youths.

3. Discuss and review the following Financial Reports

- a. Semiannual Federally Qualified Health Centers Referral Report
- b. Semiannual Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Grant Funding Awards Utilization Report
- c. Semiannual American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Financials Report

Mr. Meier reviewed the semiannual Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) referral report, noting that internal referrals for the third quarter of fiscal year 2023 were higher than the two previous quarters. This meant patients were staying within the Valleywise Health system opposed to seeking specialty care elsewhere.

He discussed the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant funding awards utilization report, which included the grants awarded by HRSA to Valleywise Health for the FQHCs. The report contained details such as the purpose of each grant, the amount awarded, and the amount of funding spent to date. He pointed out that funding from the New Access Point (NAP) grant, expanding capacity for testing (ECT) grant and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act grant, was spent in full.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant was the largest grant, totaling almost \$17 million. Mr. Meier explained that due to health care environment, the economic climate and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, Valleywise Health staff requested and received a no-cost extension from HRSA which allowed additional time to spend the funding.

Mr. Meier highlighted the items made possible due to the funding, which included a mobile health unit, population health coordinators, cultural navigators, and renovations at several of the FQHCs. Almost \$10 million of the grant funding has been spent with an additional \$7 million remaining.

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

4. Federally Qualified Health Centers' Chief Executive Officer's Report

This item was not discussed.

5. Maricopa County Special Health Care District Board of Directors Report

This item was not discussed.

6. Valleywise Health's President and Chief Executive Officer's Report

Mr. Purves said that the District Board of Directors approved the fiscal year 2024 budget at their June 2023 meeting. Funding support from both the Governor's Office and Maricopa County allowed Valleywise Health to improve its work force and retention by providing sign on and retention (SOAR) bonuses. In turn, Valleywise Health has been able to reduce contract labor expenses.

Valleywise Health staff continues to assist patients who lost their Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) coverage due to eligibility reviews. Staff assists patients with the renewal and reenrollment process. If ineligible for AHCCCS, staff will help patients to find coverage through the health insurance marketplace.

Administrative departments will move into the new Piper Pavilion in August. The opening of the new medical center has shifted to the end of January or the beginning of February 2024.

Mr. Purves announced that the Valleywise Health Foundation had a new CEO, who just started and that a new department chair for Family Medicine would start in September 2023.

7. Governing Council Member Closing Comments/Announcements

This item was not discussed.

8. Review Staff Assignments

Ms. Talbot stated that there were no requests from the meeting and no old business to discuss.

**Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council
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Adjourn

MOTION: Ms. Muñoz moved to adjourn the July 5, 2023, Valleywise Community Health Centers Governing Council Meeting. Ms. Wilson seconded.

VOTE: 6 Ayes: Chairman Jacobson, Vice Chairman Sullivan, Mr. Arbuckle, Mr. Hooper,
Ms. Muñoz, Ms. Wilson

0 Nays

1 Absent: Ms. Imam

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Denise M. Kreidler
Deputy Clerk of the Board