

Statewide Advisory Committee Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Birth Outcomes

Mission

The mission of this advisory committee is to advise the Department of Health Services in the implementation of the *Framework for Action to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Birth Outcomes*, to foster effective collaboration among a broad array of partners, and to serve as ambassadors, helping to raise awareness, identify resources, and facilitate action at all levels of the community.

Roles and Responsibilities of Committee Members

- Attend and participate in 2-3 annual meetings
- Develop consideration, advice, and recommendations for the Department of Health Services to guide and advance the implementation of the *Framework for Action*
- Annually review the purpose of the *Framework for Action* and based on accomplishments each year and recommend changes
- Review the data that is presented to track the progress on eliminating disparities in birth outcomes and recommend venues for disseminating this data
- Expand partnerships and information sharing that will advance resource development and activity toward the elimination of disparities in birth outcomes
- Elicit cooperation and action on eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in birth outcomes from within their own organizations and communities
- Share responsibility for effective meetings where all members have voice and influence and engage in active listening.
- Share responsibility for building trust, understanding, and supportiveness among Members
- Have open and productive discussions to work through differences of opinion should disagreement arise

Roles and Responsibilities of Workgroups

Co-Chairs

- One state staff person and one committee member, who will provide leadership to ensure that progress is made and outcomes are achieved
- Will manage the workgroup process, convene workgroup meetings, maintain communication with members, and ensure tracking of actions and outcomes
- Report activities and progress at committee meetings
- Debrief the committee meetings with the DHS Steering Committee to discuss new action items and to plan workgroup and committee agendas

Members

- Committee members and other interested persons and experts who meet under the leadership of two co-chairs, and agree to work on a given topic until the task is completed
- Recommend and advance activities related to the *Framework for Action* regarding communication and outreach, data, evidence-based practices, and policy and funding
- Assume authority and responsibility for specific tasks in collaboration with other members
- Collaborate with other workgroups as needed
- Elicit cooperation and action on eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in birth outcomes from within their own organizations and communities
- Develop new relationships to advance the elimination of racial and ethnic disparities in birth outcomes and call in experts and temporary partners as needed

Meetings

- Meet outside of regular committee meetings as needed to achieve goals
- Share responsibility for effective meetings where all members have voice and Influence
- Share responsibility for building trust, understanding, and supportiveness among Members
- Have open and productive discussions to work through differences of opinion should disagreement arise