

AAQOL Commission Health Workgroup

Members:

Commissioner Kavita Radhakrishnan (Lead)
Commissioner Vince Cobalis
Commissioner Catherina Conte
Commissioner Molly Wang

Scope of Workgroup: To address health and wellness needs of underserved Asian American communities residing in the city of Austin

Date of Meeting: March 13, 2018

Location of Meeting: Asian American Resource Center

In Attendance:

Commissioner Kavita Radhakrishnan
Community Member Hailey Easley (AARC Non-profit)
Commissioner Molly Wang
Community Member Kitty Ho (PCC)
Community Member Veena Vishwanath (APH)
Community Member Rashmi Chaudhry

Topics Discussed:

- Ms.Easley presented on outcomes related to the AARC Non-profit Community Health Navigator program. The CHN program has made substantial progress in health outreach efforts with outreach established at 10 facilities and growing. The community partners helped provide training and sources of information on what it means to be a CHW. The CHN program collaborated with other non-profits such as Asian Family Support Services of Austin (AFSSA) to further increase outreach to communities that earlier had no access to resources. Facilities such as Korean Cultural Center opened their space to the Korean CHW. Everose Clinic opened their space for Vietnamese clients.
- The number of clients served by the CHN program has exceeded expectations for all the 3 communities of Burmese, Vietnamese and Korean. 85% of all clients improved or maintained life skills.
- Other characteristics of this population of interest are – 60% with no regular clinicians, 45% with transportation barriers, 70% with language barriers including 26% with barriers reading native language
- The CHN program and Health Equity Unit are hosting a health fair for the Burmese/Nepalese community on April 14th at AARC
- 2018 goals for this program includes relocation possibly to Rosewood Zergosa Neighborhood Center. Also, explore additional sources of funding. Right now, the CHWs work part-time, there is no program manager and staff do not get paid time off, vacation or health benefits.

- Also Reshmi Chaudhry, a Asian-American researcher and non-profit grant writer talked about her interest and experiences working with South Asian aging population in New York and Canada.

Next Meeting: April 10, 2018 Location: TBD

Agenda

APH's analysis of ICC (federally qualified health center data) for populations in Austin – Veena Vishwanath

Tentative: May 8, 2018

Agenda

Community Involvement Manager at CapMetro, Jackie Nirenberg

Address transportation barriers – Discussion with CapMetro

Cap Metro – In order to address transportation barriers faced by many Asian American immigrants and refugees to access healthcare, we will be inviting CapMetro to our health workgroup meeting in May. The goal would be to explore available options for reduced or discounted fare rides and making such options available in an accessible language or medium. Also explore UT Nursing public health student projects to build a database of transportation options to common safety-net clinics or health centers and develop guidelines to complete forms for reduced/discounted fares.