

**HEALTHCARE EQUITY ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, October 21, 2025
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Large Conference Room, VC Public Health
Administration 2240 E Gonzales Rd., Suite 200, Oxnard,
CA 93036**

PUBLIC COMMENTS BY EMAIL:

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE EITHER A GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT OR COMMENT ON A SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM BEING HEARD, YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR COMMENT VIA EMAIL BY 9:00 AM THE DAY OF THE MEETING TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: HEACCouncil@VENTURA.ORG. PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN YOUR EMAIL: (A) MEETING DATE, (B) AGENDA ITEM NUMBER, (C) SUBJECT OR TITLE OF THE ITEM, (D) YOUR FULL NAME. DURING PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA ITEM SPECIFIED IN YOUR EMAIL, YOUR EMAIL WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD.

OPENING

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 19, 2025, MINUTES**
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND/OR FOR OTHER ITEMS WITHIN HEAC SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION ~ 5 MINUTES**

REGULAR AGENDA

- 5. FACILITATED RETREAT SESSION – PART 2 OF 2: STRATEGY SESSION AND GOAL SETTING ~ 80 MINUTES**

The second of two facilitated retreat sessions includes discussion that will build on the August retreat with an objective to develop a multi-year strategy and set goals aligned with HEAC's charter.

6. CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S) ~ 5 MINUTES

Upcoming meetings of the HEAC scheduled for the third Tuesday of every other Month. The next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2025.

7. ADJOURN

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection on the Ventura County HEAC website: [Healthcare Equity Advisory Council \(vchca.org\)](http://vchca.org) subject to staff's ability to post the documents prior to the meeting.

Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual or other disability in order to review an agenda, or to participate in a meeting of the Ventura County Public Safety Racial Equity Advisory Group per the American Disabilities Act (ADA), may obtain assistance by requesting such accommodation in writing addressed to the County Executive Office, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009-1740 or telephonically by emailing to HEACCouncil@ventura.org. Any such request for accommodation should be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which assistance is requested.

Healthcare Equity Advisory Council
Tuesday, August 19, 2025

DRAFT MINUTES

**Community Council Members
Present**

Alejandra Valencia – Chair
Hugo Tapia
Kimberly Thomas-Kelley
Emily Bridges
Liz Diaz-Querol, MD
Juana Zaragoza
Jacqueline Avena

**Community Council Members
Absent**

Bianca Farmer
Yvonne Gutierrez
Martha Shapiro
Kimberly Cofield
Celia Daniels

Interpreter
Anna Rangel

**Administrative Council Members
Present**

Theresa Cho, MD – Chair
John Fankhauser, MD
Lizeth Barretto
Loretta Denering, DrPH
Vikram Kumar, MD
Deanna Handel
Rigoberto Vargas

**Administrative Council Members
Absent**

Shannon Burke
Kristina Swaim

Minutes
Andrew Berner

Other Attendees

Kate English
Amy Towner
Lucas
Lydia Collins, PhD
Sarah Garcia
Grissel Marquez
Jennifer Palamino
Luis Gonzalez
Aslan (community
belong)
Minako Watabe, MD
Lisa Griffins
Martha Garcia
Arthur

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:40p.m. by Chair Cho.

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The July 22, 2025, meeting minutes were reviewed.

ACTION: Upon a motion made by Chair Cho, seconded by Council Member Tapia the July 22 minutes were approved as submitted.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR AGENDIZED ITEMS & ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.
None

5. NOMINATION AND VOTE FOR A SECOND THREE-YEAR TERM FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS: KIMBERLY COFIELD, EMILY BRIDGES, LIZ DIAZ-QUEROL-MD, KIMBERLY THOMAS-KELLEY, HUGO TAPIA, AND JUANA ZARAGOZA RETROACTIVE TO APRIL 2025.

ACTION: Upon a motion made by Council Member Vargas, seconded by Council Member Handel the motion was approved.

6. NOMINATION AND VOTE ON MEMBERSHIP OF COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION MEMBERS: SENIOR CONCERNS, EL CONCILIO, DIVERSITY COLLECTIVE OF VENTURA COUNTY, CABRILLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AND VENTURA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION RETROACTIVE TO FEBRUARY 2025.

DISCUSSION: Appointed members from each of the Community Based Organizations may not be aware of the commitment needed to participate in this Council and the Council will follow up with each of the CBOs to confirm their commitment. A new vote will be held once all CBOs understand their commitment.

7. NOMINATION AND VOTE TO APPROVE CELIA DANIELS TO REPRESENT DIVERSITY COLLECTIVE OF VENTURA COUNTY AS A VOTING MEMBER.

ACTION: Upon a motion made by Council Member Fankhauser, seconded by Council Member Bridges, the motion was approved.

8. FACILITATED RETREAT SESSION – PART 1 OF 2: REGROUNDING IN PURPOSE, BUILDING GROUP IDENTITY, AND STRENGTHENING COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

Session led by Kate English. There will be a virtual presentation on Monday, September 22, 2025, from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. This will be an informal orientation with no motions or votes.

9. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 21, 2025.



HEAC Retreat Part A

August 19, 2025



COUNTY of VENTURA
Community & Belonging Division



COUNTY of VENTURA
Youth Equity Initiative

Facilitation by:

Kate English
VCPA Youth Equity Initiative Manager

Sarah Garcia
CEO Community & Belonging Specialist

Dr. Lydia Collins
VCHCA Public Information Officer



SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Honor HEAC's origins and evolution / Honrar los orígenes y la evolución de HEAC
- Develop deeper connection between HEAC members/
Desarrollar una conexión más profunda entre los miembros de HEAC
- Clarify shared values, roles and contributions / Aclarar los valores, roles y contribuciones compartidos



AGENDA & SCHEDULE REVIEW

- Three timed activities today including small and large group participation
- Virtual orientation opportunity Wednesday, September 22nd
- HEAC Retreat Part B aimed at Goals for 2026
- Tres actividades cronometradas hoy, que incluyen participación en grupos pequeños y grandes.
- Oportunidad de orientación virtual el miércoles 22 de septiembre.
- Sesión especial HEAC Parte B, enfocado en los objetivos para 2026.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS

Be curious/turn to wonder

**Listen to understand more
than to respond**

One speaker at a time

Respect timekeeping

Uphold confidentiality

**Consider impact as well as
intention**

Others

Sea curioso/asómbrese.

**Escuche para comprender
más que para responder.**

Un orador a la vez.

Respete el tiempo.

**Mantenga la
confidencialidad. Considere
el impacto y la intención.**

¿Otros?

ACTIVITY #1 – WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

Reflect on your worksheet then choose 1 prompt to share about:

- Why is HEAC important or necessary?
 - [Que es la importancia de HEAC?](#)
- What do you see as HEAC's accomplishments?
 - [¿Cuáles son los logros de HEAC?](#)
- When has your voice felt most incorporated or valued in this group?
 - [¿Cuándo se ha sentido más incorporada o valorada su voz en este grupo?"](#)



HEAC Cultural Inventory

Strengths & Areas of Expertise

Advocacy for Unseen
and Unheard
Campaign
Development
Care Experience
Communication,
Communication
Community Outreach
Cultural Competency
DEI Consulting
DEI Training
Developing Social
Connectedness
Disability Studies
Graduate Certificate
Education
Emergency Room
Diversion

EMPATHY

Equity Lens
Facilitation
Health Insurance
Impacts of Mass
Incarceration
Invisible Disabilities
Language Justice /
Language Access
MA in Public Health
and Health Promotion
Medical Knowledge
Mental Health Needs
MHSA
Patient Education
Patient Experience
(Member Journeys
and Surveys)

Plain Language Use
Project Management
Public Speaking
Quality Improvement
(HEDIS/MCAS)
Social Determinants of
Health
**Substance Use
Prevention**
Supporting Parents
Visual/Hearing
Impairment
Youth Development
Consulting

Lived Experience

Cultural Identities

Populations Represented

Adolescents	Interracial Marriage
African American	Latiné/x
Agricultural	LGBTQIA
Anxiety	Menopause
Autism	Millenials
Black Woman	Mixteco
Chicano	Not Born in Ventura County (varying perspective)
Child of Farmworkers	Older Adult Women (Aging Needs)
Christian / Faith Based	People with Chronic Concerns
Chronic Disease	Public School Youth
Community Worker	Reentry Post Incarceration
Diabetes in Latinx Community	Rural Resident
Disability / Neurodiverse Community	Sotos Syndrome
Disability Lived Experience	Woman, Woman, Woman
Farmworker	Working for anyone in need
First Gen	



ACTIVITY #2 – WHO ARE WE NOW? (WHOLE GROUP)

ACTIVIDAD #2: ¿QUIÉNES SOMOS AHORA? (TODO EL GRUPO)

New member prompt:
In a few words, share
your strengths and areas
of expertise, as well as
the populations they may
be here to champion.

Whole group prompt:
How do you describe
what this group is and
does to others? And/or
how was this group
described to you?

Pregunta para nuevos
miembros:

En pocas palabras,
compartan sus fortalezas y
áreas de especialización, así
como las poblaciones que
podrían apoyar.

Pregunta para todo el grupo:
¿Cómo describen a los
demás lo que este grupo es y
hace? ¿Y cómo se lo
describieron?

ACTIVITY #3 – WHAT SHOULD WE BE DOING? (BREAKOUTS HCA/COMMUNITY)

ACTIVIDAD #3: ¿QUÉ DEBERÍAMOS ESTAR HACIENDO? (GRUPOS: HCA/COMUNIDAD)

Prompts:

HCA Prompt: “Where is our work most in need of community input?”

Community Prompt: “Where would our community voices be most valuable in healthcare settings (including behavioral health and public health)?”

For all: “What impacts do we hope HEAC can have on the County’s healthcare systems?”

Preguntas:

Pregunta de HCA: “¿Dónde necesita más nuestro trabajo la participación de la comunidad?”

Pregunta de la comunidad: “¿Dónde serían más valiosas las voces de nuestra comunidad en los sistemas médica (incluyendo salud mental y salud pública)?”

Para todos: “¿Qué impacto esperamos que HEAC pueda tener en los sistemas de atención médica del condado?”



Virtual Orientation for
new members:

Wednesday

September 22, 2025

5:30-7pm

HEAC Part B Retreat

Tuesday, October 21

5:30-7pm

