

Chelan-Douglas Coalition for Health Improvement
Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2020 at 3:00 to 4:30 PM

Introductions and Icebreaker-All

The Charge:

The mission of the Chelan-Douglas Coalition for Health Improvement (“Coalition”) is to foster authentic community engagement, create an ongoing pathway for gathering input from diverse groups of community members, and identify local projects that could support the overall goals of the Medicaid Transformation Project.

NCACH Governing Board Update-Brooklyn Holton

- The NCACH Governing Board adopted the 2021 budget along with an approval of an increase in CHI Community Initiative Funding. The funding will be doubled next year.
 - The funding has shown a wide variety of grassroots work that has been highlighted to the NCACH Governing Board.
- In 2021, the Chelan-Douglas CHI will have a new NCACH Governing Board Representative. Kaitlin Quirk will be the representative starting January 2021.

Recap of November CHI Meeting-Leadership Council

Before the November CHI meeting, the Leadership Council asked to gather information around Holiday events and projects. Then at the CHI meeting, we discussed the information and added more to the list. CHI members felt it would be useful to create a document with the information and distribute it. Emails have been received saying that the information was appreciated and useful. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Today, we are going to reflect on what the coalition has done and what will be done in 2021. In November, 2019, the CHI participated in a live poll to choose focus areas for 2020. We started the year with health education, transportation, access to nutritional food and supporting food systems, transportation and behavioral health as focus areas. We focused on access to nutritional food and supporting local food systems and transportation at the February and March meetings. Little did we know that we would be in a pandemic and access to food would be even more crucial. We still touched on behavioral health during our quarterly informational lived-experience presentations by NAMI and Central Washington Recovery Coalition.

Transportation:

The Chelan-Douglas CHI held a transportation forum with the goal to help people to get people to work. From that forum, came two subcommittees.

How do we support the community and pilot projects?

- One subcommittee held community town halls.

- The other started an Oxford House Pilot Project which supports the drivers and helps the residents.

Access to Nutritional Food and Supporting Local Food Systems:

Without transportation, accessing nutritional food would not be possible. All of the focus areas and Social Determinants are connected.

Throughout the year, the coalition had presentations from community organizations. The goal was to hear more about what is being done around accessibility of foods and if there are any gaps. The CHI felt that there needed to be more data around knowing the need for delivery of food to community members homes or neighborhoods. The surveys were distributed to care coordinators/case managers and the other to community members.

Behavioral Health:

It seems as though it is a natural process and strategic for the CHI to move from access to nutritional foods to behavioral health. There has been an increase of support and effects on our community, such as NAMI. There are opportunities for CHI members to learn more about seniors isolations. There is more work to be done but need to figure out where the CHI can support the work.

Let's hear from the coalition?-All

What would you like to add to the coalition meetings in 2021?

- Add more presentations from other programs and sectors.
- Hear from CHI Community initiatives Funding awardees..
- Provide more information around barriers from community members.
- Success stories from Oxford House transportation program.
- The CHI can help strengthen networks, help be the connector, gap analyzer and assist conversations around collaboration.
 - Highlight small grassroots projects.

Activities in 2021:

- Add time to chat about current barriers and address it at the next meeting.
- Increase efforts to the Latinx communities. Do they have the support and education?
 - Connect with Parque Padrinos and Our Valley Our Future.
- Support health systems by promoting education around masking and vaccinations. Help release PSAs.
- Focus on mental health and community in great needs and barriers.
- Behavioral Health and COVID: highlight stories of grocery stores and restaurant employees about the effect of COVID.
 - How do we help the broader community?

Reminder: Chelan-Douglas CHI Leadership Council nominations for 2021 are happening. Please send nominations to Kelsey Gust, kelsey.gust@cc-ahp.com

Meeting Adjourned