HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL CALL MINUTES

Date       Wednesday, May 5, 2021
Time       12 p.m. CT

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

REGrets
Pamela Behrman, PhD           Carly Goldstein, PhD (CPEC Chair)

SBM Annual Meeting Debrief
Dr. Buscemi gave the council an update on the policy-related presentations from SBM 2021. The first was a presidential panel where one ambassador from each group partook in the presentation and gave an overview of the ambassador program. This session was not well-attended, as it was held at the same time as a Master Lecture. However, Dr. Buscemi also hosted a networking session on child nutrition, which was very well-attended.

After the child nutrition session, Dr. Buscemi was contacted by several SBM members who volunteered to be ambassadors. One candidate was Paul Schneider, who lived in Washington and wanted to serve as an opioid pain management ambassador. 3 others had requested to be child nutrition ambassadors. The council discussed their qualifications and determined that Dr. Buscemi would invite them to serve as ambassadors, although there were already more child nutrition ambassadors than the other groups.

Dr. Buscemi noted that the search for opioid pain and rural health ambassadors was currently underway, with SBM staff pulling information from the BIT SIG for rural health ambassadors.

The council also discussed a potential end to ambassador terms for ambassadors who are less engaged with the program. Remediation techniques and a reassessment of ambassador interest may also be helpful. The program may also benefit from a different leadership structure with a lead liaison.

Approve minutes from April call
Dr. Buscemi made motion to approve the April call minutes; seconded by Dr. Bean. Motion carried.
Ambassador Update
Child Nutrition Ambassadors: The Center for Science and Public Interest is interested in collaborating policy work.
Rural Health Ambassadors: One ambassador returning from maternity leave.
Opioid Pain Management Ambassadors: There have been 11 contacts and two meetings on the proposed position statement. The statement was focused on opioid use disorder rather than pain management.

Adjourn
With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm. Minutes respectfully submitted on May 10, 2021.