



Policy Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 11, 2021
From 2:00 to 3:00 pm EST

Member Roll Call (a) absent; (e) email reply; (p) present					
Amy Meinen (WI)	a	Heidi Scarpitti (OH)	a	Rebecca Monahan (NY)	a
Ashley Davis (OH)	a	Janelle Clepper (MN)	a	Robin Stanton (OR)	P
Becky Adams (AR)	a	Jennifer Young (OR), CoChair/BOD	P	Ruth Zegel (UT)	a
Cambren Grimmett (IL)	a	Kelli Stader (WI)	a	Sarah Rogers (NV)	P
Carma Okerberg (CA)	a	Latresh Davenport (GA)	a	Sue Foerster (CA)	a
Carole Garner (AR)	P	Mary Curnutte (KY)	a	Susan Pohl (IA)	a
Christina Thi (TX)	a	Matthew Landry (TX)	a	Takako Tagami (MO)	P
Christine Mornick (WA)	P	Max Young (CO), Co-Chair	P	Tiffani Grant (MS)	a
Cindy Weiss-Fisher (NJ)	P	Meghan Muller (NY)	a		
Donna McDuffie (MN)	a	Mia Donley (CO)	a	Karen Probert – Exec Dir	a
Donna Mehrle Elliot MO)	P	Naima Gardner (IN)	a	Michelle Futrell – Cons.	P
Elizabeth Brandley (DC)	a	Randa Meade (TN)	a		

Item
<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll-call • Introduction – Activity – Coffee With A Member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cindy Weiss-Fisher (NJ) ○ Nutrition and Breastfeeding Coordinator – WIC ○ New ASPHN & PC member
<p>Reviewed Agenda</p>
<p>ASPHN Actions since last meeting: _02_11_2021</p> <p>Signed-on in support of the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Routes Partnership’s letter to Congress in support of H.R. 463 Transportation Alternatives Enhancement Act. • Safe Routes Partnership’s letter to Representatives J. Brownley and A. Espallat in support of the H.R. 508 • Trust for America’s Health (TFAH) letter addressed to Senator R. Blumenthal and Representative D. Matsui in support of the Public Health Funding Prevents Pandemics Act (BA121098). • Trust for America’s Health (TFAH) fact sheet supporting the Public Health Infrastructure Saves Lives Act. • National WIC Association’s (NWA) letter to members of Congress in support of the Wise Investment in Our Children Act (WIC Act).

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Policy Committee's Focus Areas Updates...Federal, State and Local... i.e

- a) AND's Maternal Child Health Affinity Group:
- There is also a Food & Nutrition Security Affinity Group
 - All AND members are welcome to join these new groups
 - MCH Affinity group has five policy priorities and seven identified opportunities to work with new (117th) Congress
 - Nutrition items in the American Recovery Plan
 - 15% increase to SNAP is extended through the end of September 2021
 - \$750 million to the Older Americans Act for food and nutrition programs
 - Technology improvements to expand SNAP purchasing on line
 - Expanding access to fruits and vegetables via WIC
 - Expands P-EBT through the duration of the health emergency
 - \$37 million for food and nutrition through commodity's supplemental foods
 - \$150 million towards home visiting for new infants
 - Support for state efforts to extend Medicaid for 12 months post-partem
 - Funding to expand the public health workforce, mostly to provide vaccines
 - AND priorities also include:
 - MOMMA Act sponsored by Dick Durbin: Mothers and Offspring Mortality and Morbidity Awareness Act. Codifying:
 - Women qualifying for Medicaid through 12 months post partem
 - Children qualifying for WIC thru age six (versus five)
 - PUMP Act – to help support nursing moms
 - Food and nutrition security through a health equity lens
 - Child Nutrition Reauthorization
 - Farm Bill
 - Advocacy and recommendations for budget appropriations i.e.
 - AND's DGA appropriations aks
 1. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report to look across all agencies to what extent programs are implementing the DGAs to show best practices and then to show what needs to happen for programs to align with the DGAs
 2. \$6 million for a DGA consumer advocacy campaign similar to what FDA has done for food labeling
 3. Funding to research the gaps identified in the DGAC report
- b) SNAP – Public Charge rule has been dropped at the federal level
- c) PC members were encouraged to recheck their congressional representatives to see what new changes have been made and what members are now on which committees in the new 117th Congress
- Useful booklet "Congress At Your Fingertips" is available at: <https://publishing.cqrollcall.com/>
 - Advocacy resources also available at: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/advocacy>
- d) PC members encouraged to maintain vigilance on local and state legislation i.e.
- AK legislators working to pass legislation to limit the categories allowed on SNAP waivers; for example, preventing anyone released from prison or coming out of drug or alcohol programs from applying for SNAP
 - On the other hand, NV legislators are working to get rid of a similar piece of legislation which has been on the books since 1999
- e) ASNNA
- Became incorporated 2019
 - Advocating (with AND) for increased funding of SNAP-Ed
 - May be looking for an official liaison with ASPHN – will follow up with Shana Patterson and the

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<p>Collaboration Committee to pursue the matter further. Donna M. will send Michelle an email with ASNNA details</p> <p>f) ASPHN/PC will continue monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Impact of the public charge rule on men and women coming out of prison ○ DGAs ○ Farm Bill ○ Child Nutrition Reauthorization ○ Appropriations for public health and nutrition regulations <p>g) USBC Updates: Robin will forward notes from Board Report Packet and Michelle will attach to these notes – ATTACHED BELOW</p> <p>h) <u>Update Document(s):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The NWA’s State of WIC Report: https://s3.amazonaws.com/aws.upl/nwica.org/nwica-21-v01r08nm.pdf ○ Food Research & Action Center: Annual School Breakfast Scorecard - https://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/FRAC_BreakfastScorecard_2021.pdf
<p>Action Items:</p> <p>Committee approved signing the following letters (posted in HyperOffice) on behalf of ASPHN:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors’ letter encouraging Congress to address the prevention and control of chronic diseases and risk factors at a meaningful level. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Letter: https://www.tfah.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/LOS_CDC2022Appropriations_02082021.pdf 2. the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs - letter to House and Senate Labor-HHS Subcommittee leadership in support of \$750 million for the Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant in FY22. 3. the National Council on Aging and National Safety Council -organizational letter in support of funding for fall prevention programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Letter: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScXEvFe1NG79LBRBklk6VVpFH5VtJV-TL_I04uJVUrTua_i4g/viewform
<p>Team Up To Keep Up</p> <p>The purpose of the recent PC survey was to assist in establishing cross alignments between the advocacy efforts of the PC and other public health and nutrition groups in which our members might also be actively engaged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To that end, PC members are asked to please share relevant updates from other committee meetings, councils, or workgroups they are attending; either by shared emails or at the monthly PC meetings. • This will be a regular agenda item for PC meetings moving forward.
<p>2021 ASPHN Ballots</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2021 ASPHN Ballots went out Friday, March 5th. The voting will remain open until 5 pm PT on April 3rd. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eligible Voters: State Designees and Council Members

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ballot includes elections for the President-elect, Secretary, Directors at Large, and Governance Committee
<p>COVID 19 (Updates)</p> <p>COVID Waivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● American Public Human Service Association – Recently started regional breakout groups of state agencies that oversee SNAP Out Reach and SNAP-Ed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sharing information about COVID waivers that have been implemented ○ What is working well ○ Explore possible future programming and guidance changes ● ASNNA Advocacy Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Also exploring various flexibilities (waivers)
<p>Health Equity</p> <p>Two graduates from Dr. Steve Owens Health Equity Internship will be working with the PC to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify key issues from the Momnibus relevant to public health and nutrition <p>The following were submitted for members’ information and review.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics document: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities and Chronic Disease racial-and-ethnic-health-disparities-and-chronic-disease.pdf (eatrightpro.org) 2. The Healthy Food, Active Communities Council Webinar (02/17/2021) “Understanding Health Equity: Systems and Solutions” The webinar was recorded. The recording and slid deck are available at: https://asphn.org/healthy-food-active-communities-webinar-health-equity/ 3. Nutrition Seminar (02/08/2021) “Moving from Nutrition Equity to Power: Insecurity, and Food Access Through the Lens of Structural Violence, Liberation, and Peace.” Here is the link to recording: https://harvard.zoom.us/rec/share/yVocOzB1tf2PRPwwXAPXhGRIGP8XGQAbwGEFpgXmk1EnORD6H3IHmw8GRVDRFDzb.n4gyGbn4AOy7XXet
<p>ASPHN Healthy Food, Active Communities Council Webinar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● March 17, 2021, 11-12 ET
<p>Next Policy Committee Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next meeting is Thursday, April 8th, 2021 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm EST ● Future meetings are on the 2nd Thursday, of each month
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>

BOARD REPORT - INFORMATIONAL

Association of State Public Health Nutritionists

Board Meeting Month/Year: March 2021

Committee/Liaison/Member: United States Breastfeeding Committee (USBC) liaisons: Kelli Stader, with input from Suzanne Haydu, Robin Stanton, and Jana Gach

Date Prepared: 2/25/21

Status Report: USBC membership meeting February 25, 2021

Governmental Reports (shared in writing) – Selected highlights

DHHS-CDC-Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity, Cria Perrine

- Racial Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) funding in year 3 of 5, added 5 additional grantee communities
 - 34 communities focusing on breastfeeding (BF) (continuity of care, clinical-community linkages)
 - Have worked with recipients to revise workplans around COVID-19 pandemic
 - NACCHO provides TA
- mPINC survey (contract with Battelle Health and Analytics)
 - COVID-19 supplement survey happened in summer 2020 – data was published in [MMWR](#), some hospitals reported reduced support for BF and earlier discharge of mothers/babies
 - 2020 mPINC survey in the field now (closes 2/26) – same questions as 2018
- Breastfeeding Report Card won't be published again until 2022, but new data is released annually in August

DHHS-Indian Health Services, Stacey Dawson

- More restrictive visitation policies in healthcare have presented major barriers during COVID-19 pandemic, particularly for Indigenous families
- Have focused on maintaining Baby Friendly practices at IHS hospitals throughout pandemic, including post-discharge lactation support
- Telehealth options have been beneficial for many families, improved no-show rates for appointments, 80% of visits have been audio only (bandwidth issues)
- IHS telehealth website will launch March 1 with helpful resources

DHHS-NIH/NICHD, Drew Bremer and Lorena Kaplan

- NIH released call for better inclusion of pregnant and lactating people in COVID-19 vaccine research – paradigm shift of protecting these groups *from* vaccination research to protecting them *through* research

- Research has shown very low risk of COVID-19 infectivity from human milk and that there are protective antibodies present
- Safe sleep messages remain the same during pandemic, including bridge to BF benefits
- Refer to CDC resources for how to care for baby amid COVID-19 infection in the household – important that all potential caregivers are aware of safe sleep recommendations if primary caregivers become infected and must isolate
- Reminder that children under 2 should not wear face coverings
- SIDS Awareness Month – USBC on planning team

DHHS-OWH, Ursuline Singleton, Jared Tolbert

- Surgeon General’s Call to Action to Improve Maternal Health – role of BF as integral component is very evident, we have to be part of maternal health team, women need to know that BF benefits their health
- Just finished phase 1 of Reducing Disparities in BF Challenge – 79 groups applied, 15 will advance to phase 2 but plans in place to support all groups in advancing their work
- OWH is focused on hypertension – looking at link to BF as way to reduce hypertension/improve hypertension control
- Recently updated “Your Guide to Breastfeeding”
- OWH has not seen major change in calls to helpline related to COVID-19

DHHS-HRSA/MCHB, Mary Emanuele

- Offered 4-part webinar series to Healthy Start grantees on BF and COVID-19, including offering virtual lactation support and supporting return to work in COVID-19 environment
- Just finished round of funding for Healthy Start-supported community health workers to complete CLC training virtually in a self-paced model
- Healthy Start TA Center supported first round of BF cohort for communities to tackle hard questions in small group format, now starting second round of cohort
- Healthy Start grantees are encouraged to share information/materials with communities – state and local BF coalitions should connect with their Healthy Start programs
- Testing AIM bundle in postpartum lactation support

USBC Report

- Have been working with 2 contractors to analyze data from BF coalitions over the years (top TA requests) and to design TA sessions for coalitions, collaborating with USBC staff and past conference awardees
- Working on creating valuable membership benefits, including specific resources, visibility (event calendar), expanded discounted conference registration, networking calls/learning communities
- Will be completing 5-part assessment (interview and surveys) of members/coalitions on diversity, equity, and inclusion – focused on operationalization

- One free NBCC registration for all organizations who complete assessment
- Will produce report of aggregate data and compendium of equity champions/trainers who can provide support
- 5 policy priorities for Congress (determined through input from wide audience and members):
 - federal funding for BF (infrastructure support)
 - infant and young child feeding in emergencies
 - access to lactation support and supplies
 - paid family medical leave
 - maternity care practices
- National Breastfeeding Conference & Convening (NBCC) will be fully virtual in June – more details coming soon

Next Steps:

- ASPHN should respond to request for equity assessment participation
- ASPHN Councils/Committees should submit events to USBC for inclusion in public event calendar – may need to determine process for that once it becomes available
- ASPHN Policy Committee can use forthcoming Welcome Congress materials and USBC Legislation and Policy Toolkit to support their efforts, monitor and respond to USBC action opportunities
- ASPHN to sponsor 2021 NBCC attendance for all USBC liaisons (travel costs are budgeted and conference is virtual, so only registration costs will be needed)
- ASPHN should promote resources and educational opportunities that emerge from USBC constellations to its members
- ASPHN and its members should submit updates to USBC Weekly Wire, as appropriate