

**HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, February 9, 2021**  
**5:30 pm**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**Call to Order & Attendance Quorum**

Tiffany David of the City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office, called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. Tiffany David then took attendance of participants for the meeting record. Kayla Elson, of Justice and Sustainability Associates, introduced Sazan Kerkukli of Justice and Sustainability Associates, who will be taking notes. Kayla Elson then reviewed the meeting agenda and pulled up the January meeting minutes.

**January Meeting Minutes**

No comments were made about the January meeting minutes; the previous meeting minutes were unanimously approved as distributed.

**Subcommittee Data & Resources**

Kayla Elson reviewed the Quantum reports data on health inequities. They discussed during the previous meeting about disparities in health insurance. Almost 18% of the Black population and 35% of those who identified as some other race in the county were uninsured according to the U.S Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate. Other disparities to health access include internet access and income inequality, as well as geography and location. The subcommittee members commented on the current data available and discussed if other data should be collected. The co-chairs and Kayla agreed to research more in-depth about how data is desegregated regarding access to health.

**Subcommittee Initial Priority Areas**

Following the last subcommittee meeting on January 12, 2021, Kayla brought up two initial priorities to focus on. The first one is improving access to education and addressing the unequal distribution of information. The second one is building trust between marginalized communities and health institutions. On Monday, January 25, 2021, at 5:00 pm, the task force co-chairs at the City Commission Update Meeting provided updates on the work being done/achieved in the subcommittees. The co-chairs presented the top two priorities that their subcommittee wants to initially focus on and further explore. The Taskforce, which also included JSA principal Donzell Robinson, was well received and thanked for their hard work.

**Discussion: Confirming Priorities/Pillars**

The subcommittee members discussed strategies to engage more community members in the meetings (i.e., social media, website, gatekeepers, and survey). Besides, the



## Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality

subcommittee members discussed ways and strategies to collect more location-specific data on health, specifically pre and post Covid data. They also discussed ways to collaborate with organizations, hospitals, and churches to acquire more data and hear directly from the community. The subcommittee also agreed to focus on the priorities of finding more information and a gatekeeper to move their work forward and get more input from the community.

### Next Steps

All subcommittee co-chairs and members agreed to share the statement that subcommittee co-chair George Soria sent with their contacts and community members. They also decided to share their thoughts on the provided data. All subcommittee co-chairs and members will also compile a list of disparities, then Kayla and Tiffany will reach out to the people that might have the information. In addition, they will reach out to their contacts and cc Tiffany. All subcommittee co-chairs and members also agreed to visit the West Palm Beach Equality website and direct people to visit it (<http://wpbequalitytaskforce.org/>). The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at 5:30 pm on Zoom.

### Adjourn

George Soria, subcommittee co-chair, and Gopal Rajegowda, subcommittee co-chair, made closing remarks; both are excited about the team's great potential. George Soria called the meeting to close at 6:59 pm, and Gopal Rajegowda seconded it.

### ATTENDANCE

#### Present:

George Soria, Subcommittee Co-Chair  
Gopal Rajegowda, Subcommittee Co-Chair

Devin Pierce, Subcommittee Member  
Mary Ligon, Subcommittee Member  
Naomi Ruth Cobb, Subcommittee Member

Tiffany David, City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office  
Kayla Elson, Justice & Sustainability Associates  
Sazan Kerkukli, Justice & Sustainability Associates

#### Absent:

Jerry Deng, Subcommittee Member  
Jennifer Jean Bell, Subcommittee Member