

CAN Community Council Notes  
 December 18, 2024, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm  
 Zoom Video Conference

**Attendees:** Craig McNary, Nancy Gilliam, Ara Merjanian, Sona Shah, Caroline Reynolds, Donovan DePriest

**CAN Staff:** Jelina Tunstill, Raul Alvarez, Carlos Soto

**Guests:** None

<p><b>Call to Order</b></p>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 11:38 am. A quorum was present.</p>
<p><b>Approval of minutes from the September 16 and November 18, 2024 Meeting</b></p>	<p>The September 16, 2024 and November 16, 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Ara and a second by Nancy.</p>
<p><b>Community Council Chair’s Report</b></p>	<p><b>Summary:</b> Craig shared that the Building a Person-Centered Community Report was shared with the Board and there weren’t any suggestions for change. Raul added that we needed the approval from the Board to formally release the report, so we will be discussing the release later in this meeting.</p> <p><b>Comments and Suggestions:</b> Ara added that Commissioner Travillion suggested that with the new administration there are groups of marginalized populations that are worried for their well being and his concern was if we’d be able to maintain a person-centered community in the midst of that change. Ara stated that we need to keep that in mind as we plan our forums throughout the year.</p>
<p><b>Executive Director’s Report</b></p>	<p><b>Summary:</b> Raul shared that CAN presented the Strategic Plan for 2025-2027 to the Board, but there wasn’t time for discussion, so that will be covered during the January meeting. The 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary will start with a 30-day Mental Wellness Challenge on social media in partnership with Contigo Wellness. Late march we have our annual celebration. This year Raul wants the organization to create an award to celebrate transformational projects that would allow our partners to be recognized. We are also doing virtual and online forums with Leonor Vargas. Our online forums will be on Facebook Live. Last, he stated that the Dashboard Steering Committee is working on new indicators to add to the Dashboard, and they are on the final steps before they look for approval from the Board.</p> <p><b>Comments and Suggestions:</b> Caroline asked what the priorities are for CAN moving forward. Raul stated that CAN will continue to focus on mental health and economic equity. The Strat Plan focused heavily on internal and external relationships, capacity building, and regionalism.</p>



<p><b>Building a Person-Centered Community Report Update</b></p>	<p><b>Summary:</b> Jelina shared the outline for 2025 CAN events. She shared that CAN is proposing the Building a Person-Centered Community Report release event be held on the day of the regular February Community Council meeting and at the same time. She stated we could invite the community to the meeting, talk about the strategies and how they can be used.</p> <p><b>Comments and Suggestions:</b> Craig asked if it would be in person or virtual. Jelina answered virtually so we would be able to record. Jelina shared that we have had large events virtually before and were able to manage security well through registrations. Sona suggested having an organization to share how to implement these strategies at the event. Raul added that we have done events for other publications CAN releases, like the Dashboard, so this is a way to engage around the report but could lend itself to further dialogue. Ara echoed other members comments and expressed concern over having an in person event during flu season. He also suggested inviting the attendees of the first PCC summit.</p>
<p><b>Workplan Discussion</b></p>	<p><b>Summary:</b> Jelina shared that the consensus last meeting was to have 3-4 State of the Safety Net Forums and then also focus on the “expanding our full potential” and “we are safe just and engaged” sections of the Dashboard to select those forum topics. The in-between months would be used to review existing plans to compare what we are hearing to what is included in the community plans. She shared that overlaid with the existing CAN schedule of events, CAN is proposing 3 Community Council events: the report release in February, a forum in May and another forum in August. She asked the group how they felt about the timing of the events. Everyone agreed the timing would work.</p> <p><b>Comments and Suggestions:</b> Ara wanted to clarify how we would accomplish the 3-4 forums. Jelina explained that this work could continue into 2026. Raul suggested starting with 2 and seeing if there was something missing or shift gears to focus on a specific topic. Ara suggested using the report release to publicize the forums and poll for topics of interest. He also suggested moving the August forum to September. Craig felt that either August or September would work. He stated that as far as renaming, he suggested Solutions to Barriers. Sona shared that an important focus could be marginalized communities that’ll be impacted by the next administration. Regarding renaming, Raul suggested having more positive language in the name. Craig stated that it needs to be catchy and descriptive. He stated we could be asset-minded and truthful. Pathways to Success were suggested as another suggestion for a name. Ara asked how much we want these forums connected to what CAN is doing. Raul explained that we have Pathways to Mental Healing and Expanding Opportunity for our current events. The chat shared that a subtitle will be needed regardless of what name we chose. Ara suggested asking the Board for their opinion about naming the forums as a way to lock in interest and participation.</p> <p><b>Follow-up:</b> Bring names to the Executive Committee. Finalize names in January Community Council meeting.</p>

<b>Adjourn</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm
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