Healthy Sacramento Coalition Steering Committee Retreat – June 6, 2019
Summary Notes

The Vision of the Healthy Sacramento Coalition (HSC) is to eliminate inequities in Sacramento through advocacy and convening of resources. With a mission to eliminate racialized health inequities in Sacramento through movements that advance policy and system change resulting in neighborhood impact.

Next Steering Committee meeting date: Thursday, August 1, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (at Sierra Health Foundation)

Welcome and Review of Steering Committee meeting notes
The HSC Steering Committee reviewed the May 2, 2019, Steering Committee summary notes and May 22, 2019, General Coalition meeting notes. There were no objections and both sets of the minutes and notes were approved.

Unofficial Activity
Facilitator Deb Marois, Converge Consulting, Research & Training requested current Steering Committee members provide a historical overview of the coalition to see how it has transitioned and transformed over time:

Coalition Timeline
  - Look at health more broadly / social determinants.
• (2011) Community Transformation Grant (CTG) was received.
  - The planning grant lasted for three years.
  - After the grant ended, the HSC chose to focus on policy and systems change.
• (2015-2017) Redefining time with shifts between advocacy and capacity building/data analysis.
• (2017) Commitment to Housing as the focus area and current platform for the HSC.
• (2018) PolicyLink joint report released—Mayor Steinberg pledges support.

Introductions and Warm Up
The Steering Committee members discussed the goals for today’s meeting and what the new direction for the HSC will be.

Discussion
• Does the Steering Committee want the HSC to continue as is, continue but change the structure, or gracefully dissolve?
  - Attendance at Coalition meetings has been lacking. We need the energy and life to continue moving this forward. The Steering Committee meets monthly and General Coalition Meeting meets three times a year.
Participants find value in the information given at the meetings, but we do not have an organized group that necessarily wants or knows how to take action. That is part of HSC’s struggle.

**Reflection on HSC: Plus/Delta**
The aim of the retreat is to determine the direction of the HSC and if there is a role for the HSC to play in Sacramento going forward.

**Discussion**

- **What motivates you to serve on the Steering Committee?**
  - For most of the Steering Committee members, they appreciate the people involved and the values of the Coalition, especially the focus on a racial equity lens.
  - The HSC revolves around system change and the people involved believe in a collective impact.
  - The HSC has a broad network that is a welcoming space for other diverse organizations to congregate, discuss and explore. No matter when or where you enter, there is a place in the HSC for your work.
  - The HSC is inspirational. It is a space for rejuvenation and collaboration.

- **What are HSC’s successes?**
  - PolicyLink Regional Equity Work.
    - Left us a body of work that we can work off of, sort of like a foundation.
    - Provides a counter narrative for economic development in Sacramento.
    - Collaborative space with the Mayor of Sacramento around this report.
  - Measure U education provided to Sacramento.
  - HSC inspires spin-off projects, i.e., “Justice to Jobs.”
  - Steering Committee members consistently attend meetings (including General meetings)
  - 60-80 diverse organizations came together.
  - The HSC is an umbrella for racial equity work.

- **What are the challenges?**
  - The HSC is no longer the only coalition space for Sacramento organizations.
  - HSC’s broad mission and values can be ambiguous for members.
  - If it is determined that the HSC is moving forward, then there needs to be information sharing and connection with other coalitions in Sacramento.
  - There may need to be a remote access component for the Coalition meetings.
  - The challenge is how to get people fully engaged and activated.
  - Need to better articulate more what it is the HSC represents, does and provides for its Coalition members.
  - It is a bit unclear who the HSC’s audience is.
  - How can we empower members to take action besides absorbing information?

**Important Questions Raised**

- How to take racial equity work and move it forward?
- How to work within the ambiguity AND still achieve outcomes?
- Who else is doing racial equity work (the “work”) and how do we connect?
- Is the HSC information sharing space? Thought policy space? And/or a convening of resources?
• What is the role of the Steering Committee, especially if the HSC chooses to be a convening space?
• Who is the HSC’s audience?
• Do other spaces exist that could fulfill what the HSC does?
• Is our role to teach people what racial equity is?

Exploring Options and Considering Future Scenarios
• Sierra Health Foundation is committed to supporting the HSC.
• If the HSC dissolves, what would be the impact?
  o Pros:
    ▪ Current resources can be distributed elsewhere.
    ▪ Free time for Steering Committee members and the general body to support other projects.
  o Cons:
    ▪ Loss of a physical, social place for interaction where there is inspiration and thought leadership.
    ▪ Loss of opportunity and general information to the public.
    ▪ Loss of space for racial equity work.
    ▪ Loss of collective voice. Voice is power and it can be used to uplift advocacy and system change.
    ▪ If the HSC dissolves, would another organization/coalition step up or be created to fill up the space of what the HSC does?
      • There may be other tables, but not all are inclusive (like the HSC).
• If the HSC moves forward, what would success look like?
  o Can HSC help support the vision and practice of racial justice in organizations like Valley Vision and others?
  o The HSC will need to find ways to track accountability, success, participation and ecosystem involvement.
  o The HSC will continue to use collective power to influence system change. The HSC will increase understanding of what racial equity looks like in health and housing.
  o The HSC will attract new individuals and organizations to be part of it.

Decisions and Next Steps
 Deb Marois used the “Reaching Consensus Using Levels of Agreement” framework to lead the discussion on next steps.

Discussion
• The Steering Committee is not ready to let the HSC dissolve. The racial equity framework and lens is too important in Sacramento and that focus needs to be further discussed.
• It is important that the HSC Steering Committee members started this conversation around next steps, but there needs to be concrete actions or plans of action developed at future meetings.
  o Possible next steps are:
    ▪ To clarify what HSC does and articulate how it is inclusive
      • Perhaps it is an educational space around racial equity
- Examine and support internal leadership
- Be effective and appreciate the need for change, learning and growth
- Make sure the HSC is not duplicating work in similar spaces

Steering Committee has decided not to dissolve the HSC without further discussion in August.

**General next steps for August 2019**
- Veronica Beaty and Lynn Berkley-Baskin will meet in July to discuss the next meeting.
- Steering Committee members will continue to reflect on the work of the HSC and the direction to go.

**Next HSC General Coalition meeting date:** September 18, 2019