

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

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Date: Monday, June 26, 2017

Address: Fellowship Hall, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 1905 Florida St. Vallejo, CA 94590

Time: 5:30 PM – 7:30PM

Notes Taken by: Kristine Lalic

Attendees: Sakari Lyons; Loretta Calloway; Lakethia Lake-Pascua; Vanessa Stallworth; Danita Taylor; Asundep Ntui; Meileen Acosta; Kristine Lalic; Sonam Rajbhandary; Susan Whalen; Jocelle Fresnido-Lee; Wendy Loomas; Tufama Cali; Min. L. Briggs; Kaye Whitehead; Mary Henderson; April Wills; Sharon Hunter; Yolanda Cook; Asia Page; Carha Burrell; Barbara Adams; Daniella Thompkins; Mella Thompkins; Skip Cole; Liz Griffin

Agenda Item	Notes	Action Steps
1. Introductions/Ice Breaker and Announcements	<p>Sakari welcomed attendees to the meeting.</p> <p>Ice Breaker question: "Name and a fruit that starts with the first letter of your first name that describes your personality".</p>	
2. About "Solano HEALS"	<p>Sakari and Lakethia introduced attendees to the mission of Solano HEALS, defined equity with regards to birth outcomes, and explained the role of CityMatCH in planning and implementing upstream and downstream community-driven strategies.</p>	
3. Data Presentation	<p>Susan delivered a presentation on Solano County data. She reassured community members that the data is based on vital statistics.</p> <p><u>Initial responses to the data presentation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You can't take away all of the stress - There is no place for mothers to bring their newborn. Example: One mother must leave the Christian Help Center several times per day - Church members go to the pastor and are seeking resources, but pastor states he does not have information or referrals to provide - Emphasis on mental health. Pastor feels it is the biggest issue affecting his congregation - Concern about mothers who lack mentorship or refuse help when raising their children 	

4. Group Activity

Sakari explained the structure of the small group activity. Attendees were broken into groups of 6. Workgroup members were distributed among all small groups.

The results of the group activity are as follows...

1) Free health education, prenatal vitamins, and birth control	4 votes
2) Ready access to quality mental health services that understand Black culture	1 vote
3) Coach Black women on how to be their own health advocate during prenatal care visits and appointments	5 votes 2 combined votes (with #5)
4) Create in-home prenatal care with monthly clinic visits	2 votes 2 combined votes (with #6 and #1)
5) Educate fathers about the importance of their role	1 vote
6) Centering pregnancy (group prenatal care for women due at the same time)	3 votes
7) Increase high school graduate rate	1 vote 1 combined vote (with #1)
8) Incentives for businesses to locate here, plus diverse work force	No votes
9) Advocate for paid parental leave bill/policies	No votes
10) Undo racism	1 vote

Top three strategies identified by community members:

- 1) Coach Black women on how to be their own health advocate during prenatal care visits and appointments;
- 2) Free health education, prenatal vitamins, and birth control;
- 3) Centering pregnancy (group prenatal care for women due at the same time)

Community members provided the following narrative supporting their top 3 strategies:

#1: Free health education, prenatal vitamins, and birth control

- Free
- To prevent unwanted pregnancies
- Support healthy planned pregnancies
- Being able to care for yourself and baby through your pregnancy and after pregnancy
- Knowing
- Not having babies so soon

#2: Ready access to quality mental health services that understand Black culture.

- Blacks have more mental health issues than other races. Don't understand
- Better mental health screening for women who are experiencing
- Screening for postpartum depression

#3: Coach Black women on how to be their own health advocate during prenatal care visits and appointments.

- Combine with #5
- Knows someone whose baby died
- Empowers
- Change wording from "Coach" to "Encourage"

#4: Create in-home prenatal care with monthly clinic visits.

- In monthly clinic visit, make groups
- Combining in-home and centering pregnancy groups
- Talk to somebody (pregnancy group)
- Moms are isolated
- Being able to support them in the home (loving, caring way)
- Mentoring

#6: Centering pregnancy (group prenatal care for women due at the same time)

- Younger women feel alone, ostracized, no support
- Knowing I'm not alone

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We, not I. Sense of family - No longer have extended family - Supporting each other, captures all kinds of Black women, help women feel more confident while getting the health care they need - Women having children to fill a need for love or to keep a man, centering could provide a support group to meet some of that need <p>#10: Undo racism:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Always present, now bold - Where policy allow for us to be equitable - Bus transportation - Reporting facts - Politics - Policies and protocols - Equity - Eliminating bold out-right racism <p>General feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Carnival – activities for kids will be a good way to get some input from the community - No place to go after giving birth - No information on how to take care of baby - Must outreach to the target audience – Black women who are or can potentially become pregnant 	
<p>5. Announcements</p>	<p>Next meeting: Solano HEALS Community Meeting Date: TBD Time: 5:30PM – 7:30PM Location: TBD</p> <p>Upcoming events: 1. <u>iBallVALLEJO a.k.a. Late Night Basketball</u> Date: Every Friday & Saturday June 23, 2017 – July 29, 2017 Time: 9PM to 2AM Location: Vallejo High School (840 Nebraska Street, Vallejo, CA) <i>Ages 12-25. Basketball activities, coaching, community services, and workshops.</i></p>	

	<p>2. <u>Summer Algebra Institute</u> Date: Monday, June 26, 2017 – Friday, July 21, 2017 (Excluding Monday, July 3, 2017 and Tuesday, July 4, 2017) Time: 8AM – 3PM Location: Frankling Middle School Computer Lab <i>For students repeating 6th to 9th grades. The goal of this summer program is to help prepare students for high school mathematics and college requirements in mathematics. Students will also learn about Black culture.</i></p> <p>3. <u>African American Parent Network</u> <i>Seeking volunteers to represent network at all school sites in the Vallejo City Unified School District.</i></p> <p>Please send information and electronic copies of flyers for upcoming events to SolanoHEALS@gmail.com. Information and flyers can be posted onto the Events page of the Solano Heals website at http://solheals.wixsite.com/solanoheals.</p>	
<p>6. Conclusion/Action Items/Closing</p>	<p>Attendees provided word to describe their temperature after the meeting.</p>	