

Healthy New Jersey 2020 (HNJ2030) Healthy Living Action Team

Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2021, 10:00 – 11:30 am

ACT Members: Diane Litterer (N.J. Prevention Network); Carolyn Beauchamp and Barbara Johnston (Mental Health Association of NJ); Tiffany Neal (N.J. Healthy Communities Network); Laura Cerutti (TransOptions); Nicole Nazy (Morristown Medical Center); Meredith Yorkin (Hackensack Meridian at Pascack Valley Medical Center)

NJDOH Liaison Members: Maria Baron (Healthy New Jersey); Nashon Hornsby (Division of Community Health Services)

HNJ2030 Advisory Council Members: Alycia Bayne (NORC); Sherry Dolan (Capital Health System)

Meeting Minutes

1. We discussed updates from the Healthy New Jersey Advisory Council, including an update on the progress on community conversations. Additional community conversations are needed in southern NJ counties.
2. We revisited our Healthy Living Topic Areas.
 - a. Mental health access to care is a key issue that should be explored through the Healthy Living ACT.
 - b. For transportation, members noted that it is a good starting point to focus on all roadway users.
 - c. Marijuana and driving will also be an emerging issue. There is a need for messaging and interventions and communication to reduce the impact of marijuana on traffic fatalities.
 - d. We could also consider including a focus area on unintentional injuries, more broadly.
3. We discussed three cross-cutting issues: policy, resilience, and equity:
 - a. We had a discussion about policy as a cross-cutting issue. Policy is the anchor of the decisions we make. Policy needs to be institutionalized into the practice. If we look at all of the focus areas as just increasing services, then when funding disappears, the services do as well. Policy is needed to have long term impact.
 - e. We discussed resilience. Members noted that trauma is an important cross-cutting issue, and may need to be its own focus area. There is a need to provide support to people and raise awareness of the effects of trauma.
4. We discussed the next steps and timeline. The next ACT Meeting is February 4th 10 – 11:30 am
5. Members provided updates
 - a. Access points to physical activity have been stifled because of the pandemic.
 - b. Food deserts and food insecurity are still a problem, and will be after the pandemic.
 - c. There is a need for options for food delivery (fresh fruits and vegetables) to homes.
 - d. NJ DOH is expanding the flu vaccine through FQHCs, and now the vaccine for COVID-19.
 - e. NJ transitioned to Phase 1B for the COVID-19 vaccine.
 - f. The importance of telehealth was noted.
 - g. The peer support/peer recovery specialist model was described.
 - h. Tobacco prevention work was discussed.