

HEART DISEASE AND STROKE COMMITTEE
JANUARY 15, 2020
5:00 p.m.
MINUTES

The Heart Disease and Stroke Committee held a meeting on 1/15/2020, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the following location:

Maryland Department of Health
201 West Preston Street, Room L-4
Baltimore, MD 21201

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mary Backley
Angela Deal (Interim Chair)
Lois Freeman
Gary Gerstenblith
Roger Harrell
Seth Martin
Vanina Wolf
Kristin Watson

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Josie Ogaitis
Anne Williams (Chair)

CCDPC STAFF PRESENT

Kathleen Graham
Maya Nirmalraj

GUESTS PRESENT

Tina Backe
Kim Hiner
Jessica Hyde (TX DSHS)
Brett Spencer (TX DSHS)

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Interim Chair Angela Deal called the meeting to order and 5:00 PM and took roll call.

2. Approve December Meeting Minutes

Mary Backley motioned to approve the December 3, 2019 meeting minutes and Vanina Wolf seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Review the Heart Disease Committee Action Plan

Ms. Deal summarized the Committee's Action Plan and goals:

- Assist state efforts with a hypertension specialization for CHWs.
- Increase referrals to primary care physicians for patients with uncontrolled or undiagnosed high blood pressure.

Kim Hiner and Tina Backe recapped the Office of Population Health Improvement's Community Health Worker Program and their Certification Training Program.

4. Discussion

Brett Spencer from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) spoke about their Community Health Worker Program and Hypertension Certification. They have been certifying roughly 2,000 CHWs each year since 2001. There has been steady growth over time, demonstrating the interest in and need for their program. The committee discussed the goal of reimbursement for CHW services and the challenges that exist for both states. The committee discussed the major employers for CHWs; primarily health systems, insurance companies, and non-profits providing direct community education.

Jessica Hyde spoke about the Hypertension survey DSHS sent out in 2017 to assess the types of training available to CHWs. Her team is unable to generalize the data and may resend the survey due to the low response rate. Her team works with the Texas Office of Border Public Health and hosted a successful statewide conference in 2019, where CHWs were able to receive 7 of the 20 CEUs required for certification. DSHS is posting more resources on their website and is exploring home visiting for CHWs. DSHS is currently revising their policies for CHW concentrations, this effort is a strong part of their current CDC 1815 and 1817 activities. DSHS suggested the committee speak to New Mexico and South Dakota, as both states may be able to share best practices.

5. Next Steps and Adjournment

- Vanina will start a Google Drive folder and share the link with members.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Next Meeting: April 15, 2020