

New American/Foreign Born/Immigrant Advisory Board
February 28, 2022 – 6:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Attendance – Board Members

Johanna Fajardo
Ray Osadolor
Fowzia Adde
Stella Jurua
Isabel Lopez
Analena Lunde
Kouadjo Bini

Other Attendees: Alicia Belay, Sargam Ghimire, Ruth Nwato, Slate Boyer, Hannah Anderson, Mallory Sattler, Tara Muhlhauser, Valentina Asiedu

Welcome and Roll Call (Alicia)

Announcements and Updates:

- Follow-up from the last meeting – NDDoH to provide updates on what steps have been taken since January Meeting (Alicia)
 - There was some concern at the last meeting in regard to the NFI Youth and mental health. That is now going to be addressed by the COVID taskforce.
 - Geraldine had mentioned that she knew someone within the NFI community who really wants to work on cancer screening. Alicia and Sargam met with her, and she will be working with men’s health coordinator in regard to screening among men in the community.
- Mission Document (Sargam)
 - The HEO has been working on creating a new mission document based on comments and feedback from board members. This document is still in the draft phase. Sargam will send out the document and please respond with any comments or feedback in the next couple weeks
- NDDoH General Announcements (Alicia)
 - Back in 2020, the Department of Transportation was one of the first groups that asked to speak to our board. They wanted to know what the best ways would be to improve transportation for the NFI community in ND. The discussion was on the languages available for the permit test. Now, the DOT has added ten languages to the online driver’s license testing service. These new languages will be Arabic, Chinese, French Nepali, Russian, Serbian, Somali, Swahili, Turkish and Vietnamese.
 - Sargam will be the co-chair of this board. Alicia will be going on maternity leave in the next month or so.

- Funding opportunity was sent out for Ryan White funding.
- COVID Task Force Updates (Sargam)
 - This task force was awarded \$50,000 to work on any community projects. The taskforce decided to work on mitigating loneliness and isolation amount youth, through CDC-based health fairs involving physical activity and access to resources. There are 3 series proposed currently. Bismarck, Grand Forks and Watford City are where the proposed series would take place. The task force met on February 16th and decided on the project goal stated above in order to address the needs of youth during the pandemic or a project focusing on holistic health. The theory-based health fairs would contain an indoor component with healthy cooking demonstrations, and resource tables organized, and an outdoor component with physical activities being offered such as bike riding or organizing sports events. Organizers will also work with local business for space and/or to donate items.

Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Program Coordinator (Mallory Sattler) / Executive Director of CAWS ND (Tara Muhlhauser)

- There has been an increased focus on Health Equity and reaching underserved populations.
- CAWS ND
 - Organization has been in place for 44 years.
 - Staff of 12 people
 - Training, policy and legal work and look at legislation, support the 20 programs CAWS works with.
 - The services are free and confidential.
 - Many people think if you go to these crisis centers that you have to go to law enforcement and that's not the case. You can go and can get assistance and get emotional support. You can also get counseling and shelter without having to go to law enforcement.

Orientation to the NFI Advisory Board (Sargam)

- Board members have requested more information on "how the board works. Therefore, we developed this brief presentation to address how input from the board is used by NDDoH and other basic information about board functioning.
- Eventually, this slide deck will become part of a standard annual orientation for board members.

Open Discussion

- Discussion on if the meetings should continue to be monthly or move to bi-monthly. There will be a vote on this during the March meeting.

Next meeting: Monday, March 28, 2022