

**Community Benefits Advisory Committee (CBAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, June 25, 2024, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**  
**Held Virtually Via Zoom**

**Present:** Flor Amaya, Elizabeth (Liz) Browne, Alexandra Chéry Dorrelus, Shondell Davis, Pamela Everhart, Pat Folcarelli, Lauren Gabovitch, Richard Giordano, Nancy Kasen, Angie Liou, Kelly McCarthy, Jean McClurken, Sandy Novack, Alex Oliver-Dávila, Kelina (Kelly) Orlando, Triniese Polk, Richard Rouse, Anna Spier, Samantha Taylor, Robert Torres, LaShonda Walker-Robinson, Fred Wang

**Absent:** Lynne Courtney, Shantel Gooden, Barry Keppard, Amy Nishman

**Guests:** Five members of the public were in attendance.

**Welcome**

Nancy Kasen, Vice President, Community Benefits and Community Relations (CBCR), Beth Israel Lahey Health (BILH), welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for joining.

The minutes from the March 26th CBAC meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Nancy then reviewed the agenda. Nancy introduced and welcomed Jean McClurken, Director of Behavioral Health at Fenway Health, to the CBAC.

**Public Comment Period**

There were no oral or written public comments shared during this meeting.

**FY25 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)**

Robert Torres, Director of Community Benefits and Community Relations, Beth Israel Lahey Health, shared an overview of the purpose and goals of the upcoming FY25 CHNA and Implementation Strategy (IS). He said that one goal is to build off the success of the FY22 CHNA and continue to reach communities that are not typically represented in these types of assessments. Robert then reviewed the BILH Community Benefits guiding principles and BIDMC's Community Benefits Service Area (CBSA) map. He noted several changes to the map and explained that IRS guidelines required that hospitals engage, at minimum, communities in which they have a licensed site. He explained that BILH entities will collaborate closely to ensure all of BIDMC's CBSA communities are represented.

Robert then reviewed some of the changes being made to the FY25 CHNA planning process including holding additional focus groups, conducting fewer, more intentional interviews, and using a shorter community health survey with a focus on identifying any new needs since the FY22 CHNA. He explained that BIDMC will continue to collaborate closely with the Boston Community Health Collaborative and the North Suffolk Integrated Community Health Needs Assessment. Then he reviewed the proposed priority cohorts that BIDMC will focus on engaging and community engagement strategies to address barriers to participation in the CHNA.

CBAC members then held a robust discussion about additional cohorts to consider engaging, organizations to outreach to and suggested engagement approaches to use. Several members offered their spaces and other forms of support to assist with engaging the community.

Robert then reviewed the timeline and said that updates would be shared at future meetings.

**Regulatory Updates**

Nancy stated that BIDMC plans to file a Determination of Need (DoN) due to the construction of an Infusion Center and Ambulatory site in Plymouth and Quincy. She explained that the associated Community-based Health Initiative (CHI) would be delegated to BID-Milton and BID-Plymouth because the projects would be taking place in their respective CBSAs.

One member asked if BIDMC would be supporting the Milton and Plymouth teams with the DoN process and Nancy said that the BILH system was developing a toolkit to support all CBCR managers in responding to CHI requirements. She also shared that the BID Milton and Plymouth teams will be actively engaging with their communities to put together plans for investments.

Anna Spier, Manager of Community Benefits and Community Relations, BIDMC, provided an FY24 progress report for the period from October 2023 to March 2024. She shared a brief summary of external investments, community engagement efforts, new partnerships and highlighted several hospital programs.

### **BILH Community Benefits System Strategy: Behavioral Health Access**

Anna reiterated BILH's commitment to prioritizing behavioral health access and that the BILH system selected Access to Behavioral Health as a priority largely based on the FY22 CHNA and other formative research.

She noted how BILH was linking anti-stigma campaign messaging to monthly observances and shared several examples. She also provided an overview of the Deconstructing Stigma campaign and shared that BILH would be conducting 22 Mental Health First Aid trainings in total across the BILH system. CBAC members asked a few clarifying questions about upcoming trainings and Anna confirmed that the registration link should be shared with community residents and that she would share a flyer and link after the meeting.

Nancy then shared that BILH would be awarding four, 3-year grants totaling \$300,000 each in the MA Gateway municipalities of Haverhill, Lynn, Peabody and Quincy. She said that the awards would be announced soon and that each municipality was taking a different approach to creating and implementing community-based Behavioral Health Navigator programs.

### **BILH Find Help Platform**

Nancy shared that over the last two years, BILH has been working to identify a resource to help connect people to support related to the social determinants of health. She said that as part of the OneBILH rollout of the Epic electronic medical record system, BILH would be implementing a web-based platform called Find Help (previously known as Aunt Bertha). The platform provides listings of community-based social services organizations that can meet the need of community residents in a multitude of languages.

She encouraged organizations to claim their programs' listings to ensure that the information on Find Help is kept up-to-date and said that additional resources would be shared after the meeting.

### **Adjourn**

Anna thanked the attendees for joining the meeting and reminded everyone that the next scheduled meeting is the annual meeting on September 24, 2024 from 5-7 p.m.