

**Solano HEALS (Health Equity for All Lives in Solano)  
Meeting Notes**

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**Date:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017

**Address:** JFK Public Library, 505 Santa Clara St., Joseph Room, Vallejo

**Time:** 5:30 – 7:30PM

**Notes Taken by:** Kristine Lalic

Attendees: Loretta Calloway; Vanessa Craviotto-Guzman; Janice Cueva; Jocelle Fresnido-Lee; Shandi Fuller, MD; Lakethia Lake-Pascua; Kristine Lalic; Wendy Loomas, Asundep Ntui; Tamera Owens; Eurita Reed; Sonam Rajbhandary; Danita Taylor; Susan Whalen

Agenda Item	Notes	Action Steps
<b>1. Welcome/Introductions/Announcements</b>	Lakethia and Susan provided a brief summary of the Equity Institute for Birth Outcomes Project and CityMatCH's role for the benefit of new attendees.	
<b>2. Review Notes from the 1/27/2017 Equity Institute Meeting and Action Steps</b>	<p>The workgroup reviewed the February internal workplan meeting notes (pink) and January workgroup meeting (orange). No changes were made.</p> <p>Votes were cast prior to the meeting. The new name of the Equity Institute Project is <b><u>Solano HEALS (Health Equity for All Lives in Solano)</u></b>.</p>	
<b>3. Update on data on birth outcome disparities</b>	<p>Asundep summarized that African Americans are disproportionately affected by Very Low Birth Weight (VLBW) in Solano County. VLBW is indicated by a birth weight between 500 grams and 1499 grams (or less than 3.3 lbs.) Low birth weight babies are at risk for a variety of temporary and lifelong health problems.</p> <p>The “perinatal periods of risk” data analysis indicates that for Solano County, the time to intervene to prevent very low birth weight babies is the preconception period (before the woman becomes pregnant) and very early in pregnancy. The next phase in data analysis will help determine risk factors which may create the most impact on health outcomes if addressed.</p> <p>Asundep shared a handout that detailed potential risk factors associated with VLBW babies born to Black women in Solano County, which include teen pregnancy, lack of prenatal care, WIC service utilization,</p>	

weight (overweight or obese), lack of high school education, prior death of baby, 3+ children before current pregnancy, and smoking during pregnancy.

Susan shared additional risk factors obtained during a brainstorming activity facilitated at the Prenatal Care Learning Collaborative Meeting on January 27, 2017. Participants shared the following suggestions for factors impacting the health of Black mothers in Solano County:

- Racism
- Generational stress
- Transportation barriers
- Planned vs. unplanned pregnancy
- alcohol and drug use
- Income
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)
- Lack of postpartum resources
- Lower rate of postpartum visits
- Community engagement
- Lack of equity in resources: income, programs, specialists, provider choice, mental health services
- Nutrition/food deserts
- Awareness of legislation and policies
- Lack of education
- Family support
- Father involvement support
- Coordination of resources

Additional risk factors suggested by Solano HEALS participants include: anemia, domestic violence, and marital status.

When reviewing birth certificate data for all infants born to mothers residing in Solano County from 2007 to 2015, the data shows that:

- Black women who become teenage mothers are 2.2 times more likely to deliver a VLBW baby. If teen pregnancy among Black people in Solano County is addressed, would see a 7 percent reduction in delivery of VLBW Black babies;
- Black women who do not receive prenatal care during their pregnancy are 2.4 times more likely to deliver a VLBW baby. If prenatal care was addressed, would see a 2.8% reduction in delivery of VLBW Black babies;
- Black women who utilize WIC services are protected against delivering a VLBW baby. If WIC utilization was eliminated, would see a 22% increase in delivery of VLBW Black babies;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black women who do not graduate from high school are 1.8 times more likely to deliver a VLBW baby. If graduation from high school was addressed, would see a 44% reduction in delivery of VLBW Black babies;</li> <li>• Black women who have a prior loss of a baby are 3 times more likely to deliver a VLBW baby. If addressed, would see a 2.6% reduction in delivery of VLBW Black babies;</li> <li>• Black women who have 3 or more children prior to their current pregnancy are protected against delivering a VLBW baby. If eliminated, would see a 7% increase in delivery of VLBW Black babies; and</li> <li>• The data did not show a correlation between smoking and VLBW among black women and the data did not show a correlation between overweight /obesity and VLBW among Black women. If weight was addressed, would see a 4.5% reduction in delivery of VLBW Black babies;</li> <li>• <b>This finding shows the limitation of the data – the sample size in Solano County was small, which means the data may not show a relationship, even when one exists. Current and past evidence-based, peer-reviewed academic literature with larger samples has strongly recommended against tobacco use among pregnant women, and has correlated overweight/obesity with very low birth weight.</b></li> </ul> <p>Data is also limited because there may not be data available to evaluate important relationships between some risk factors and VLBW or other poor birth outcomes. For this reason, community knowledge and input is also critical in designing an action project to improve birth outcomes.</p>	
<p><b>4. Report out on planning of 2017 meetings and next steps for community engagement</b></p>	<p><b><u>Recruitment Flyer</u></b>  Kristine presented the draft flyer created with assistance from Sakari and Danita as well as the flyer created by Askari.</p> <p>Feedback is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BIH client photo may not be used as there is no current consent to use it;</li> <li>• Suggest using the photo of the mother and father cradling the baby on the front of flyer and putting detailed information on the back of flyer (2-sided flyer or rack card);</li> </ul>	

- Make red text “JOIN THE TEAM. LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD. LEAD THE PROJECT!” bigger and bolder while reducing the size of other text;
- Use bold, eye-catching colors like fluorescent pink or green;
- Use term “OUR” vs. “YOUR” to drive understanding that we are all part of the same community; and
- Askari’s design is more eye-catching and appealing but question rose regarding possibility of copyright infringement on photos used in design.

The workgroup suggested generating two types of flyers. The purpose of flyer 1 (“GET TO KNOW US”) is to generate general interest. The purpose of flyer 2 (“UPCOMING MEETING”) is to provide detailed information for upcoming community awareness meetings or events.

Eurita suggested leading the flyer with a “Are you concerned” or “Did you know” question. Example: “Are you concerned that our black babies are dying? Do you care about ensuring their survival? JOIN THE TEAM. LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD. LEAD THE PROJECT!” Eurita also suggested posting the flyer on the Solano County public library website.

Danita referenced a billboard which stated “Black babies are dying.” She suggested creating a similar short, eye-catching message such as “Do you care about my life?” accompanied with the photo of a Black baby.

Question also rose about which term is appropriate to use: African American or black? Group participants prefer that all materials should use “black”.

Vanessa asked how this project should be advertised to non-Black community members. Workgroup suggested sharing that although the focus is on improving outcomes for Black babies, the desire that all babies should have an equal chance to be born healthy is a common goal for all Solano residents. In addition, improving conditions that affect Black women and their families will benefit the entire community.

**PTA Form**

Sakari suggested creating a “PTA –like form” which allows participants

Eurita will assist in publishing the flyer on the library website.

	<p>to be involved at different levels (i.e. Making calls, Attending meetings, Volunteering to outreach, etc). This form will accommodate for participants who may be too busy to attend meetings or become heavily involved but can provide assistance in other ways.</p> <p>Contact database can be maintained to reflect contact information and individuals' preferred level of commitment: One-time service, Short or long-term volunteering, Active participation at meetings, etc.</p> <p><b><u>Alternative Meeting Date &amp; Location</u></b>  Kristine reserved the Joseph Room at JFK Library on Feb 22, 2017, March 22, 2017, and April 26, 2017. Wednesdays, however, are not the best times for faith-based population, as indicated at previous meeting by Norma. Options for evening meetings at JFK library are limited to Wednesday evenings, as Monday evenings are book indefinitely by other group. Workgroup must determine alternative spaces for other weekday evenings (i.e. faith-based facility). Members are encouraged to bring information about alternate venues to the next meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Childcare</u></b>  Nazlin states that BIH can arrange for New Dawn to provide childcare services if event is held at the library. Ratio of 1 staff member to 5 children.</p> <p>Wendy contacted the Suisun KROC Center which provides childcare services. She also contacted the Greater Vallejo Recreation District, which has not responded to her inquiry. She will contact GVRD again.</p> <p>Sakari contacted Jasmine at the Continentals of Omega Boys Club and states facilities and childcare services are available for their members only. Jasmine stated she needs more information before considering a potential collaboration with Solano HEALS. Sakari will follow-up with Jasmine when the 1-page informational flyer currently being drafted by Susan is available for distribution.</p>	<p>Sakari will create the "PTA" form.</p>
<p><b>5. Review workplan: duties and action steps</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Susan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Email short blurb about Equity Institute Project to workgroup</li> <li>○ Prepare 1 to 2 page blurb for Norma</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Add Sakari's suggestions to 100 Partners Excel database</li> <li>• Loretta <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Add "child watch" to budgets (<i>Ongoing</i>)</li> <li>○ Create a donation letter (<b>Task completed</b>)</li> <li>○ Distribute donation letters with Danita and new volunteers</li> <li>○ Work on Kaiser Permanente grant (Submit in July 2017)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sakari <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Share BIH childcare consent form with Loretta (<b>Task completed</b>)</li> <li>○ Contact Omega Boys &amp; Girls Club about childcare resources (<b>Task completed</b>)</li> <li>○ Design new flyers with Kristine</li> <li>○ Create "PTA" commitment form</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Danita <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Distribute donation letters with Loretta and new volunteers</li> <li>○ Design new flyers with Kristine and Sakari</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Norma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Contact New Dawn BOS regarding facility use from February to June 2017</li> <li>○ Research the incorporation process</li> <li>○ Contact VCUSD about student volunteers for "phone tree" calls</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Askari <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Share social media toolkit</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Kristine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Contact Juli Huston at JFK Library regarding available evenings in Feb, March, and April 2017 on 2/22, 3/22, 4/26 and possibility of childcare (<b>Task completed</b>)</li> <li>○ Design new flyers with Sakari and Danita</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Wendy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Initial contact with GVRD about childcare resources (<b>Task completed</b>)</li> <li>○ Follow-up contact with GVRD about childcare resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>• All Workgroup <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Brainstorm new names for Equity Institute for Birth Outcomes Project (<b>Task completed</b>)</li> <li>○ Invite new members to the next meeting (<i>Ongoing</i>)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>Next Equity Institute Project Meeting</b></p>	<p>Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2017  Location: JFK Library  Time: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM</p>	