

Healthy Sacramento Coalition May 23, 2012, Meeting Summary

MEETING OUTCOMES

- To share an overview of the Healthy Sacramento Coalition goals and objectives
- To network and build relationships with participants in service of the Healthy Sacramento Coalition goals and their organizations' work
- To build the base of knowledge and understanding about what it will take to create an effective, sustainable and action-oriented infrastructure

Welcome, Introductions, Meeting Agreements and Agenda Review

Robert Phillips, Sierra Health Foundation Director of Health Programs, is honored to support the efforts of the groups in the room to create the Healthy Sacramento Coalition. Sierra Health has a deep and profound understanding of the importance of health and well-being. He expressed excitement for the work ahead, reviewed meeting goals, introduced the Sierra Health staff and the facilitation team, and meeting ground rules—be present, minimize distractions (no cell phones or texting), no side conversations, listen with respect, be frank.

Networking Opportunity: What does a “Healthy Sacramento” look like for you?

The group engaged in introductions to an individual they didn't know in the room by asking the question of one another, “What Does a Healthy Sacramento look like to you?” Participants shared their findings from their conversations. The takeaways from those members were:

- While there are many similarities among the efforts represented in the room, many of these efforts are siloed and not coordinated.
- The Healthy Sacramento Coalition meeting offers the occasion to share opportunities among the members to connect the work that is being done in the region.
- The meetings have the ability to surface additional resources that are present in Sacramento County that can help to address the health needs within specific communities.
- There should be greater collaboration with public/elected officials to address policy priorities.
- There needs to be recognition in the Coalition that education is playing a larger role in addressing health needs within communities.

An Overview of the Healthy Sacramento Coalition's Primary Goals

HSC meeting participants were asked their thoughts about the following language as a goal for HSC: *The goal of the Healthy Sacramento Coalition is to improve health and reduce health disparities in Sacramento County.* In response, HSC meeting participants offered the following reactions:

- This definition feels too broad – but this is how health is now defined.
- There is the need to create a common view of what the HSC will focus on less than a common definition of health – then this view should be used to move the HSC's agenda with elected officials.
- The focus should be on moving more resources to communities in need and shift to prevention rather than treatment.
- HSC should be thinking metrics – What can we measure?
- Reducing the number of ER visits should be a focus of HSC.
- HSC should gain a better understanding of how other communities are defining their focus, and then HSC should examine whether or not its focus aligns with other efforts that are further along.
- HSC should make its focus on health matter to elected officials who are accountable to their communities.
- HSC should look for immediate actionable efforts – immediate results.

Robert Phillips presented an overview of Sierra Health Foundation's role in the Healthy Sacramento Coalition:

- Coordinate with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Participate in HSC
- Administer Community Transformation Grant (CTG), report results to CDC
- Support efforts to establish the HSC
- Host and facilitate HSC meetings
- Facilitate CTG funding process in Sacramento County
- Oversee distribution of CTG funds and manage contracts
- Support development of implementation plan, communication strategy and evaluation framework

The questions were posed to the meeting participants: What's the role of an HSC member? What would keep people engaged? In response, participants offered the following input:

- The mission of the effort — Healthy Sacramento — should be determined first, and that would help participants determine what role they could or should play.
- There needs to be a more defined focus and structure for the coalition — having that would assist in filling the gaps of the coalition.
- An inventory of assets is needed so participants can know who's doing what, and what strengths and weakness exist in the coalition.
- A Survey Monkey should be used to determine what people would be willing to do to align assets.

Robert Phillips shared the Healthy Sacramento Coalition timeline for the next five months:

- Build a Leadership Team
- Establish the Healthy Sacramento Coalition structure, mission and goals
- Provide mini-grants
- Complete a Community Health Needs Assessment
- Develop a Strategic Communications Plan
- Begin development of a Community Transformation Implementation Plan

Learning About Structures for Getting Things Done: What is HSC? A Coalition? A Network? An Association? A Collaborative? What are critical design aspects of a coalition?

An overview of the types of campaign structures was presented as an introduction of the discussion of what type of collaborative structure HSC would like to pursue for governance. The discussion emphasized that these structures are a means to an end, not an end in itself. While the process is important, we need to keep focused on addressing the health issues in Sacramento County. While HSC is envisioned as a community-driven, self-governing collaborative group, it needs to balance the development of a governance structure with the primary tasks of meeting the outcomes outlined by the CDC, informing an evaluation and launching communication strategies. In response, meeting participants offered the following input:

- HSC should be structured as a learning community.
- HSC should focus on exploiting the synergy of coalition members to develop the type of multiplier effect necessary to achieve the health outcomes desired by the CDC.
- HSC should be driven by a desire to transform those parts of the communities that are experiencing the poorest outcomes.
- HSC should serve as a clearinghouse of resources in Sacramento County.
- HSC should establish leadership around community that includes Sierra Health Foundation, but that goes beyond the foundation.

The meeting participants outlined the design elements they believed important for HSC, which included:

- Acknowledging the development of the organizing process of a coalition and incorporate that into future meetings.
- While the current status of HSC is low integration, the goal of HSC is to move to high integration.
- A proposal was made and adopted by the meeting participants to develop a coordinating committee/taskforce to develop the goals and mission of HSC, but this committee shouldn't be dominated by any one group and should be representative of the five focus areas outlined by the CDC. Participants should ensure they have the time to meet and they must commit to consistently participate.

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