



## Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

### Community Solutions to Improving Employed Immigrant Health: Employed Latino Health Initiative

March 13, 2008

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Baker, RN, Sean Bauer, KT Bender, Thom Coffman, Lisa Courtice, PhD, Chuck Davis, Fartun Dhuux, Kevin Dixon, PhD, Terri Donlin Huesman, Katrina Farmer, Carla Fountaine, Patrick Hansen, Patty Harklau, Dale Jordan, Cathy Levine, Hugo Melgar-Quinonez, MD, Tracy Montgomery, Victoria Nunes, Beth Pierson, Angela Plummer, Linda Ross, Scott Streator, Gail Sudore, Todd Tuney, Milly Valverde, Michelle Vander Stouw, Josue Vicente, Jane Whyde

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Allard Dembe, Amy Litzinger

**Committee Hosts :** Jeff Biehl, Stephanie Jursek, Alicia Smith

Stephanie Jursek called the meeting to order at approximately 8:40 a.m. During introductions, Stephanie asked committee members to respond to the question, "Why did I volunteer my valuable time to serve on this committee?" Responses reflected personal and/or corporate values, principles and interests as indicated below:

- Organization employs a large community of Hispanic culture.
- Large part of workforce is Latino.
- Customer base of new Americans increasing yearly.
- Is personally fluent in Spanish and employs a number of Latino associates.
- Receives the 2 a.m. phone calls from staff that need help and is familiar with employees' who need to take month long trips to Mexico to receive health care.
- Parents were limited English proficient and her duty to serve due to parents' experience.
- Family is immigrants. Thrilled about employers at the table.
- Have Latino family members and from a community with a large number of Latino immigrants.
- Family from Uruguay. Efforts are strategic for the community as Latinos are one of the youngest communities in the country.
- Wants to be a connector.
- Interested in the population.
- Wants to gain insight.
- Want to take part in the initiative.
- Want to do a better job demonstrating values.
- Want to see how models translate to larger community.
- Wants to glean information and come up with great ideas. Need to make sure workers are taken care of.
- Want to collaborate and serve a diverse population.
- Previously worked in immigrant communities and other organizations to empower Latino immigrants.
- To help inform grant making.
- To fulfill organizational mission.
- Looking for areas where my organization can assist.
- Because of the increased diversity of focus in the workplace.
- Interested in improving the lives of all associates.
- Serve immigrants and their children daily.
- Need to find ways to integrate physical and behavioral healthcare.
- Provide a variety of services to Latinos.



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Jeff Biehl provided an overview of Access HealthColumbus' mission, values and vision and discussed the importance of the initiative. Jeff also reviewed slides depicting the population growth among immigrants and related health care trends and implications.

Alicia Smith provided background on the evolution of the initiative and identified initiative partners. Alicia also walked through a roadmap that outlines key activities and milestones of the initiative over the course of the next 24 months, including the convening of focus groups by the Latino Empowerment Outreach Network and individual learning sessions with employers and providers that will be conducted by Health Management Associates. Alicia indicated that Advisory Committee members play a vital role in providing their insight and experiences and that several committee members will be contacted over the next several weeks to take part in individual learning sessions.

Stephanie Jursek described the roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Committee and provided participants with an opportunity to ask additional questions about the Advisory Committee Charter that all members previously received. Stephanie highlighted future meeting dates which are scheduled for: July 10, 2008; August 28, 2008; and November 13, 2008.

Jeff Biehl drew participants' attention to two rounds of questions where committee members worked in small groups and shared their reflections. The first question was, "*From your perspective, what barriers prevent immigrants in our community from improving their health status?*" Following small-group discussions, committee members shared their reflections with the larger committee. A summary of responses is included in Attachment A – Summary of Responses to Round 1 Question.

Committee members reconvened in small groups to reflect on the second question which was, "*From your perspective, what should our committee take into consideration for sustaining viable solutions that demonstrate the potential to improve the health of immigrants?*" A summary of responses is included in Attachment B – Summary of Responses to Round 2 Question.

Alicia Smith highlighted next steps of the initiative which include focus groups among Latino community members that will be conducted by the Latino Empowerment Outreach Network (LEON) through April 2008. Alicia also re-emphasized that she will be contacting hotel and restaurant employers and healthcare providers to schedule one-on-one conversations. Finally, Alicia mentioned that she and Nora Hesse, co-chair of LEON's health committee, will be traveling to Los Angeles, California from March 18 – 20, 2008 for a meeting with officials from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) as well as other RWJF grantees focusing on immigrant health issues.

Jeff Biehl thanked committee members for their enthusiasm and participation and thanked Patrick Hansen, General Manager of the Westin, for his generosity in hosting and providing breakfast and refreshments for the first Advisory Committee meeting.

Stephanie Jursek also thanked Patrick Hansen for sponsoring and hosting the meeting and invited other committee members to indicate their interest in hosting future meetings via a sign-



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up sheet. Stephanie also asked participants to respond to a check-out question which was, *"In three words or less, how do you feel leaving here today?"* Responses are listed below.

- Educational, inspirational
- Interesting, predictable
- Impressed with audience
- Educated, empathetic
- Satisfied, collaborative
- Very challenging
- Extensive, insight
- Impressed, honored
- Impressed
- Hopeful
- I was late
- A learning experience
- Excited, happy
- Excited, enlightened
- Impressed
- Surprised to be impressed
- Lot more discussion
- Educated
- Inspired, challenged, hopeful
- Hopeful and committed
- Empowering
- Curious and optimistic
- Energized
- Hopeful
- Productive, interesting, improvement

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 10, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., location TBD.