



JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Critical Quality of Life Issues Special Committee: Access to Healthcare Working Group Meeting Minutes

**October 27, 2022
1:00 pm
Lynwood Roberts Room
First Floor, City Hall
117 W. Duval Street**

Topic: Critical Quality of Life Issues Special Committee: Access to Healthcare Working Group

Attendance: Council Members Newby, Boylan, and Salem; Noel Comeaux - Northeast Florida Regional Council; Trista Carraher - Council Auditor's Office; Colleen Hampsey - Council Research Division

Subject Matter Experts: Jennifer Ryan, CEO Volunteers in Medicine; Paul Sapia, Humana; Thamara Labrousse, Program Director for the Live Healthy Miami Gardens Initiative

Convened: 1:05 pm

Council Member Newby convened the meeting and called for introductions.

Jennifer Ryan, CEO Volunteers in Medicine, welcomed the group and said that this meeting would focus on best practices. Paul Sapia, Humana, welcomed the group and said that there is still time to invite relevant parties that should be involved in these discussions.

Thamara Labrousse, Program Director for the Live Healthy Miami Gardens Initiative, gave a presentation about the work her organization is doing related to healthcare. The Live Healthy Miami Gardens Initiative is part of the City of Miami Gardens' effort to reduce poor health outcomes by engaging community residents to improve selected public health indicators. Miami Gardens has a population of 113,363 residents, 70 percent of whom are black, with significant health disparities (like Jacksonville) and high rates of diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, cardiac/kidney disease and mental health issues. The program receives 95 percent of their funding from the CDC (now on a \$3.8 million/5 yr grant) and is a collective impact initiative involving 68 coalition member organizations and over 100 individuals. The City acts as a pass through for the grant funds, which are then allocated to nonprofit service providers by a host council. The organizational structure encourages accountability and equity, with the host council serving as the leadership body, and sub council and committees that implement action plan strategies and monitor health impact areas. The appointed members may serve 3 3-year terms and there is a liaison council member. The initiative is designed to develop, implement and sustain effective community-level health strategies for addressing Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs, Healthy Eating and Improved Nutrition, Mental Health, Physical Activity, and access to Primary Healthcare. The program uses a policy, system, environment approach for long term change. They coordinate outreach events and educational campaigns to encourage healthy outcomes. Ms. Labrousse spoke about social determinants of health and the impact of the built environment, like walkable grocery markets and safe bike/pedestrian spaces.

Jennifer Ryan reviewed the results from the SWOT analysis. The responses indicate that strengths include JaxCareConnect, telehealth and the coordination of nonprofit service providers. Weaknesses include health literacy, Medicaid funding, cultural competency of providers and transportation. Opportunities include dental services, a chance to connect uninsured residents with insurance, and fully funding safety net clinics. Threats include Florida's failure to expand Medicaid, underserved communities, and economic/labor costs.

CM Boylan talked about a KHA model for healthcare, wherein a governmental department oversees and coordinates health programs with grant funded service providers.

There was a discussion and questions and answer session between the attendees and the panel. The following healthcare issues for consideration were discussed:

- Substance abuse disorder and treatment
- Mental health
- Social determinants of health
- Silos for service providers
- Federal grant funding opportunities
- AARP health initiatives
- Telescope Health and telehealth
- Using the emergency departments as a point of contact for social services

CM Boylan explained the steps for the next meeting, which will be to discuss policy recommendations from this working group.

Public Comment: none

The focus for the next meeting will be reviewing policy recommendations, and is scheduled for November 7, 2022, at 1:00 pm.

Adjourned: 2:16 pm

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

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