



Child Health Advisory Committee

Minutes

December 12, 2024, · 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. · Zoom

Call to order: 9:00 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

Present: Ashten Black, Patrick Casey, Jerri Clark, Carole Garner, Cheria McDonald, Jennifer Morrow, Carmel Perry, Elaine Prewitt, Camille Richoux, Chad Sanders (member elect), Bala Simon, Jennifer Wessel
Absent: Shannon Borchert, Lucas Harder, Nathan Morris, Dave Oberembt, Josh Phelps, Ray Samaniego, Tammie Works

Staff: Shanetta Agnew

Guests: Sarah Brisco, Gwendolyn Critton, Amy Davidson, Kenya Eddings, Pamela Hutchins, Taylor James, Ariel Rogers, Tommie Rogers

Review of November minutes: C. McDonald moved to accept the minutes; A. Black seconded. Motion passed.

Act 1220 & Coordinated School Health Reports: reports are changed from the November meeting. B. Simon moved to accept the reports, A. Black seconded. Motion passed.

State School Health and Wellness (Act 1220) Coordinator Report (Shanetta Agnew & Shy Whitley):

Act 1220 Coordinator Report (Shanetta Agnew & Shy Whitley):

Shanetta attended the 2024 Stop Overdose Summit held at the Hot Springs Convention Center on 11/7/24. The summit is held each year to increase awareness of the opioid crises within the nation.

Shanetta presented to the CHPS on “Walk audits & built environments” during the CHPS & CHNS School Health Staff Meeting on 11/18/24 held at the Arch Ford Edu. Service Coop.

Coordinated School Health Advisor Report (Lisa Mundy & Ariel Rogers): No updates.

New Business:

Gwendolyn Critton, an 8th grade science teacher at Forest Heights Middle School, presented the *Teach Plus Fellowship* initiative. The focus is on improving students’ mental health, the four main approaches include having one person in each school building that’s trained in trauma; having each staff member complete the 2-hour training; students K-5 take mental health/first aid classes through their counselor; and for each school to put in their Exa plan to disseminate information on every child who has experienced some adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).



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P. Casey asked how the children would be identified. C. Gritton shared the plan is to have some form of statistical data to identify those who need training/resources.

J. Wessell asked is the population district or statewide and C. Gritton, informed the approach is statewide.

Old Business:

Final Review of FY25 recommendations

- **Family Engagement-** Revised the first paragraph of the recommendation to include transition to care and in the rationale include children with special healthcare needs in addition to chronic conditions.
- **Health Services-** A resource for National Mentoring Resource Center was added as an introductory guide on how to implement the peer mentoring program. A reference was also included from CDC Promoting Mental Health and Well-Being in Schools. No changes were made to the gun safety recommendation.
- **Nutrition Environment & Services-** No changes were needed.

C. Perry moved to accept the FY25 recommendations, C. McDonald seconded. Motion passed.

Member & Non-Member Updates/Announcements

- Pamela Hutchins, CHPS at Dawson Coop last day at the ADH will be December 19, 2024, she will be retiring at the end of the month.
- J. Wessel would like to present a format change of the recommendations template; to make tracking and monitoring easier with policy changes.
- The legislative session will begin January 13, 2025, there are a few that are of interest to the CHAC group. HB1017, HB1030, and HB1031. S. Agnew mentioned that J. Clark has sent a 2025 bill tracker spreadsheet for us to utilize.
- J. Wessel shared with the group that Governor Sanders announced potential reforms to the SNAP program and pursue a waiver. A letter of intent was developed to support fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs, and protein, while prohibiting the use of SNAP funds for junk food.
- K. Eddings announced to the group that on December 13, 2024, there will be a Health Equity Luncheon & Fireside Chat, topic: "Innovations in Reducing the Obesity Epidemic". Speaker Virginia Caine, M.D. who is the 125th President of the National Medical Association and a native of Pine Bluff, AR. The event will be held at the Junior League of Little Rock.
- C. Garner mentioned ACHI has a fact sheet on snap-ed on their website. J. Wessel is currently making updates.



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- P. Casey inquired what might meet the definition of junk food, C. Garner mentioned back in the 2017 legislation they try to link it to nutritional value. A. Rogers shared most of the time soft drinks are included in the legislature. C. Richoux, mentioned there's discussion needed to reduce sugar sweetened beverages, but making sure to keep in mind the impact on certain cultural foods that defined as junk food and how that impacts lower income families and immigrants.



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Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83582295337?pwd=Uk1JZGxSUndqYS9YeTF4TXNHdXJVQT09>

Meeting ID: 835 8229 5337 Passcode: 229369

One tap mobile: +1 646 931 3860 US, +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Next Meeting: Thursday December 12, 2024, from 9:00 – 10:00 am.

State Board of Education meetings are held monthly on the 2nd Thursday and Friday of each month.

December 12-13, 2024, at 9:00 am

January 9-10, 2025, at 9:00 am

State Board of Health meetings are held quarterly on the 4th Thursday of each month.

January 23, 2025, at 10:00 am

April 24, 2025, at 10:00 am

October 23, 2025, at 10:00 am