



## Union County Committee Meeting Minutes

4/18/2023

**Attendees (15):** Marconi Gapas (Union Twp DOH), Melanie Betancur (AHS), Gladys Harris (Olive Group LLC.), Sheri Cognetti (NJHC), Daniel Wikstrom (NJHC), Karen Ensle (Rutgers Cooperative Extension), Yarilyn Contreras (Trinitas Regional Medical Center), Michelle Jansen (NJ Kids Study, Rutgers University), Katie Bisaha (New Jersey Healthcare Quality Institute), Beatriz Pachas (Overlook Medical Center), Jennifer Donahue (Fanwood Scotch Plains YMCA), Siclali Flores (Crossroads for Hope), Donna Plotnick (Senior Living Partners), Antoinette Pino, Marjorie Derival.

**Call to Order** Marconi Gapas called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

### CHIP Implementation Discussion:

The [Union County CHIP](#) is published on the Union County Committee page on [www.NJHealthMatters.org](http://www.NJHealthMatters.org). Starting in May, the NJHC will begin to collect impact data from CHIP contributors. If you contributed to the CHIP, you will be asked to provide 2022 impact data for the interventions your organization provided by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Effective strategies for obtaining impact data from partners

- Reach out to Local Health Department Outreach Coordinator to access LHD impact data
- Perhaps it would be less overwhelming to have survey for each priority area (
- Add feature to save progress in survey

### Screen NJ Discussion:

NJHC Partners who expressed a willingness to share and publicize future cancer screening educational webinars with referrals will be contacted with promotional materials in the future and encouraged to share within their professional network, as well as with clients and patients when possible.

#### Effective strategies for recruiting (1) NJ Residents; (2) Nutrition Insecure NJ Residents; (3) Low-income families, and child care providers.

- Reach out to supermarkets (Shoprite nutrition), WIC, food pantries, CNA of Union (several organizations that deal with food insecurity, hosts monthly meetings), faith-based organizations, Union County Human Services Advisory Committee (1<sup>st</sup> wed. of every month, has a number of faith-based organizations), women's groups (Josephine's place, St. Joseph's, Cross Hope, and other family success centers, senior centers, and libraries), family physicians (e.g., overlook family medicine).
- Create a focus group to discuss this further.

### Subcommittees

Many people expressed interest in leading and joining subcommittees in Union County. If you are interested in joining and are not on the subcommittee interest list, please contact [info@njhealthmatters.org](mailto:info@njhealthmatters.org)

#### Subcommittee Discussion

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### Goals for 2023:

- Have partners share community events more and collaborate to host events *together*, providing multiple services in in-person or hybrid events.



### Community Resource Sharing/Needs and Leads:

- **NJHC: (1)** All Chair positions are now filled, however chair-elect positions, as well as officer-elect positions (President, Treasurer, Secretary) for 2024 and beyond are open. Please reach out to [info@njhealthmatters.org](mailto:info@njhealthmatters.org) if you are interested in a future leadership position. **(2)** The NJHC is looking to partner with more institutions of higher education. If any partners have contacts with colleges and universities in the area, we encourage partners to connect them to the collaborative. **(3)** The NJHC 2022 Annual Report has now been published, please view it [here](#).
- Crossroads 4 Hope: Cancer Prevention Event (Bilingual event flyer below in minutes)
- AHS: Virtual and In-Person education in Union County. For more information on community health programming, you can reach out to [communityhealth@atlanticealth.org](mailto:communityhealth@atlanticealth.org). Calendar available at <https://www.atlanticealth.org/search-results.html#tab=events-tab>
- NJ Kids Study: Last Summer/Fall, focus groups were run for study recruitment. 5,000 pregnant individuals and their children, following for 10 years. Results of the focus groups will be shared out via a community seminar series this summer.

### Adjournment

Melanie Betancur adjourned at 1:54 pm.

### Chat

Beatriz Pachas:

Beatriz Pachas, Program Manager, Atlantic Health System [Beatriz.pachas@atlanticealth.org](mailto:Beatriz.pachas@atlanticealth.org)  
908-522-2842

Michelle Jansen:

Greetings all! Michelle Jansen, Program Manager, for the Rutgers New Jersey Kids Study -  
[Michelle.Jansen@rutgers.edu](mailto:Michelle.Jansen@rutgers.edu)

Siclali Flores:

Siclali Flores, Bilingual Outreach Coordinator, [sflores@crossroads4hope.org](mailto:sflores@crossroads4hope.org), Crossroads4Hope - A Network of Cancer Support

Jennifer Donahue:

Jennifer Donahue, Sr. Director FSPYMCA [jdonahue@fspymca.org](mailto:jdonahue@fspymca.org)

Daniel Wikstrom, NJHC:

[https://www.njhealthmatters.org/content/sites/njhc/2022\\_CHIPs/Union\\_County\\_New\\_Jersey\\_CHIP\\_2022.pdf](https://www.njhealthmatters.org/content/sites/njhc/2022_CHIPs/Union_County_New_Jersey_CHIP_2022.pdf)

^Union County CHIP

Yarilyn Contreras, TRMC:

Hello everyone, Yarilyn Contreras - Community Outreach Specialist. Trinitas Regional Medical Center. [Yarilyn.contreras@rwjbh.org](mailto:Yarilyn.contreras@rwjbh.org) 908-994-8244

Gladys Harris:



# North Jersey Health Collaborative

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Gladys F Harris BS, MBA, CMC, CDP — Founder: The Olive Group LLC health care management services providing comprehensive concierge-level care management to families with elder care needs. Serving clients throughout NJ, FL, Huntsville AL, & Boston MA since 2006.

[www.theolivegroupllc.com](http://www.theolivegroupllc.com); [gladysharris@theolivegroupllc.com](mailto:gladysharris@theolivegroupllc.com); 954-892-8209

Karen Ensle:

Karen Ensle, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County [kensle@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto:kensle@njaes.rutgers.edu). Glad to see everyone today!

Donna Plotnick, Senior Living Partners:

Donna Plotnick - owner of Senior Living Partners - I am a senior living advisor assisting families and their senior loved ones with housing placement and other senior resources. 973-715-7544

[dplotnick@seniorlivingpartners.net](mailto:dplotnick@seniorlivingpartners.net)

Melanie Betancur:

Melanie Betancur-Health Educator at Overlook Medical Center in the Community Health Department (Email: [melanie.betancur@atlanticealth.org](mailto:melanie.betancur@atlanticealth.org) and 9085225169)

Marconi Gapas:

Marconi Gapas Health Officer Twp. of Union/Kenilworth and Immediate Past President NJ Association of County and City Health Officials

Daniel Wikstrom, NJHC:

NJHC Administrator, [info@njhealthmatters.org](mailto:info@njhealthmatters.org)

Beatriz Pachas:

[communityhealth@atlanticealth.org](mailto:communityhealth@atlanticealth.org)

Katie Bisaha:

please feel free to add me: [kbisaha@Njhcqi.org](mailto:kbisaha@Njhcqi.org)

Yarilyn Contreras, TRMC:

[yarilyn.contreras@rwjbh.org](mailto:yarilyn.contreras@rwjbh.org)

Daniel Wikstrom, NJHC:

[https://www.njhealthmatters.org/content/sites/njhc/Annual Reports/2022 NJHC Annual Report.pdf](https://www.njhealthmatters.org/content/sites/njhc/Annual%20Reports/2022%20NJHC%20Annual%20Report.pdf)

^Annual Report



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Crossroads4Hope™  
A NETWORK OF CANCER SUPPORT  
Taking On Your Cancer Journey. Together.™



**FREE ENTRY**  
OPEN TO  
GENERAL PUBLIC

Come join us as we celebrate Minority Cancer Awareness & National Cancer Control Month

# Cancer Awareness Health Fair IN TWO WEEKS

-  Saturday, April 29, 2023
-  10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
-  Elizabeth Public Library,  
11 S. Broad St, Elizabeth, NJ 07202  
The Auditorium on 4th floor

## CONTACT PERSON

Jennifer Biam  
Outreach Coordinator at Crossroads4Hope  
[jkbiam@crossroads4hope.org](mailto:jkbiam@crossroads4hope.org). 908-200-5993





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Crossroads4Hope™  
A NETWORK OF CANCER SUPPORT  
Taking On Your Cancer Journey. Together.™



**ENTRADA GRATIS**


**ABIERTO AL PUBLICO  
EN GENERAL**

Acompáñenos a aprender a tomar conciencia sobre el cáncer entre las minorías y el Mes Nacional del Control de Cáncer

# Generando Conciencia del Cancer Feria de Salud EN DOS SEMANAS

 Sabado, April 29, 2023

 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

 Biblioteca Publica de Elizabeth,  
11 S. Broad St, Elizabeth, NJ 07202  
El Auditorio en la 4ª planta

## PERSONA DE CONTACTO

Siclali Flores  
Coordinadora Comunitaria de Crossroads4Hope  
sflores@crossroads4hope.org. 908-524-6186