



## HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL CALL MINUTES

Date Wednesday, January 3, 2022  
Time 12 pm CT

MEMBERS	
Joanna Buscemi, PhD (Chair)	Brian Gonzalez, PhD
Akilah Dulin, PhD (Health Policy Committee Chair)	Amy Janke, PhD (SPLC Representative)
Roger Figueroa, PhD	Leo Wilton, PhD, MPH
Marian Fitzgibbon, PhD	
	Rebecca Borzon, Lindsay Bullock (staff)

  

REGRETS	
Melanie Bean, PhD	Carly Goldstein, PhD (CPEC Chair)
Pamela Behrman, PhD	

### Approve minutes from December call

Dr. Buscemi made motion to approve the minutes from December; seconded by Dr. Dulin. Motion carried.

### New Chair Introduction

Dr. Buscemi introduced the incoming chair of the council, Dr. Figueroa. He is an original child nutrition ambassador, and had helped write the last position statement that they had released. Dr. Figueroa understands advocacy work including the ambassador program and position statements. As a Leadership Institute participant fellow, he is currently working on a project to help constituents “see the bigger picture” of advocacy work.

Dr. Buscemi noted that she had created an Incoming Chair document for the council, and hoped it would be helpful for future chair transitions.

### Ambassador Update

Child Nutrition Ambassadors – The ambassadors had drafted a new position statement which would be widely released this month. It would be released through the NPSC’s database, as they had already agreed to endorse. The council noted that it may be beneficial to contact teachers’ unions to endorse, and determined that the ambassadors should only try this tactic if time allowed.

Rural Health Ambassadors – Dr. Buscemi noted that one ambassador had done six to seven hours of research to draft an email template for the fellow ambassadors. The council agreed that ambassadors should do no more than one hour of research, as it would otherwise be too much for a monthly commitment. The contacts between legislators and ambassadors should be more of a check-in, and less about finely-tailored research.



## SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Opioid Pain Management Ambassadors – Dr. Buscemi noted that she was unsure of the steps that needed to be taken to get the next talking points drafted. This was due to the fact that no one had expertise in this subject area on the council. The council did recommend talking points on mental health and prevention for youth on misuse, as well as the racial inequities that involve opioid misuse.

The council discussed submitting a paper to TBM on the ambassador program. The paper would focus on future directions and where the program started 5 years ago.

### **Adjourn**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm CT. *Minutes respectfully submitted by R. Borzon on January 10, 2022.*