



## COVID-19 After Action Review Task Force Meeting Summary

May 25, 2023 | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM | Virtual

Attendees are included in Attachment A.

### Opening Remarks & Review of Agenda:

Phyllis Shulman and Nathan Weed welcomed the participants to the meeting. Phyllis reviewed the meeting's agenda and the work that has been completed by the Task Force.

### Moving Forward:

- Nathan Weed: Once we submit the report, our work will be finished. There is interest in continuing certain aspects of our work. The Department of Health and the Ruckelshaus Center will continue certain projects, but those projects won't be associated with the AAR Task Force. It's important to recognize that the AAR Task Force will dissolve.
- Adam Wasserman: The report will be reviewed by multiple organizations before being finalized. Once finalized, the report will be sent to the Legislature.
- Angie Hinojos: Centro Cultural Mexicano will be working with the Department of Health to complete certain projects in Western Washington. It's important that the Task Force sees the full report. I cannot read sections of the report. Things read differently in different orders. The report contains issues that I've already raised. The report blames Latinos for things that were placed on us. I'm shocked that the data from the Latino Center for Health Report was twisted in this way. We need the full report.
- Winona Hollins Hauge: The draft report should be sent to us. We should review each section of the report and see how the sections align. We are currently generalizing comments and information. You (the project leads) need to course correct.
- Samantha Louderback: I want to echo Angie's comment regarding the full report. Will the members of the Task Force be included in the Appendix?
- Brandy Welch: We are completing another draft, which we will send Friday. We recognize that sending the report in sections made the report difficult to read.
- Adam Wasserman: The Department of Health, the Military Department, and the Ruckelshaus Center decided to send the report in sections. We will send a report that you can read. We want to ensure that you can send us feedback.



- Nathan Weed: I'm sorry that this decision has caused folks to feel stressed. This decision has resulted in some highly specific feedback, which has been very helpful.
- Brandy Welch: I haven't heard the conversations that have taken place. I don't want to change the information that I've been given. I will rely on you for edits.

### **Breakout Groups:**

Phyllis Shulman invited the participants to discuss the following questions in breakout groups. Notes from the breakout groups can be viewed on Slides 7 – 13.

- How can we leverage opportunities?
- How can we maintain momentum and move forward?
- What are the best ways to promote change?

### **Group Discussion:**

- Angie Hinojos: We talked about Community Collaboratives, which will fold into the pandemic response. We also talked about how information and learning can be informed by communities. All sectors need improved communication. Integrated communication models have worked well, but there is variability. We also talked about different types of emergency preparedness. Hazard plans must be adaptable and can't always be ultra-specific. Due to the global nature of the pandemic, materials and other resources were hard to come by. What role can government organizations play in helping community organizations? Government organizations can facilitate relationships between community and corporate partners.
- Kevin Baker: Community organizations are expected to solve these issues. The government created and maintained laws that created these issues. I'm wondering about the government's role in fixing things.
- Adam Wasserman: It's important to report back to our communities and organizations. We can solicit feedback and create change. We are looking for "low-hanging fruit," such as data-sharing agreements between state agencies.
- Ron Weaver: We talked about workforce shortages. There are issues around incentivizing staffing and hiring plans. For example, regulatory barriers impact the recruitment and retention of hospital staff.
- Nari Heshmati: We can make positive impacts without flashy technology. In healthcare, some resources have degraded since the pandemic. How can we leverage telehealth programs and deliver trainings to medical professionals?



- Sudhir Oberoi: A technical report won't reach all groups. Taking a multimedia approach will reach more groups. Will this report explain that more work needs to be done? Some work needs to be addressed outside of the Task Force.
- Winona Hollins Hauge: We should have collective representation that includes an equity lens. Who will ensure that the report doesn't just "sit on a shelf"? I'm very disturbed that equity was not included in the initial intention behind the report. People are struggling to incorporate something (equity) that should have been included from the beginning of the Task Force.
- Adam Wasserman: We will brief multiple committees of the Legislature. We will get some traction there. The state agencies will take the report back to their organizations.
- Nathan Weed: The Legislature will engage us in briefings and discussions. Not all agencies are "response agencies" that use after-action reports to drive decisions. Response agencies will use the report to inform improvement planning processes.
- Angie Hinojos: Community leaders should tell their stories themselves. Any of us who have participated in the Task Force would like to be included.
- Winona Hollins Hauge: We have an opportunity to course-correct before the report is finalized. I would be willing to help with storytelling. I don't get paid, but I would be willing to assist. Expediting the equity pieces will be important. The pandemic removed the band-aid from existing wounds. That statement needs to be clear. We should be taking advantage of the special legislative session. The pandemic had vast implications for community safety, public health, and housing issues. Some community members became change makers. One example is Washington Equity Now.
- Carina Elsenboss: We've tried to acknowledge change makers in King County. We should acknowledge change makers in the report. Many contributions and learnings came from community members.
- Winona Hollins Hauge: Every aspect of the report was supposed to incorporate equity. Did that happen? It was the responsibility of the project leads to make that happen.
- Adam Wasserman: We have worked to make equity a common thread.

### **Adjourn:**

Phyllis Shulman thanked the participants for attending the meeting. Phyllis reminded the participants of the next meeting on Thursday, June 22 from 9:00 – 12:00.



## Attachment A: Attendees

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Bacon	Melanie	Island County
Dolack	Kerstyn	Washington State Military Department
Dym	Stacy	Arc of Washington
Elsenboss	Carina	Seattle & King County Public Health
Fox	Chandra	Spokane County Emergency Management
Heshmati	Nariman	Everett Clinic
Hinojos	Angie	Centro Cultural Mexicano
Hollins Hauge	Winona	Central Area Senior Center
Hunter	Brandi	Innovative Emergency Management
Lawrence	Faatima	Catholic Community Services of Western Washington
Louderback	Samantha	Washington Hospitality Association
McCluskey	Brendan	King County Emergency Management
Mueller	Martin	Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Nichols	Travis	Washington State Department of Health
Oberoi	Sudhir	Washington State Department of Licensing
Peaks	Nomi	Washington State Department of Health
Probasco	Brianne	Washington Association for Community Health
Stoutenburg	Matt	Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner
Wasserman	Adam	Washington State Military Department
Weaver	Ron	Washington State Department of Health
Weed	Nathan	Washington State Department of Health
Welch	Brandy	Innovative Emergency Management
Wilburn	Hazel	The William D. Ruckelshaus Center

### **Facilitators:**

Kevin Baker, Kevin Baker Consulting  
Kevin Harris, The William D. Ruckelshaus Center  
Phyllis Shulman, The William D. Ruckelshaus Center  
Christina Sanders, WSU Division of Governmental Studies and Services