

## **Meeting Summary for NCAFCC Region 6 Meeting**

### **(03/27/2025)**

#### **Quick recap**

April provided updates on legislative matters, upcoming events, and the importance of managing public-facing language related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The group also discussed challenges related to healthcare costs and access for vulnerable populations, and recent successes at their respective clinics.

#### **Next steps**

- Register for Leadership Series and Legislative Day as soon as possible, please.

#### **Summary**

##### **Legislative Update and Upcoming Events**

April provides an update on legislative matters and upcoming events. She emphasizes the importance of carefully managing public-facing language related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, as legislators are scrutinizing clinics' websites and social media. April urges clinics to participate in the upcoming legislative day, which has been rescheduled to ensure better attendance from representatives. She mentions the creation of a toolkit with aggregate data for clinics to use during meetings with legislators. April also discusses a potential bill proposed by Senator Bergen that would offer payments to FQHCs and free clinics for patients seen if Medicaid expansion is repealed.

##### **Leadership Workshops and Survey Data Review**

April discussed the upcoming leadership workshops and the absence of Alice Mae from the team. Alice Mae has moved on to pursue personal goals. She also mentioned the upcoming legislative day on May 14th and the need for current survey data for a marketing piece. Allison provided details about the leadership series and legislative day, while Cindy and Lacie reviewed the survey data. Peter asked about reevaluating the website language, to which April suggested focusing on current content rather than past newsletters. DJ inquired about the aggregate data, and April clarified that it would be based on the annual outcome survey results.

## Scheduling Group Meetings and Funding Requests

In the meeting, April and Allison discussed the importance of scheduling appointments for a group of people to meet with a particular person during Legislative Day. They emphasized the need for a spokesperson to represent the group due to time constraints. The group is seeking \$14 million in funding, with a focus on impact and the effects on constituents. Allison clarified that the current appropriation is \$11.2 million over two years, and they are requesting an increase to \$7 million per year. April also shared information about unspent COVID-19 funds in North Carolina, which could be relevant to the group's discussions.

## Healthcare Costs and Access Challenges

The group discusses challenges related to healthcare costs and access for vulnerable populations. Gina reports a significant increase in pharmacy costs, while others haven't seen similar spikes. April mentions efforts to obtain 340B pricing through partnerships with FQHCs. The conversation shifts to patient assistance programs, with Elizabeth noting issues around medication availability, particularly for diabetes drugs. Peter and others observe increased anxiety among undocumented patients, leading to appointment cancellations and requests for telehealth visits. Diana and Elizabeth share strategies for maintaining patient trust and care continuity during this challenging time.

## Clinics Share Successes and Expansion Plans

The group discusses recent successes and positive developments at their respective clinics. Gina shares that her clinic has partnered with El Centro Hispano to provide outreach services and interpretation for Spanish-speaking older adults. Peter announces the acquisition of a mobile medical unit for St. Joseph Clinic to offer hospitality and mental health services in the community. Alliance and Elizabeth report receiving significant grants to support their operations and expansion. The meeting concludes with expressions of gratitude for the important work being done and acknowledgment of the ongoing need for their services.