



Equity Council Agenda

Zoom Meeting Time: May 26, 2021 4:00 – 5:00 PM

Welcomes & Introductions

- Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) Secretary Womazetta Jones welcomed the Council members
- Secretary Jones announced that the Council will resume as the COVID-19 Equity Council without the previously announced pause

COVID-19 Equity Council Brainstorming Session – Facilitated by EOHHS Secretary Womazetta Jones

- Equity Council members were asked for their feedback about the current structure and function of the Equity Council.
- The co-chairs of the Commission for Health Advocacy and Equity (CHAE) shared information about the commission, which focuses on promoting health equity across State agency and has legislative powers. Individuals from the community interested in being part of the CHAE can express their interest by filling out the [CHAE Expression of Interest form](#).
- The Equity Council mission is to actively shape the State’s COVID-19 response to effectively serve the populations most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including communities of color and high-density communities, in tangible ways. For more information on the Equity Council mission, vision, and initiatives, visit <https://eohhs.ri.gov/Initiatives/EquityCouncil.aspx>.

Community Feedback: What are you hearing from the community? What should the State know?

- A member of the Council noted that vaccine hesitancy has now surpassed vaccine inaccessibility as one of the primary reasons why individuals are not getting vaccinated. In response, Council members emphasized the importance of focusing more resources toward educational materials and fighting misinformation.
- A Council member elevated an idea voiced by local educators that the COVID-19 vaccination clinics be arranged at schools during the last week of classes. [Click here](#) for more information on K-12 COVID-19 testing.

Next Steps

- The RIDOH team will inquire about additional funding for community organizations who have used their awarded funding through the COVID-19 Mini-Grant program.

Close

- Closing remarks given by Secretary Womazetta Jones

