

District of Columbia Maternal Mortality Review Committee

(Established by DC Code §7-761.01 et seq)



401 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Maternal Mortality Review Committee Minutes of the March 28, 2023 Open Meeting

April 25, 2023

The Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) convened on March 28, 2023 at 10:00am. Quorum was achieved. The meeting was chaired by MMRC Co-chairs, Christina Marea and Aza Nedhari. There were 17 members and participants in attendance.

Members in Attendance: Christina Marea (District Birthing Center, COH), Aza Nedhari (Mamatoto Village), Constance Bohon, MD (ACOG), Colleen Kepner, MD (Sibley Memorial Hospital), Kimberly Sommers, MD (DC Health), Melissa Fries, MD (Medstar Washington), Melisa Byrd (DHCF), Tatyana Zinger, DO (OCME), Nancy Gaba, MD (GWUH), Theresa Early (DHS), and Monique Powell-Davis, MD (Mary's Center).

Participants: Candace Hardin, (OCME), Tracie Martin (OCME), Breanna Cuchara (OCME), Jenna Beebe-Aryee (OCME), Emma Solomon (GWUH), and Madeline Ley (GWUH).

Open Meeting

Prior to the open meeting, Dr. Tatyana Zinger (OCME) was sworn in as a member by Adanna Mbanugo (MOTA) in the presence of Co-chair Christina Marea.

Following roll call, the members reviewed and approved the open meeting agenda. The January 2023 open meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the members. The February 2023 open session meeting minutes were not completed as the Committee did not achieve quorum. This was documented in the unofficial February 2023 closed meeting minutes. The George Washington University School of Public Health student attendees (public attendees) announced they are working on a video as a part of their public health and development course. A question was asked about what the committee's recommendations were related to addressing maternal health disparities in DC.

The co-chair along with other members explained the case review and recommendation process, and associated challenges. A co-chair described the many recommendations that have to do with support and coordination of services for individuals with complex needs to support their medical and social wellbeing. The recommendations are based on the social determinants of health (from the decedent's birth, post-partum life course, etc.) A member stated the numbers of maternal deaths in the district are relatively small; but there are still recommendations and trends identified within these deaths.

The open portion of the MMRC meeting was closed with the following statement read by a co-chair:

“This meeting will hereby be closed to the public for the following reasons – Open Meeting Act Section B-12 and 14 and § 7.671.06.”

The next MMRC Meeting is scheduled for **April 25, 2023**, at 10:00am, via WebEx.