Merced County ACCT Coalition
Meeting Minutes

Date: December 11, 2018
Time: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Venue: The Vault Works
Address: 1666 N St, Merced, CA 95340
Attendees: 33 Attendees

Attendance

Members Present (24)

Belle M. Vallador: Healthy House Within a MATCH Coalition , Brittany Cotta: Mercy UC Davis Cancer Center Dignity Health, Hortencia Silva: American Cancer Society , Irene De La Cruz: Entre Amigos/Between Friends Publication, Helidee Millan: Livingston Community Health ,Jailene Gutierrez: Congressman Jim Costa representative, Luis De La Cruz: Entre Amigos/Between Friends Publication, Marilyn Mochel: Health Equity Coalition, Morelia Marines: California Health Collaborative-Unidos Por Salud Project, Nancy Tapia: Merced County Department of Public Health, Rachel Hernandez: Golden Valley Health Centers, Raquel Ortega: Central California Alliance for Health, Salvador Vazquez: MCOE-Migrant Education Program, Sharon Mendoca: Merced County BHRS, , Steve Roussos: ARCD, Sue Emanivong: California Health Collaborative-API,

Coalition Chairperson

Tashelle Wright: UC Merced Student (CC)

Coalition Vice Chairperson

Jazmine Kenny: UC Merced Student (CVC)

Outreach Subcommittee Lead

Jerome Rasberry Jr –United Way (OSL)

Media Subcommittee Lead

Sarah Alnahari–UC Merced Student (MSL)

Merced County Tobacco Control Program (MCTCP) Staff Present

Evi Hernandez: Project Director (PD),
Patrik White: Youth Coordinator (YC),
Stephanie Gonzalez: Program Manager (PM),
Virginia Vega: Coalition and Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC)

Guest Present (5)
Anne Lee: Merced Black Parallel School Board, Alexander Mellor: UC Merced-NCPC, Karen Lopez: Merced County Community Action Agency-WIC, Loretta Spence: Love Faith Hope, Snyder Dayton: Atwater Police Department, Stacy Rendon: UC Merced Student

Presenters (4)
Anna Song: UC Merced-NCPC, Bao Xiong: California Health Collaborative-API PACT Program, Donya Avila: Merced College, Jill Henningsgaard Vierra: Merced College

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11:05 am – 11:20 am -Meeting Call to Order
Coalition Chair (CC) introduces herself and conducts greetings. She calls the meeting to order and goes over housekeeping items and reiterates lunch is available. CC asks for everyone in the room to introduce themselves, their organization and response to an ice breaker questions: 1) Something you want to be when you grew up or what is their favorite thing to do when they have time off?

11:20 am – 1:23am –Approval of Minutes
CC requestsmembers for a motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting. Sharon Mendonca motions to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Nancy Tapia seconds the motion to approve the minutes. Members unanimously voted to move forward with the meeting.

11:23 am – 11:27 am –Media Subcommittee Updates
Media Subcommittee Lead (MSL) introduces herself, mentions that the subcommittee has had two (2) meetings so far from the previous quarterly meeting. During this time they are working toward engaging with the Merced population. The MSL is currently working towards branding the Coalition and introducing the Coalition to community stakeholders. One of the goals is to reach the key leader which includes educational institutions and decision makers. One of the projects the MS is working on is the development of a brochure to highlight the goals and information about the Coalition. . The brochure will be used for recruitment and education strategies. It will include information the Coalition as well as disparities in Merced County with Tobacco usage. MSL also encouraged Coalition members to follow the Coalition Facebook page: Merced County ACCT Coalition. MSL also mentioned there is still an opportunity for Coalition members to join the subcommittee to contact MCTCP program staff.

11:27 am –11:29am – Outreach Subcommittee Updates
Coalition Chair (CC) provided updates for Outreach Subcommittee Lead (OSL) since OSL was unable to attend. This committee is dedicated to outreach and retention of Coalition members. CC provided updates about their finalized tablecloth. CC announced if anyone is interested in attending communityevents to contact the subcommittee or MCTCP program staff. CC mentioned one of the requirements as an active Coalition member is to attend at least one event per year. CC share her experience when she attended an outreach event earlier in the year. She discussed how it was a

positive experience and how she was able to take took her son, who also had a good time sharing educational material. CC made another announcement about the upcoming "ACCT of Kindness" Coalition mixer taking place in January. The event was postponed as a result of conflicting schedules. It will be an opportunity for Coalition members to network and review discuss collaboration opportunities. As an incentive, participants will be provided with a dinner. CC asked if there is were any questions about the outreach committee? Sue (API PACT representative) asked if there is a list of different events to participate. CC mention there is a calendar that is being kept for members to attend. MCTCP program manager (PM) mentioned that they coordinate to make sure they are not attending the same event as it would be replicate education information. CC asked that the Coalition members who arrived after introductions to introduce themselves.

11:29 am – 11:32am –Merced County Tobacco Control Program (MCTCP) Updates

CC moved the meeting to MCTCP to provide updates on their tobacco work in the County. Program Manager (PM) mentions that back in October MCTCP had a Community Dialogue session where community members meet and used the Midwest strategy chart to strategize how the policy campaigns will be moving forward in the city of Los Banos. The campaign will begin early January/February 2019. More information will be emailed later on if anyone would like to be involved in those campaigns please let MCTCP know. PM shared they will be participating in THE Healthy Store for Healthy Communities campaign during 2019. Some of the program staff will be attending the train-the-trainer training. MCTCP plans to host multiple trainings to train Coalition members and volunteers for the campaign. The campaign will require surveying over 100 retailers in Merced County. PM shared the campaign is a statewide initiative to gather data on the access to fruit and vegetables, condoms, tobacco products and access to alcohol. PM passed it over to Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) to provide an update about Key Informant Interviews (KII). ACCT Coalition Chairperson and Co-Chairperson provided training on how to conduct KII with Coalition members. CEC mentioned there has been a total of seven (7) KII conducted and there has been really good responses. CEC passed it over to Youth Coordinator (YC) who provided updates on the Merced ACTION youth coalitions and how they are currently working on campaigns for 2019. YC also wanted to inform the coalition that a new chapter of ACTION youth coalitions has been added to the city of Los Banos. PM shared there is a quarterly newsletter that will be distributed for more details on program activities.

11:32 am – 11:36 am – Merced County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) Updates

Coalition Co-Chair (CCC) introduce next item in the agenda; updates from Merced County Department of Public Health (MCDPH). Nancy the MCDPH representative introduces herself. MCDPH representative mentions they currently don't have a contract for tobacco, so she will share updates about their work with the oral health project. The first six (6) months of the project have been assessing the community, in regards to oral health needs. MCDPH representative also shared that there will be an oral health meeting that is taking place [tomorrow] 12/12/18, from 9:00 am -12:00 pm. During the meeting, the work will be on the strategies and how to move forward to the objectives. Another update that MCDPH would like to share is that she presented at the American Public Health Association in San Diego where she shared information about their collaboration with

Merced College who adopted a smoke-free policy for their campus. She shared how the culture on campus has changed after the smoke-free policy. There have been less incidents of smoking on campus which has resulted in a cleaner campus.

11:36 am – 11:40 am – ACRD Intern- Presenting Flavor Website Project

CC introduces Stacy Rendon a senior student in public health at UC Merced has been interning with Alliance for Community Research and Development. Stacy shared her project with the Coalition, which consisted on developing a resource page about tobacco. The resource page is divided into five (5) sections: The first section includes community insights, which are summaries of KII across California that have successfully passed flavored ban restrictions. Second section contains summaries, tips, and strategies to help others start their own campaign. Third section that has the strategic practice guide; it's a tool on how to develop a flavored campaign. The fourth section is of pictures, some pictures are a visual representation of how flavored tobacco looks to sweets. There are also pictures on statics on flavor products. The fifth section includes videos. There are two (2) kinds of videos; the first is of local leaders that tell how they passed their policies. The second videos are of community members and how they support flavored restrictions.

11:40am – 11:40 am – Additional Comments

Nancy MCDPH requested to add an additional update as she had forgotten to mention earlier, that the public health department just got a new grant. It's brand new and she doesn't know that much about it. She knows it is with law enforcement. It's collaboration with the Department of Justice and it's about educating tobacco retailers. Evi from CHC provided the Public Health Department with a letter of support during the application process. Atwater Police Department representative asked if anyone would be able to provide information on how the police department may get access to Narcan. Nancy mentioned how this is a subject she isn't familiar with. She will find out and get back to him. She has seen the use of Narcan in other cities. Nancy will give more updates on the next meeting.

11:40 am – 12:05 pm – "ACCT toward Our Goals"- Breakout Session

CC introduces the next agenda item. A survey was distibuted to Coalition members via email prior to meeting and survey results were reviewed. The top six (6) items that were selected as possible goals were used as guide for the activity. Coalition members broke down in groups of four (4) members in each group. They were instructed to selecting three (3) goals, identifying action items, and any possible challenges/conflicts that may arise. Printed results of the survey were distributed. Members broke out and worked on the activity.

12:05 pm – 12:25pm – "ACCT toward our goals"- Activity Review

Groups were given the opportunity to share their results and activity with the group. After each of the groups shared their inputs on what action items the coalition should take, CC announce the group would be voting toward the top three (3) choices. Forms to vote on top three goals were distributed and Coalition members were given the opportunity to select the goals the Coalition would like to

focus on during the upcoming year. CC announces the results will be shared with the Coalition via email once they are calculated. Clipboards with signup sheets were distributed for Coalition members who are interested in being part of subcommittees. Luis De La Cruz representative from Entre Amigos/Between Friends asked what would be the timeline to work on these goals. PM shared that the Coalition and MCTCP work collaboratively on the goals and some of the goals align with their scope of work. PM mentioned they have the program until June 2021 and are working to complete the goals in their SOW by that time, but the Coalition has a more flexible schedule.

12:25pm- 12:35 pm –Highlight Local Successes

CC moved to the next item on the agenda and shared the importance to highlight small successes. she Merced College representatives were introduced and were given the opportunity to share the process about going smoke-free.

Merced College:

Donya introduces herself and spoke how the team has been working on this for close to 15 years. The first time was in 2005 where she brought it forward. They got derailed many times to make the campus smoke-free she was about to give up. In 2016, the discussion was brought up as part of the Partners to Improve Community Health (PICH) grant. California Youth Advocacy Network (CYAN) and Merced Public Health Department collected surveys and completed an environment assessment. There was a committee on campus and decided who would be the stakeholders, including union, employees, and students. The policy was written fall of 2016 and it was implemented in 2017. Large signs, business cards, table, passing out the information so everyone could. There was a fine implemented the first time the fine was of $ 25, second time $50, third time of $75, and then disciplinary action. They have not given any satiation, the first week it was a softer implementation. In the beginning, it was more difficult for the staff to adjust to the change. The trash [tobacco litter] isn't an issue; there isn't really any cigarette butts in the campus. The campus provided quit kits, but they weren't a hit. They are available through and offered cessation classes. CC mentions that if anyone has any questions to send them an email. ACCT Coalition provided Merced College an award of recognition for their hard work toward healthier environments.

12:35 pm- 12:41 pm UC Merced -NCPC:

CC introduces the next presenter. Dr. Song shared they their process with allocating the new grant that was recently granted to UC Merced for the Nicotine & Cannabis Policy Center. The grant will assist with improving disparities in rural areas in particular in the Central valley. Alex (NCPC Operations Manager) distributed a flyer of an upcoming workshop, as collaboration between California Breast Cancer Research Program (CBCRP), Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP), and The Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA). The workshop is designed to bring collaboration with organizations so they can apply for grants. The workshop will take place on January 14th. Alex will email more information. Marilyn [Coalition member] had

a question: If there is any data related to psychosis/mental health and the use of marijuana to alleviate symptoms. Dr. Song mentioned they have a World Rapid Response System [research team], if anyone voices a question, this team is able to do studies within 6 months. Dr. Son also mentioned they are interested in gathering research related to mothers who are using marijuana to alleviate nausea symptoms and parents are self-medicating marijuana to children for anxiety. Marijuana is still federally illegal. It's not state crime, but it is a federal one. CC thanks Dr. Song and presented her a certificate of appreciation for their efforts in Merced County.

12:41 pm- 12:48pm California Health Collaborative- API PACT Program:

CC introduces API PACT Program to share their success as well. Asian Pacific Islanders Partners Advocates Counter Tobacco (API PACT) Project is a regional tobacco control program aimed at reducing health disparities within the sub-population. API PACT is currently working on three (3) objectives: First objective - banning flavored tobacco products around youth sensitive areas, second objective assisting public venues and events to adopt a tobacco free policy and third a youth engagement program which will drive first and second objective. API PACT serves the City of Livingston in Merced County. The program started early May, and by July they had their strategic session to focus on the flavor tobacco restriction. They had a great turnout, local law enforcement, representative from the school, from the tobacco control program, board supervisor, and clinics. They also conducted key informant interviews. One which was to the city manager who invited API PACT to the city council meeting and present on youth and flavor. The youth coalition presented during a city council meeting which lead the program to the school board. During the school board presentation API PACT received a resolution to teach the school community on the dangerous of flavor tobacco, including menthol and retailers. Sue mentioned that it all depends in the town and city, and who you talk to timing is everything. Timing is important when you present to policy makers. A second presentation was conducted to city council, as it was toward the end of the elections we will return to present an ordinance. Sue shared she is working toward starting a youth council, currently working with different organizations to unite a council. A Coalition member suggested partnering with *Youth to Youth* to recruit members. CCC thanked them for their efforts and provided them with a certificate of appreciation.

12:48pm- 12:57 pm Member Announcements

CCC moved the meeting to the next agenda item. Member announcements are listed below:

Member/Guest Announcements:

NAMI / All In For Health - Marilyn

There is a planning board for the LGBTQ+ youth conference for April 6th they are currently in the planning process. If anyone is interest please reach out to her.

Mercy UC Davis Cancer Center: Dignity – Brittany Cotta

Dignity Health Smoking Cessation classes will restart on January, April, July, and October on Tuesdays. No refers are required, you don't have to be a patient to attend. Sarah asked what the cost of the cessation classes is. Brittany mentioned the classes are Free to all community members. Nancy asked what program is being utilize; Brittany answer that they use the American Cancer Society: Fresh Start curriculum. In four sessions, there are snacks provided.

Lao Association – Sue

Sue invited everyone to go out to the Hmong year celebration happening this upcoming weekend 12/21-12/23 at the Merced fairgrounds. The ribbon cutting will be on Friday at the 11 am.

Golden Valley Health Centers - Rachel

Announce GVHC is having a ribbon cutting for their dental clinic in Merced on 12/14 from 12 pm-3 pm.

Merced County Public Health Department - Nancy

Don't forget the Oral Health Committee, it's related to tobacco. It will be on 12/12 at the public health department.

CCC reminded that there are clipboards in the back of the room for members to sign up for subcommittees.

CC thanks everyone for attending and provided ideas. There is a voice box, in the back just share any suggestion or future events.

12:57pm Adjourn

Chair requested meeting to be motion to adjourn. Salvador motions the meeting to adjourn, and Morelia seconds the meeting to end.