



**Doula Ad-hoc Subcommittee Meeting  
Minutes  
Monday, January 13, 2025, 10-11AM ET  
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom**

In-person Optional Anchor Site: Family Health Systems Office: 1351 W. North Street, Suite 103, Dover, DE 19904

**Attendees:**

Melissa Minor-Brown, Leah Jones, Alethea Miller, Tina Andrews, Shane Darby, Kim York, Nicole Evans, Nikki Cleary, Dara Hall, Tiffany Chalk, Priscilla Mpasi, M Coalson, Shannon Kojasoy

HMA staff:

Akiba Daniels  
Diana Rodin

TOPIC	NOTES	ACTIONS AND FOLLOW-UP	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	STATUS
I. Call to Order (2 minutes)	Melissa Minor Brown launched the meeting; No participants expressed concern about meeting being recorded. Minutes approved by Priscilla Mpasi (first) and Alethea Miller (second)	None	Co-Chair	
II. Doula Ad Hoc Committee Memo Review (40 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diana Rodin provided an overview of the content of the memo that attendees received via email.</li> <li>Leah recapped the two stakeholder engagement reports synthesizing doula and provider feedback, which are available on the DE Thrives website and linked in the summary memo.</li> <li>Rep. Minor Brown opened up discussion to the group for initial input or reactions regarding the memo and to ask if there are recommended edits or revisions or additional questions.</li> <li>Alethea shared they are supporting a group of 10 doulas who are enrolled as Medicaid providers and are working out some of the challenges within the process. These doulas have actively being reimbursed (since the first birth in April). They will have another doula meeting to discuss questions</li> </ul>		HMA	In progress

	<p>that came up as well as anything new that should be shared with the larger group. They are looking at the first to second week in February to hold this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dara shared kudos to everyone on the group regarding how far they have come with the reimbursement process and how Delaware has spearheaded a lot of innovation in maternal and child health. One thought she had regarding non-clinical providers is the support needed by a range of non-clinical providers, including CHWs in addition to doulas. There are many layers of complexity and may be an opportunity to expand this support beyond doulas and to other providers in the state as well. Mentioned that the CHWs have their own coalition and not sure if there is a way to expand that to make it a broader system of support.</li> <li>• Rep. Minor Brown mentioned there will be legislative language in the next few weeks around CHWs. There will be a study done to look at how the state can better support them as well. This will be led by a group outside of the DHMIC but she can ensure Dara receives information around this.</li> <li>• Rep. Minor Brown shared how she remembered early conversations with Councilwoman Darby and other doulas around doulas not being able to represent their patients in the hospitals. This work has come a long way from the first conversation.</li> <li>• Tina mentioned she would like the group to look at the doula community and how far it is has come through Shane Darby, Erica Allen, Theresa Muhammad and Michelle Drew; there has been amazing work throughout the state. We are seeing more interaction with lactation consultants, mental health specialists and postpartum specialists.</li> <li>• Dr. Mpasi shared that there have been wonderful champions in this work. We need to figure out the next steps. The DHMIC is having some conversations around how to pivot to existing committees. We want to continue to hear from committee members about the next steps; this is not concluding today and we are looking to build on the work already done.</li> </ul>			
VII. Public comment	None	None	Co-Chair	
VIII. Next steps	<p>Rep. Minor Brown thanked the participants and closed out the meeting.</p> <p>The summary memo will be shared with the full DHMIC appointed members at the next quarterly meeting on January 29th, in person at Delaware Technical Community College in Dover, at the Terry Campus.</p>	None	Co-Chair	



**DELAWARE HEALTH  
AND SOCIAL SERVICES**  
Division of Public Health



**DELAWARE HEALTHY MOTHER AND INFANT CONSORTIUM (DHMIC)**  
**Minutes**

VIV. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am (motion to adjourn by Dara Hall).		Co-Chair	
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