



MEMBER ADVISORY COUNCIL
In-Person and Virtual Meeting
In conjunction with ACLA Caritas On The Move--Tallulah

Date: Saturday, August 17, 2024

Event Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

MAC Meeting Time: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: **Wright Elementary School, 809 Wyche Street, Tallulah, LA 71282**

1) Welcome and Introductions

- a. Grover Harrison, ACLA Member and Community Engagement Director, introduced himself, ACLA, and gave the purpose of the meeting.

Number of Members in Attendance—61

Number of Community Partners: 26

Number of Meeting Participants— 0 virtual, 293 in person

Overall attendance— 293

- 2) Introduction of Meeting Participants and Community Partners—** Participants were ACLA community partners, members, and staff and the community at-large. Grover Harrison welcomed community partners at the beginning of the event. ACLA members were recognized throughout the meeting.

3) ACLA Announcements

- a. **Medicaid Wage Verification—** Grover Harrison gave an update on members receiving mail about wage verification and emphasized that if they are contacted by Medicaid to provide a timely response because it is extremely important. He answered questions regarding that process and possible outcomes.
- b. **Open Enrollment—** Harrison gave an update on LDH's Open Enrollment process and timeline including Medicaid enrollee rights during that time.
- c. **HEI Survey—** Paula Brooks, ACLA Marketing and Communication Director distributed the HEI survey to community partners and asked for their participation in completing the survey:

The Community Based Organization Equity Cohort 2024 Focus: Maternal and Child Health. CBO representatives were asked to scan the QR code below to take our 5-Question CBO Survey and learn more about Health Equity programming at ACLA.



4) “MAC Chat” with Members and Community Partners about communicating with AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana—

- a. **Communication Preferences**—Attendees were asked for their preferred method of communication. The methods in order of preference are:
- i. Phone call
 - ii. Text
 - iii. Email
 - iv. Social media
 - v. Regular mail

5) Panel and audience discussion around services needed in Tallulah (and how ACLA could help). The question presented by Harrison was, “What would you like to see in the community that’s not currently here?” Respondents were youth and adults.

- i. Activities such as cooking, financial literacy, cooking, sewing and outdoor skills, riding clubs (bikes, go karts, and motorcycles), darts, and horseback riding
- ii. Gun violence and violence prevention programs
 1. Sheriff elect, Chad Ezell, with ideas to create community programs
 2. Working with BH programs to assist youth with criminal records
 3. Out of school programs
- iii. Dropout prevention focus and strategies
- iv. Renovation of Tallulah High School to have a community space for creativity and sports.
- v. Youth organizations like Kappa League for mentoring
- vi. Sports and afterschool clubs for protection, volunteerism, year-round activities and positive reinforcement
- vii. Collaboration with municipalities such as sheriff and fire department
- viii. Knowledge of what’s available to youth now
- ix. Hope in Tallulah as a land of opportunity
 1. A shift in perspective is needed to see Tallulah as it could be
 2. Guidance in helping others become activist to make the community better
 3. More voices at the table and hands at work
 4. Art and music amphitheater to transform community with positive music

6) How can ACLA Help?

- a. Grover Harrison gave an overview of what ACLA offers that may be beneficial to Tallulah to address concerns expressed during needs discussion.
- i. GED program
 - ii. Transportation to appointments
 - iii. Homelessness assistance
 - iv. ACLA MACE Team rep in the region who is available to help members access resources
 - v. ACLA can help bridge the need to the resource through CBO collaboration.

- 7) **Q & A about benefits and services**— Grover Harrison reviewed Care Card benefits to encourage being and staying healthy.
- 8) **Adjournment**—The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.