



**THE CENTER**  
*at Sierra Health Foundation*

**Steering Committee on Reduction of African American Child Deaths  
Meeting Minutes**

**March 16, 2022**

**I. Call to order**

Chet P. Hewitt called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m. at Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/98461868776?pwd=d2dRNfpudGV5TUwwdDFzcEFCTkRtQT09>.

**II. Roll call**

Monica Nelson conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Gina Roberson, Tina Roberts, Dr. Ethan Cutts, Dr. Ryan Quist, Pastor Alice Baber-Banks, Chet P. Hewitt, Bobby Davis, Marlon Yarber, Debra Cummings, Shannon Shaw, Stephanie Hopkins, Paris Dye, Julie Davis-Jaffe, Pastor Robert Jones, Kim Williams, Richard Dana, Rami Arafah, Monica Nelson, Erica Allen, Shelley Dyer and Amaya Noguera.

**III. Opening – Shelley Dyer, Senior Program Officer**

- Condolences and moment of silence for Pastor Banks' recent loss of a family member.
- Chet P. Hewitt highlighted the updated Sierra Health Foundation website managed by Katy Pasini in our Communications Department.

**IV. Open issues**

- Program Officer Amaya Noguera from The Center's Trauma Informed Wellness Program shared training opportunities, "Addressing Secondary Trauma."
  - Current program partners are Improve Your Tomorrow, ONTRACK Program Resources, Roberts Family Development Center and Rose Family Creative Empowerment Center.
  - These partners are primarily involved in the schools.
  - The recent acts of violence throughout Sacramento County have impacted the wellness of our community partners conducting the work. More cross-collaborations are needed among Trauma Informed Wellness Program and Black Child Legacy Campaign partners.
  - Trauma Informed Care Culturally Responsive Therapists

- Provides services to support the Black community with mental health resources.
  - County of Sacramento has additional resources at <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/Mental-Health-Services.aspx>  
<https://www.shfcenter.org/programs-and-initiatives/trauma-informed-wellness-program/>
- Program Officer Ray Green presented from The Center's Youth Team.
    - Restorative Youth Justice is geared to have a youth-centered advocacy system through healing strategies to connect youth.
    - African Americans made up more than 50% of Sacramento's juvenile offenses.
    - Low-level offenses should be diverted to trusted officials, who are more likely to support behavior change and rehabilitation.
    - Evident Change is a nationally recognized training organization that manages this program.
    - Restorative Tuesdays provide assistance to Diversion Case Managers.
    - Cognitive Behavioral Therapy trainings and capacity building will serve each site that has hired a Diversion Case Manager.
    - Young people of color from ages 10 to 24 can join. A universal referral form allows partners to share resources for youth in need by their location.
- The RAACD Prayer Breakfast is tomorrow, March 17, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., led by Pastor Banks from the RAACD Steering Committee and Program Associate Monica Nelson. This event is highlighting local faith-based community members who serve families through the mission of the Black Child Legacy Campaign.
- Expansion of the Black Child Legacy Campaign by adding an eighth site to serve our marginalized communities.
    - Funding recommendation by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors to identify what gaps need to be filled in the community and create more access for families in need.
    - Higher referrals are being received and The Center's Evaluation Team is identifying zip codes with the highest needs.
    - The Black Child Legacy Campaign Community Incubator Leads were asked to share.
    - Launch is set for fall 2022.
    - Our current seven sites were the highest need six years ago and with updated information our strategy is data driven.
    - A raised amount for our three-year BCLC continuance of funding from the Board of Supervisors has provided the resources for an eighth site to be added.

## **V. New business**

- Black History Month and MLK Day Celebrations – Shelley Dyer
  - Pastor Alice Baber-Banks suggested the Prayer Breakfast theme be “Sweethearts of Yesterday” to highlight leaders that have passed.
  - Community health transformation for an integrated community health system through comprehensive health and wellness.
  - Adopting new models for whole-person health with a goal of new outreach throughout the nation through intensive clinical work.
  - Pandemic effects are continuing to impact our families’ access to resources.
  
- Steering Committee Recruitment – Shelley Dyer and Richard Dana, Managing Director of Community Economic Development
  - Our current member renewals were approved by the Board of Supervisors.
  - New members and a co-chair will be nominated by the Committee Interview Panel. There are eight vacant seats to be filled.
  - Motion by Dr. Ethan Cutts and seconded by Stephanie Hopkins. The majority of Committee Members approved the upcoming recruitment process.

## **VI. Public Comment**

- Officer Bobby Davis has been promoted to Chief
  - Unapologetic words about accountability and working from our hearts to demonstrate compassion.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Chet P. Hewitt adjourned the meeting at 3:22 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Monica Nelson

Minutes approved by Shelley Dyer