

**Consumer Advisory Council**

**Consumer Engagement and Outreach Standing Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**June 4th, 2021**

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Location
June 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Zoom Meeting

**Participant Name and Attendance**

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Adrienne Benjamin	X	Robert Krzys	X	Daniel C. Ogonna	
Alan Coker	X	Velandy Manohar	X	Soneprasith Phrommavanh	X
Taylor Edelmann	X	Terry Nowakowski	X		
Others Present					
Terry Gerratana (OHS)		Dashni Sathasivam (HES)			

Meeting Information is located at: <https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/SIM-Work-Groups/Consumer-Advisory-Board>

Agenda	Responsible Person(s)
<b>1. Welcome</b>	<b>Velandy Manohar</b>
Call to Order. The scheduled meeting of the Consumer Advisory Council (CAC) Community Engagement & Outreach Standing Committee was held on Friday, June 4, 2021 via zoom. The meeting convened at 4:02 p.m. Velandy Manohar chaired the meeting.	
<b>2. Public Comment</b>	<b>Velandy Manohar</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was no public comment.</li> </ul>	
<b>3. Approval of February 22nd, 2021 Meeting Summary</b>	<b>Velandy Manohar</b>
A motion was made by Adrienne Benjamin and seconded Velandy Manohar to approve the minutes of the Consumer Advisory Council meeting of February 22nd, 2021. <b>The motion carried.</b>	
<b>4. LGBTQ Event Summary Report Discussion</b>	<b>Taylor Edelmann and Alan Coker</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Committee Members were in consensus that the report fully captured the information discussed during the event. Dashni Sathasivam walked through the report with the Council which included key takeaways, recommendations and panelist quotes.</li> <li>Taylor Edelmann felt that the report contained many recommendations and training was one that could be most feasibly pushed forward. The question remained: what are actionable steps and whose task is it to develop a training? Overall, it is a big lift. He also felt that this effort should be spearheaded by providers as the training would target providers.</li> <li>Adrienne Benjamin suggested consulting with DPH in attempts to having providers be involved.</li> <li>Terry Nowakowski suggested considering DSS, DHMAS, DPH, a 3-agency collaboration, and the medical and behavioral health ASOs.</li> <li>Velandy Manohar suggested that LGBTQ module requirement adding to license renewal requirement.</li> <li>Terry Nowakowski will get in touch with one of her contacts to determine who they can speak with at the state to advance this conversation</li> <li>Adrienne Benjamin commented that there are new requirements with diversity and veterans for social workers and something similar for medical providers could be an option.</li> </ul>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terry Nowakowski asked about the statistics for audience engagements.</li> <li>• Taylor Edelman explained that 915 unique views represented people who actually viewed the event versus 2,563 includes the likes and comments, shared and interacted with the event or saw it on their feed.</li> <li>• Taylor Edelman was interested in knowing how many people viewed the event from start to finish and asked if the Commission could provide that.</li> <li>• Bob Krzys mentioned that the committee functions to: 1) organize events should open up lines of inquiry in the health care delivery system; 2) Engage in follow up to the consumer engagement forums. He identified the need to develop a process on or set on a program of events that plans a few years ahead. Bob recommended that ad-hoc workgroups should be formed to continue with “what do we do next?” follow-up efforts. He felt that the LGBTQ event was the most successful engagement event to date and served as a benchmark on how to organize community events. The LGBTQ report was also a benchmark of how to draw out recommendations and organize a report. He felt there was tremendous opportunity to have a feedback loop by beginning with these forums and then dedicating ad-hoc groups to follow up to go back to the communities.</li> <li>• Bob Krzys felt that the CAC’s initial efforts related to COVID-19 and long-term care were strong but did not go further after the State convened a group to take up this issue. He cited that there were multiple bills that were waiting to be moved this session, but nothing had yet to pass.</li> <li>• Taylor Edelman agreed to have an LGBTQ ad-hoc committee in the future.</li> <li>• Taylor Edelman moved to adopt the report as written. Alan Coker seconded. Motion passed.</li> <li>• Velandy Manohar to recommend that an ad-hoc committee be formed to review the recommendations in the LGBTQ report, prioritize them, and develop a plan on actions to actualize recommendations. Terry Nowakowski seconded. <b>Motion passed.</b></li> <li>• Bob Krzys mentioned the HULU documentary about LGBTQ athletes.</li> </ul>	
<b>Planning for Next Event</b>	<b>Velandy Manohar</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bob Krzys overviewed the recently passed legislation SB 1 to the Committee as he asked members to use this legislation as food for thought to inform how the CE&amp;O committee wants to proceed. He mentioned the UCONN Health Disparities Institute Boys &amp; Men of Color Conference. He also referenced the recent news on investments into group homes in Connecticut.</li> <li>• Terry Gerratana provided an overview of topics discussed at previous CE&amp;O meetings.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First generation immigrants and challenges and barriers experienced.</li> <li>2. Long term care, especially for immigrant groups: very often there is no one who looks or speaks like them in these settings. Ethnic, racial and cultural differences</li> <li>3. Executive order #5: Cost Growth Benchmark and Primary Care Initiative</li> <li>4. Other OHS initiatives as they come along CE &amp; O to organize some listening sessions</li> <li>5. Health Equity and Boys of Men of Color</li> <li>6. Group homes</li> <li>7. Maternal health among BIPOC</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Bob Krzys suggested that the next CE&amp;O committee be a workshop dedicated to planning</li> </ul>	

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	<p>a long-term engagement strategy once the Council empaneled its newest members. This would also involve identifying core groups of people focused on planning and implementation so that an engagement event is not just left to one person. This would also ensure that people have sufficient time to plan an event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terry Gerratana noted that with the new CAC members there will be more manpower.</li> <li>• Velandy Manohar suggested that this preliminary list of potential engagement topics be presented to the future CE&amp;O committee once new members have been brought on.</li> <li>• Bob Krzys suggested that during the discussion and report on the CEO committee to the full council at the upcoming June 8<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, the following be mentioned: the committee will be expanded with new members; the next scheduled meeting of the outreach committee will consist of a workshop to discuss the specific planning of new events and reviewing previous topics to follow up on.</li> <li>• Terry Nowakowski added that the committee needs to look at the money coming into the state for example with the American Rescue Plan. The July meeting could include discussion on where the funds are being funneled to and identifying where there is alignment with the CAC interests and goals. Based on new members, the CE&amp;O could determine where they want to go and where the CAC has already been to inform a plan.</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b>Scheduling next meeting</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Velandy Manohar</b></span></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next meeting would review the identified areas of interest to have a planning session.</li> <li>• Terry Nowakowski asked about the policy in meeting in person and the potential for a meet-and-greet prior to discussion given the onboarding of new members.</li> <li>• Terry Gerratana responded that the state has determined that meetings in person cannot be organized by the state at this time.</li> <li>• Velandy Manohar offered his heartfelt thanks for his service to the CAC.</li> </ul>
7.	<p><b>Adjourned</b></p>
	<p>Velandy Manohar adjourned the meeting at 5:01 PM.</p>