**ND State Association of City & County Health Officials (SACCHO)**

**Microsoft TEAMS**

**Wednesday, July 16, 2025 l Meeting Minutes**

Member-at-Large Roxanne Holm called the meeting to order at 9:00 am with a quorum present; attendance noted via google doc.

Additional agenda items, agenda approval – There being no additional agenda items, **Majusta Kleven moved to approve the agenda as distributed; seconded by Kara Falk; all in favor; motion carried.**

Approval of the June 18 Minutes – Roxanne Holm noted correction of AOTD to ATOD on page 4 of minutes as distributed had been made. **Motion made by Tricia Steinke to accept the June 18 Minutes as distributed with stated correction; seconded by Majusta Kleven; all in favor; motion carried.**

Strategic Communications Plan

* Chelsey reported the final video showcasing submitted videos from LPHUs about “why I love public health” had been edited by KAT Communications and was ready for dissemination; video was viewed by group with favorable comments
* KAT Communications final report on media access will be forwarded to members (by Mary)
* The workgroup met recently and seeks input:
* Coordinated rollout of videos on FB and other places to share
* Discussion regarding where videos should be housed, proposed housing on SharePoint site; recommendation made that they be housed on SACCHO website; Mary stated it could be placed in the Virtual Community Toolkit that is under construction
* Workgroup recommended use of similar messaging with individualized modifications and simultaneous release
  + would this involve a separate group to coordinate?
  + Roxanne Holm noted that ATOD media group has a subgroup like what’s being proposed and it works really well
  + Jo stated the PIOs meet monthly with Heather Steffl at the State – Holly Scott and Daphne Clark are part of that group and could share plans at the meetings
  + Mary will send a google doc signup sheet for those interested in participating; Barbara Crockett volunteered to participate (chat comment)
* Mary will send instructions on toolkit access when it’s ready
* Strategic Communications Plan – Chelsey reminded group this was meant to be an active plan not to be left on shelf; Mary will forward the approved plan to members for review and group discussion at September SACCHO meeting

AI generated ATOD meeting notes – Jo will ask the state who has access; Steph added in chat that her IT stated ITD pumped the brakes on further implementation to develop policy so some agencies have Read AI and some don't until they figure out the guardrails

Division of Public Health

Jo Gourneau shared:

* State Aid total was level funded, however, health unit amounts may be slightly different from past due to population census as that is base of formulation; contracts coming out this week
* Thank you to everyone for getting the grant info in by the June 30 deadline
* All hazards MOUs going out this week
* Directory and service matrix update will be coming out for review; goal is to update every 6 months

Katarina announced Gateway to Health event at the Bismarck Gateway to Science on Saturday, August 23 from 10am-4pm. Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health and Western Plains Public Health are participating; Mary is checking with the SACCHO EC for SACCHO exhibit; volunteers are still needed for 2-hour shifts – please contact Katarina to volunteer

Rhoda reported the QI project last year regarding car seat distribution program has survey results; she will be reaching out to workgroup for next meeting

Open Discussion

* Question about Community Engagement section regarding cuts from covid-19 disparities funding – will positions be cut or not filled? What services are/will be provided? What is the role for services? Jo responded that is a question for Krissie; Mary will invite Krissie to next SACCHO meeting
* Jenn shared how Fargo Cass has worked with their Tribal Liaison
* Discussion on revenue generating ideas for additional billing options such as: fluoride, sports physicals, colorectal screening (First District), medical outreach van, tobacco treatment specialists (nurse practitioner can bill at UMDHU), family planning, WIC- hemoglobin (dietician can bill)
* Fargo Cass
* Oral health intern doing foundational work resulting in some reimbursements; serving all populations, Smiles for life – First Tooth to last Tooth
* Mobile Medical Unit
* Youth Tobacco – Nicotine Replacement Treatment – under 18 years; State looking at protocols; also working on flavor ban
* Tobacco contracts – questions regarding requirement for media to be shared with the state; problems using NDQuits logo – started directing to link on website
* Additional comments noted budget shortfalls; commissioners supportive of public health but feeling pressure across all entities; reimbursements on actual expenses
* CD interest investments – allowable interest uses for unused funds when deliverable is achieved at less than contracted amount; Mary will ask NDACo staff who work on grants
* Can Medicare be billed for footcare? Tricia stated she recently had a physician’s order so can bill; Kayla has a certified footcare nurse who can bill (not Bachelor or Associate RN); Katie uses Stacy at Aging Services; Larissa Hoaglund shared in chat: There is more information about becoming Certified Footcare Specialist on this website.  [American Foot Care Nurses Association - Home](https://www.afcna.org/)
* Community Health Worker (CHW) – billing for home health aids/nurses; care coordination; how can LPH staff be recognized for work they are already doing? Mary stated there is open comment period for administrative rules if anyone wants to submit. Jenn asked if this is something SACCHO as a group should pursue. Katie, Tricia and Jenn will work with EC to pursue advocating avenues; Jo added in chat—Here is what Wendy just shared about the CHW progress: As for policy, we are thinking sometime in late august/early September. If anyone wants a notification when it opens they can sign up on the Public Comment webpage. [Public Comment Notification | Health and Human Services North Dakota](https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare/medicaid/provider/manuals-and-guidelines/public-comment)

Roxanne noted the favorable feedback from the Riverboat Cruise and suggested it might be nice if everyone stayed at the same hotel for in person meetings to socialize; mentor, networking in office were also suggested

Having exhausted the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17am.