

## ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 16, 2022

5:00 – 6:00 pm

### Committee Members Present

Rachel Pigott (Chair)

Dr. Sumit Bassi

Felicia Brannon

Salliann Alborn

### Committee Members Absent

Erika Reymann - no longer participating on the committee

Dr. Afton Thomas

### Maryland Department of Health Staff Present

Dr. Olubukola Alonge

#### 1. Welcome

Rachel welcomed the Committee members to the meeting. A new member, Ms. Felicia Brannon, was welcomed to the committee with introductions done by all members. No members of the public were in attendance. There was a quorum and the minutes for July, August, November and December 2021 were approved. The motion was moved by Rachel and seconded by Saliann and Sumit; there were no abstentions.

#### 2. Discussion

Felicia shared that she is the co-founder of the MarylandRARE, a coalition of rare disease patients and caregivers, working to bridge the gap regarding understanding, information, and resources that lead to systemic change at the local, state, and federal levels of government, and that she is new to Maryland with a background in lobbying. She applauded the HWC for being an advocate for various policies in the state and shared that her interest in the committee is related to her experience as a person living with a rare disease with myositis and interstitial lung disease with its impact on joints either from the pathogenesis or medications. Rachel also appreciated the team and stated how helpful Jessica has been to the larger HWC.

Next, there was a discussion about the May messaging and Rachel stated that there were two developed last year which can be used in May; she would place them in a folder in Basecamp accessible to all members. Saliann stated she could assist with the editing as she does a lot of editing, however, Basecamp is a mystery for her. It was decided that the posts were too long for Twitter and Saliann will assist in creating a shorter, Twitter-usable version to align with the character limit of 280. Dr. Bassi thinks that graphics will be better overall for messaging when possible. In addition, there was a discussion about

the Arthritis Walk for the Cure event scheduled for May 21 and the plan is for the HWC to start messaging in the first week of May. Rachel will restart the HWC team and send out the flier. It was then discussed that the arthritis webpage should be organized by categories. Suggestions included adding links to the Maryland Department of Aging (Triple A's) for the various counties, adding links to the American Academy of Rheumatology, Association of Sports Medicine, and a section on pediatric arthritis.

### 3. Next Steps

- Rachel will set up the HWC team for the Arthritis Walk for the Cure event and send out the flier.
- Saliann will update the May messaging for the HWC.

### 4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm

**Next Meeting:** March 28, 2022; 5:30 – 6:00 PM

**Meeting ID**

[meet.google.com/nfh-tccy-xnc](https://meet.google.com/nfh-tccy-xnc)

**+1 385-350-2098**

**PIN: 162 887 508#**

### **Addendum: Links to prior creative considerations posted on basecamp**

1. <https://3.basecamp.com/3767133/buckets/23672720/uploads/4451695520>
2. <https://3.basecamp.com/3767133/buckets/23672720/uploads/4451695508>
3. <https://3.basecamp.com/3767133/buckets/23672720/uploads/4451695489>
4. <https://3.basecamp.com/3767133/buckets/23672720/uploads/4451695476>
5. <https://3.basecamp.com/3767133/buckets/23672720/uploads/4451695463>