



**OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN
TRANSITION HEALTH COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIMARY CARE AND DENTAL ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

**JULY 11, 2023
5:00 – 6:30 PM**

Committee Members

PRESENT:

Carolyn McClanahan, M.D. – Health
Committee Chair
Sunil Joshi, M.D. – Chief Health Officer
Valerie Feinberg
Alexa Parsons
Steve Neuman
Mia Jones

Lynn Sherman – Exec. Dir. of Health
Programs
Antonio Nichols
Paul Sapia
Dennis Stone
Akilah Pope
Jennifer Ryan

COJ Staff Support:

James Richardson
Trisha Bowles

Guests Present:

Call to Order

Dr. McClanahan called the meeting to order at 6 pm welcoming members and guests.

Chair's remarks

Dr. McClanahan shared background on how the transition committees are envisioned to work. She asked members to introduce themselves and share any insights that they had around the discussion topics.

Logistics / Sunshine Law

James Richardson introduced himself as the staff support to the committees. He would be the main point of contact. Trisha Bowles, Office of General Counsel. Provided some information concerning Sunshine Law and how the committee members could communicate with each other. They both shared the Sharepoint site information that had been established for the Health committees and provided directions on how they were to be used.

Discussion Topics:

- **State of Primary Care and Dental Access in Duval County**
 - **Challenges the Organizations Face**
 - **Challenges the Beneficiaries Face**
- **Recommendations to Improve Availability**

Access to primary care and dental challenges include the following:

- Financial – No insurance, underinsured, unemployed, underemployed, cost of care
- Geographic & Logistic
 - Lack of primary and dental services in urban and rural areas
 - Clinic and office hours not always conducive for workforce with no flex in schedules
 - Travel time to services
 - Lack of transportation options, city bus service not reliable, incomplete routes, paratransit scheduling issues, no vehicle, no funds or technology for Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) or rideshare services, lack of sidewalks, bus shelter infrastructure
- Awareness and Education
 - Inconsistent messages, short-term media blitz verse long-term messaging across all cultures
 - Navigating Affordable Care Act (how, where, when)
 - Put emphasis on preventative care/behaviors
- Technology – while technology has increased access to primary care, there is not equitable access due to:
 - Insufficient knowledge using telehealth platforms and technology
 - No broadband service in urban and rural areas
 - No access to privacy in home and work place
- Patient “point of entry”, referrals, follow-up, and/ or ongoing treatment
 - Duplicative and unnecessary paperwork
 - [https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-paperwork-reduction-act#:~:text=The%20Paperwork%20Reduction%20Act%20\(PRA,or%20for%20the%20federal%20government.\(may%20be%20applicable??\)](https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-paperwork-reduction-act#:~:text=The%20Paperwork%20Reduction%20Act%20(PRA,or%20for%20the%20federal%20government.(may%20be%20applicable??))
 - Inefficient administrative systems/institutional bureaucracy
 - No provider accountability – hospitals, clinics
 - No continuity of care

Potential Solutions/Accountability Measures

- Patient advocates and navigators
- Employ or integrate "Ombudsman" services
- Facilities must be accountable to align patient "plan of care" beyond initial treatment and triage
- Cadre of Community Health Workers meet people where they live, work and play
- Increase cultural sensitivity through increased health literacy
- Facilitate collaboration and cohesion within and between sectors providing and supporting prevention and treatment (induced through shared funding received from COJ)
- City take lead on federal grants for infrastructure funding to expand broadband and other infrastructure improvements through the lens of improved health outcomes
- Provide medical services in school and education to parents
- Increase participation from other sectors at Hospital CEO Table

Dr. McClanahan talked about the possible transition report format and the timing. The committees would all be meeting over the course of the month and she is tasked with having the report in draft form completed around mid-August.

James shared that he would communicate the next meeting and location as soon as he could arrange the logistics.

Comments from the Public

None