

**Texas Diabetes Council  
Meeting Minutes  
July 25, 2019  
1:00 p.m.**

**Moreton Building, Public Hearing Room M-100  
1100 W. 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, TX 78756**

Table 1: Texas Diabetes Council member attendance at the Thursday, July 25, 2019 meeting.

MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	MEMBER NAME	YES	NO
Dr. Mitchel Abramsky	X		Ms. Aida (Letty) Moreno-Brown	X	
Ms. Joan Colgin	X		Dr. Feyi Obamehinti		X
Ms. Felicia Fruia-Edge	X		Ms. Ardis Reed	X	
Ms. Lisa Golden	X		Mr. Jason Ryan	X	
Mr. John Griffin	X		Mr. William (David) Sanders	X	
Dr. Manda Hall	X		Dr. Curtis Triplitt	X	
Dr. Kathy LaCivita	X		VACANT		

**Agenda Item 1: Welcome**

Dr. Kathy LaCivita, Chair of the Texas Diabetes Council (TDC), convened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. Dr. LaCivita greeted everyone and turned the floor over to Ms. Stephanie Gutierrez, HHSC, Policy & Rules, Advisory Committee Coordination Office.

**Agenda Item 2: Roll Call**

Ms. Gutierrez reviewed logistics, called roll, requested members introduce themselves, and determined quorum. Ms. Gutierrez requested a motion to excuse the absences of members.

**MOTION:** Dr. Kathy LaCivita made a motion to approve the absence for Dr. Feyi Obamehinti for the July 25, 2019 meeting. Dr. Curtis Triplitt seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. The motion carried with no objections nor abstentions.

**Agenda Item 3: April 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Gutierrez asked if there were any necessary edits. Hearing none, Ms. Gutierrez requested a motion.

**MOTION:** Dr. Kathy LaCivita made a motion to approve the April 18, 2019 meeting minutes with an amendment to page two Agenda Item #6. Ms. Joan Colgin seconded. A voice vote was taken. The motion carried with no objections nor abstentions.

#### **Agenda Item 4: San Antonio Diabetes Collaborative**

Dr. LaCivita introduced and turned the floor over to Ms. Theresa De La Haya, University Health System, Ms. Jennifer Hixon, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, and Ms. Elizabeth Lutz Executive Director, The Health Collaborative. Ms. De La Haya referenced the PowerPoint and handout, *San Antonio Diabetes Collaborative 2019*.

Ms. De La Haya thanked the Council for their support which granted funding for the Texas Diabetes Institute in San Antonio to become established. Seven years ago, the local health department, through district funds, established the San Antonio Diabetes Collaborative.

Members discussed:

- Financial sustainability of the health collaborative
  - Members pay a membership fee
  - Large health systems pay, \$42,000 each year
  - Board members pay membership fees
- The collaborative implementing Diabetes Prevention Programming (DPP) and not Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME)

#### **Agenda Item 5: Gestational Diabetes and maternal Health**

Dr. LaCivita introduced and turned the floor over to Dr. Manda Hall, DSHS, Associate Commissioner, TDC member and Nimisha Bhakta, DSHS, Director Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention Community Health Improvement Division. Dr. Hall and Ms. Bhakta reviewed the PowerPoint and handout, *Gestational Diabetes and Maternal Health*.

Members discussed:

- Race disparity in various regions dependent on sample population and survey response
- Race "Other" is comprised of non-white, non-black, and non-Hispanic participants who checked "other"
- Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) data
- Diabetes versus hypertension and the role each plays in chronic disease that impact maternal health outcomes
- Gestational diabetes occurring to various and multiple risks during pregnancy as well as increasing risk for diabetes post-partum.
- Information and surveys being made available in English and Spanish.

Ms. Gutierrez read public comment logistical announcements.

**Public Comment:** Ms. Shannon Brow stated large gestational age babies go on to develop diabetes in addition to other medical conditions.

## **ACTION ITEM:**

- Ms. Bhakta will retrieve the data of the ethnic disparity between the Plains and Pan Handle as compared to El Paso and West Texas.
- Dr. Hall stated her team will look to see if birth certificate data has "other".
- Dr. Hall will share the results for each year of the PRAMS data to get a percentage.

## **Agenda Item 6: State Agency Representatives**

### **a. Department of State Health Services**

Dr. Manda Hall, DSHS, Community Health Improvement Division, Associate Commissioner, updated members on legislative updates.

Dr. Hall informed members of:

- Senate Bill (SB) 2151:
  - Allows two new TDC members:
    - Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS)
    - Employees Retirement System of Texas (ERS)
    - Appointed by the agency
  - Offers administrative support
  - Includes the TDC in matters of obesity and pre-diabetes
  - Bylaw review and update
- Drafting of rules for all bills that were passed will begin in October. There will be an informal and formal public comment period. It takes six to nine months for the rules process.
- SB 21: Raised the age around tobacco products to 21 in Texas.
  - The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program will update materials
  - Local sting operations will be enforced
  - Funding for media tobacco campaigns were granted
    - DSHS will be partnering with Maternal and Child Health and Health Promotion and Chronic Disease on a media campaign focusing on the use of tobacco by minors and maternal health.

Dr. Hall turned the floor over to Ms. Bhakta. Ms. Bhakta stated:

- The diabetes program began year two of the five-year cycle of Chronic Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Cooperative agreement in July. It is a collaborative grant with the Heart Disease and Stroke program. Year two activities include:
  - Improving access to and participation in the DPP and DSME in underserved areas in Texas.
  - An innovated pilot program will be implemented, Diabetes Garage, a culturally tailored DSME curriculum designed to increase men's

engagement in classes through automotive maintenance and repair analogy.

- Assisting health systems with the implementation of systematic identification of people with pre-diabetes, hypertension, and cholesterol as well as with referral to chronic disease prevention programs and resources by establishing and revising clinical work flows.
- Collaborating with payers and employers to expand availability of the national DPP as a covered benefit.
- Increasing pharmacist engagement in the provision of medication therapy management for people with diabetes.
  - Work with schools or pharmacy to explore integration of chronic disease medication therapy management into schools and residency programs curricula.
- In collaboration with the national association of chronic disease directors and partners held a DPP coverage workshop on May 19, 2019 in Austin.
- The diabetes program hired two new employees.
  - Diabetes Nurse Consultant
  - Diabetes in School Health Branch Manager

#### **b. Health and Human Services Commission**

Dr. Mitchell Abramsky, HHSC Medicaid and CHIP Services, Associate Medical Director, stated the draft policy for Continuous Glucose Monitoring has been forwarded to the Medicaid director for review. The draft will be published for public review and comment then the final process for rates before it becomes a policy. After which the Managed Care Organizations (MCO) will begin covering as well as fee for service.

#### **c. Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)**

Ms. Lisa Golden, Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), thanked the council for adding obesity. Ms. Golden needs diabetes educators who specialize in working with people with severe disabilities across Texas.

### **Agenda Item 7: Workgroups**

#### **a. Advocacy and Outreach**

Dr. LaCivita introduced and turned the floor over to Mr. John Griffin, TDC member and Chair of the Advocacy and Outreach workgroup. Mr. Griffin informed Council, the workgroup discussed:

- Legislation that Dr. Hall referred to during her State Agency Representative update
- Transparency bill on where the money is going when the price of prescription medication increases in price

- Rider that asks council to develop strategies to reduce diabetes related costs in the Medicaid program using best practices to improve quality of care to patients
- Prior authorization being removed
- Patients being taken off medications when the insurance carrier is changed which impacts vendor lists
- Insulin price reduction act in congress attempts to lower retail prices of insulin so uninsured patients can get insulin at the pharmacy
- Dr. William Cefalu is now the head of the diabetes division at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) in Atlanta

Members discussed:

- House Bill (HB) 2099. Dr. LaCivita requested information regarding who submitted the bill and why this bill did not pass.

#### **b. Health Professionals and Outcomes**

Dr. LaCivita introduced and turned the floor over to Ms. Colgin, TDC member and co-facilitator of the Health Professionals and Outcomes workgroup.

Ms. Colgin informed Council, the workgroup discussed:

- The Texas Medicaid MCO survey on Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (DSMES). The survey does not give MCO specific data to improve implementation.
- Creating a specific MCO survey that measures:
  - Implementation rate
  - Population
  - Retention
  - Outcomes
- Working closely with the DSHS Chronic Disease Epidemiology Branch to form a committee to come up with more specific questions that help us identify improvements in retention and the ability to identify the MCOs and fee for service areas as well as what is being provided in terms of content, process, and length of care.
- State engagement calls discontinuing and the feasibility of continuing the National DPP and DSME calls.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Announcements**

Dr. LaCivita made an announcement that the 2019 Women Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition and Breast Feeding Maternal Health Conference will be August 28-30, 2019 at the Renaissance Austin Hotel. The council will have an exhibit table as well as a PowerPoint presentation about gestational diabetes. Dr. LaCivita also stated the priorities of the council for 2019 and going forward will be:

- Work with Maternal Health and WIC
- Work with the school board of education during the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) curriculum review

### **Agenda Item 9: Public Comment**

Dr. Ninfa Pena Purcell, Professor at A&M, AgriLife Extension Service stated she is passionate about working in the schools for health education to become a program.

### **Agenda Item 10: Future Meetings**

Dr. LaCivita stated the next scheduled meeting is October 10, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in M-100.

Topics of discussion for the October meeting:

- Texas Vendor Drug Program presentation on processes
- Update on Maternal WIC Conference
- Report on progress of development and improvement of the MCO 2020 survey
- Diabetes Garage presentation

Ms. Ardis Reed stated the Diabetes Garage program from the University of Texas El Paso is getting national recognition. They were approved to have a session at the American Diabetes Association Conference in Houston in August. Ms. Reed stated TMF Health Quality Institute has been improving access to DSME and as a result 27,551 people have received free classes. 11,973 people live in Texas which equates to 43% of the five regions in the past five years. For the Medicare beneficiaries, across the five regions, 12,222 people received free classes with 7,529 people living in Texas which equates to 61% of the five regions.

Mr. Griffin stated for the record consideration for avoiding meeting dates around holidays.

### **Agenda Item 11: Adjournment**

Dr. LaCivita adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Webcast: <https://texashsc.swagit.com/play/07252019-1224>