

DIABETES COMMITTEE MEETING
March 16, 2022
4:00 - 5:00 PM
Approved Minutes

Members Present

Pamela Xenakis
Vivienne Rose
Mary Pat Bertacchi
Teresa Titus-Howard
Pamela Williams

Members Not Present

Sharon Keating
Sara Vazer
Julie Maneen
Jessica Kiel

Maryland Department of Health Staff Present

Emily Tolbert
Jen Schindler
Michelle George

1. Roll Call/Introductions

A quorum of the Diabetes Committee was present.

2. Review Agenda Items

The Diabetes Committee met via webinar on March 16, 2022. Vivienne Rose called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and reviewed the meeting agenda items.

3. Approve February 16, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Teresa Titus-Howard made a motion to approve the February 16, 2022 meeting minutes and Pamela Xenakis seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Select April 2022 Social Media Messages

The Diabetes Committee selected social media messages for the month of April 2022, to submit to the Health and Wellness Council Social Media Calendar. Pamela Xenakis asked if the committee could get feedback about the previous messages submitted so that the committee is aware of what they need to work on/improve for November's social media messages.

5. "Community Guide"

Pamela Xenakis will work with MDH staff to access the latest version of the "community guide." The Committee agrees it is important to update the content then figure out how to distribute the guide. Pamela Xenakis suggested sharing the document at the next DSMES Network Meeting where the providers could share it with their organizations.

6. Diabetes Action Plan and Task Force Update

Pamela Williams presented information about the task force and what they are working on. Their goal is to finalize the work plan for two activities. The activities will focus on increasing provider and clinic staff awareness to increase referrals to DPP and DSMES and expanding the CHW workforce to improve linkages to community and clinical resources.

The committee discussed issues around diabetes education for different healthcare professionals. Many of the committee members agreed that people in the public do not know how to get involved with diabetes education or even how to enroll in classes. Members agreed that people in the public are also unaware of the resources available to diabetics and that there is an overall shortage of diabetes educators. There was mention of Lifebridge's new trial that is similar to the "Know Your Numbers" where the visit focuses on the new standards of care and encourages access to other supports. The committee highlighted a need to partner with other organizations to further the goals of the Maryland Diabetes Action Plan. The committee discussed developing a set of best practices for the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) and Mid Atlantic of Community Health Centers (MACHC) on how to facilitate referrals for DSMES and DPP and researching diabetes education curriculum for healthcare professionals other than CHWs and prescribing providers. Other committee members mentioned wanting to learn more about Hopkins' referral program, both their struggles and their successes.

7. Discussion of Committee Action Plan Items

Mary Pat Bertacchi mentioned that the Diabetes Committee's goals are similar to that of the Community-Clinical Linkages workgroup under the task force. Pamela Xenakis suggested the MDPCP could assist with some of the barriers that DPP has such as lack of referrals from providers and that many providers fall short of linking patients with other community resources. Pamela Xenakis also felt that MACHC would be a good partner as well to address some of the barriers.

8. Next Steps and Assignments

Committee members:

- Continue to review resources to inform actionable recommendations for the Diabetes Committee Action Plan, including the Maryland Diabetes Action Plan, USPSTF guidelines, and community organizations addressing diabetes.

Staff:

- Emily will send social media messages to Health and Wellness Council Leadership for approval.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 PM

**Next Diabetes Committee meetings:
April 19, 2022, 4:00 – 5:00 PM**