



SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Advocacy Council Call Minutes

Date Thursday, June 9, 2022
Time 11 am ET

ATTENDEES	
Roger Figueroa, PhD (Chair)	Kristin Schneider, PhD (OPC Chair)
Joanna Buscemi, PhD	Lindsay Bullock (staff)
Brian Gonzalez, PhD	Sarah Gilbertson (staff)
Amy Janke, PhD	

Name Change

Dr. Figueroa reminded the group that, following SBM's successful re-organization, the group's name has changed from the Health Policy Council to the Advocacy Council, to better encompass current activities and goals. The Position Statements Committee and Organizational Partnerships Committee are also now formally nested under the council.

Minutes Approval

Dr. Gonzalez made the motion to approve the March call minutes; seconded by Dr. Buscemi. The motion carried.

Ambassador Updates

Dr. Figueroa checked in with every ambassador group in May about continuing touchpoints with legislative aides; he is setting up quarterly check-in calls with each group.

The child nutrition group is working on finalizing a position statement, led by Dr. Elizabeth Adams, about ensuring nutrition securing across food assistance programs. Another related statement is in the works in collaboration with others in SBM. If approved, both will be useful talking points for legislative contacts. Contacts the last 2 months have been low, so Dr. Adams has been asked to send around another outreach template.

The rural health group has likewise been asked to generate new touchpoints this month.

The opioid and pain management group has also been asked to generate new touchpoints this month. Dr. Figueroa is seeking a new council liaison to this group, following Dr. Wilton's departure from the council. He has a few names and will also follow up with Dr. Janke about interest and bandwidth. This group also needs a lead ambassador.

The new climate change and health group is being populated. Dr. Figueroa has sent 11 invites and has four individuals agreed so far. One of those invited asked about the difference between



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this work and official lobbying. Council members and staff explained this is partly semantics, and partly legal: lobbyists spend a certain amount of time on interactions with lawmakers and must register. Ambassador work does not rise to that level. Dr. Schneider has slides explaining this difference and will send them to the group. She also noted that APA has climate change interest and may have useful materials to inspire talking points.

Update on Collaborating with Policy Organizations

Dr. Figueroa asked about having a council member serve as the liaison to the policy coalitions that SBM is connected to. Lead ambassadors seem like a natural fit for this but do not have the bandwidth. The line between which partnerships should be managed by the council and which by the Organizational Partnerships Committee is not always clear, and no one wants to hold up work by adding layers. Both groups will discuss further, including possibly adding members to OPC for this specific role, and which current coalitions to prioritize for greater connection. Some send information to us and we get to attach our name, and that is enough. Others may benefit from more frequent connection with leaders and/or actual joint products.

Committee Updates

Dr. Schneider said the Organizational Partnerships Committee is looking for members and in 2022 is charged with growing partnerships with AHA, APHA, climate-focused organizations, and clinician organizations (ACLM so far). Recent calls with ACLM staff led to connecting similar SBM SIGs with ACLM Member Interest Groups (MIGs), so far in CVD and women's health. They may join each other's calls and plan joint products like webinars. ACLM also has staff focused on facilitating research between healthcare system partners and their clinician members, but they have struggled to find researchers who are appropriate for various opportunities. This could be an area for SBM to explore. Separate from ACLM, SBM's Aging and Palliative Care SIGs are considering an SBM webinar related to pain. Dr. Schneider will keep this group updated if there is are ole for the opioid/pain management ambassadors.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m. ET.