

Maryland Attorney General's COVID-19 Access to Justice Task Force

AGENDA

Life & Health Planning Committee Community Outreach Subcommittee Meeting

July 28, 2020 Meeting

Item	Subject	Time Allotted	Notes
•	Call to Order, Introductions and Approval of	5 minutes - JY	Subcommittee facilitator Josie Yuzuik called the meeting to order.
•	Call to Order, Introductions and Approval of Agenda	5 minutes - JY	 Subcommittee facilitator Josie Yuzuik called the meeting to order. Josie then had the subcommittee members introduce themselves. Attendees present at the beginning of the meeting included: Subcommittee facilitator Josie Yuzuik, Assistant Attorney General Rexanah Wyse, Chief of Staff, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness C.P. Hoffman, Legal Director, FreeState Justice Committee Co-Chair Juliana Bell, Assistant Attorney General Committee Co-Chair Danielle Cruttenden, Private Attorney, Outgoing chair, MSBA Estates & Trusts Section Rena Shah, Director, MSBA Access to Justice Commission,
			A2J Task Force Vice Chair
			 Shelby McCloskey, Law Clerk, University of Maryland, School of Law

			 8. Del. Terry Hill, Gov't Ops. Subcommittee, practicing physician 9. Roberto Veloso, Private Practice 10. Meredith Lathbury Girard, Managing Attorney, Mid-Shore Pro Bono 11. Amy Petkovsek, Director of Advocacy for Training and Pro Bono, Maryland Legal Aid 12. Jade McClary, Staff Attorney, Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland
•	Review of July 17 Community Outreach Subcommittee Meeting Minutes	5 minutes - JY	Josie asked if there were any comments to or concerns with last week's minutes. *No comments were made.
•	Outline Goal of Today's Community Outreach Subcommittee	5 minutes – JY	 Josie discussed the goals of today's meeting. 1. Continue identifying communities who are missing from the conversation. 2. Determine how the subcommittee can further the goals of the full Committee. 3. Flesh out the listening session idea. 4. Create questions to elicit feedback from the community. Goals of Subcommittee: 1. Identify gaps in end of life and health planning/ probate issues that could be addressed by Legislature; present to committee as a whole for full group discussion. 2. Develop ideas for outreach events to reach various community audiences digital/non-digital (seniors, various essential workers via unions, etc., first responders) to be implemented via the communication committee.
•	Update from the Task Force's Public Awareness & Community Engagement Committee ("PACE")-town halls are being talked about at the back of the Task Force to distribute materials and resources.	5 minutes –JY	Josie discussed the information Brenda Gruss, the liaison to the Communications Committee, learned regarding the listening sessions. The larger Committee is planning on doing Town Halls to distribute resource material and information on the work of the Task Force. Josie explained that last meeting we discussed the issue of meeting fatigue and not wanting to engage the same audiences over and over. Josie stated that we would need to rethink the listening session in order to avoid said issue.

•	Rethink listening sessions to take a	15 minutes –JY	Josie invited the subcommittee members to provide feedback on
	different form-perhaps meeting with		how we should rethink the listening sessions to use existing persons
	PACE Committee members alongside		on the PACE Committee since many members are already
	community members		connected. Comments from members;
			• Interviews
			• Create a survey to send to different communities to get
			feedback on the barriers they have encountered.
			• Doesn't work in communities that don't have access
			to technology.
			• Have members on the Task Force (religious leaders,
			health care providers, etc) send out the survey to their
			communities.
			• Team up with other Committees on the Task Force to create one survey.
			 Survey would need to be in multiple languages.
			 What entities (legal and non-legal) are the groups that are
			connecting with people that can help get our message out
			there?
			• Faith leaders- Churches and synagogues. Could have
			them make announcements during their services
			about the importance of life planning and pass along
			the questions from the subcommittee.
			• Community groups sororities and fraternities in the
			African-American Community for instance who
			sponsored expungement fairs to get the information
			out.
			• Healthcare providers
			• Committee members' newsletters
			• Women shelters and family shelters. team up with
			other committees subcommittees etcetera were also
			talking about surveys and I know there are other
			committees talking about surveys also, then we could
			combine all of our questions into one like covid-19
			legal needs survey. Other than Try to get like, you
			know people to do a thousand different surveys.
			• Social media. Facebook is currently being used to
			reach the Latino community.

			• Have an amail address that people can send they after an
			• Have an email address that people can send thoughts or comments to a certain set of questions.
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			• Need to be clear the purpose of the email so people
			are not using it for other purposes.
			• Use the Attorney general's hotline.
			\circ 211 might be a better platform to use.
			• Personal communications may be more beneficial than
			regular surveys. We should try to have meetings that
			incorporate them rather than sending out a survey on its own.
			• Short-term: use PACE Committee to give us more feedback
			for some of the longer-term goal identification and help us
			identify what gaps are still missing. Long-term: expand
			platform outside of PACE to examine the gaps identified by
			the initial survey.
			• Are there databases that exist for churches, synagogues, and
			other religious places that we could tap into for sending
			information?
			• Use Bridge and Build to help send out the
			information.
			• Turn Around Tuesday. It's a religious event that has
			huge turnouts and is currently being offered virtually.
			Josie encouraged the subcommittee members to think of similar
			types of events that they already have going on in their
			organizations.
	Develop questions and statements on	20 minutes –JY	Josie then invited the subcommittee members to come up with the
•	feedback needed from communities	20 minutes –J I	questions that would be used to gather information from the
			different communities.
			1. Where are you currently receiving information and resources
			about estate planning or financial planning, if at all?
			2. Who is a trusted resource for you to discuss end-of-life
			planning with or get information from?
			3. Do you know what estate planning is?
			4. Do you or your family have tools in place for when you
			transition to the next life?
			5. How has covid-19 changed your concerns on making plans
			for end-of-life and after your death?

6. What barriers are you facing when seeking access to end-of- life resources?
7. Do you think you need to partake in estate planning? If no,
why?
a. List options
8. Do you feel like you could benefit from more education
about the legal issues that your family will have to deal with when you pass on?
9. Health care providers- What have you seen as far as family members who come prepared to make decisions like
intubation compared to orobator who are not prepared?
10. Have you ever been in a position to make a healthcare
decision for your parent or grandparent? If yes, did you feel
prepared? What do you think you would have needed before then?
11. Younger audience- Do you think life planning is only for
people above a certain age?
12. Do you want to have control over what would happen to
your child? Have people focus on Wills, even if it's just to
name a guardian.
13. What does probate mean?
14. Is it important to you to try and avoid dealing with legal
documents? If yes, why?
a. List options (intimidating, necessary, costly, etc)
15. What's the hardest barrier you encountered when someone
you knew passed away? What was the hardest thing about that process?
16. During the pandemic, were you able to talk with your loved
ones while they were in the hospital? What did you do about
that? Who did you seek help from?
17. Have you recently had somebody in your family or a good
friend pass? If yes, list what happened next questions
(hospital, belongings, etc.)
Comments from subcommittee members;
• Make sure questions are specific enough so that we can
obtain the feedback we need, but also open-ended in a way
that allows people to tell their story.

			 Think of general themes based on the information we want to obtain and then think of questions based on those themes. Think of big categories and make sure we have at least 2 or 3 questions per category. Limit the amount of total questions. Need to think of the order in which we want to ask the questions. Personal interactions are important in order to really find out what the issues are. Missing funeral professionals from this discussion. In the local Hispanic Community, one issue people are dealing with is the repatriation of bodies. A survey would not be able to elicit this type of issue. Josie invited the subcommittee members to continue developing questions for our next meeting.
7.	Set Next Meeting Time and Date and Adjourn	5 minutes - JY	Josie thanked everyone for their participation throughout today's meeting and asked if anyone had any other questions or comments before we adjourn and set next week's meeting time? *No additional comments were added. The subcommittee is meeting every other week so the next meeting will be August 11th at 9am.

Guide: JY = Josie Yuzuik