



Cuyahoga County Women's Health Commission

AGENDA

Thursday, February 19, 2026 | 9:00 AM

VIRTUAL

The public may also view the meeting via live-stream by using the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/cuyahogacounty>

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Moment of Silence and Reflection**
- 4. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**
- 5. Public Comment**
- 6. New Business**
 - a. Overview of Issue Brief – Center for Community Solutions
 - b. Committee Reports
 - i. Mental Health
 - ii. Physical Health
- 7. Next Meeting**
 - a. May 28 at 9am
- 8. Adjournment**



Cuyahoga County Women's Health Commission

MINUTES

Thursday, December 4, 2025 | 3:00 PM

Administrative Headquarters, 2079 E. Ninth Street

4th Floor – Committee Room B

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Tenille Kaus at 3:07pm

2. Roll Call

In attendance: Heather Brissett, County Councilwoman Yvonne Conwell, Dr. Melanie Golembiewski, Councilwoman Tenille Kaus, Jazmin Long, David Merriman, LaShon Carson on behalf of Dr. Connie Moreland, Councilwoman Nakeisha Nickerson, Sabrina Roberts on behalf of County Executive Ronayne,

Absent: Dr. Lauren Beene, Emily Campbell, Councilwoman Jasmin Santana, Mayor Kim Thomas

3. Moment of Silence and Reflection

Chair Kaus started the meeting with a moment of silence and reflection in recognition of the contributions and challenges faced by women across the world.

4. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Jazmin Long moved to approve the prior meeting minutes; Councilwoman Conwell seconded. Motion was unanimously approved by all members in attendance.

5. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

6. New Business

a. Period Product Drive Update – Agatha Hickerson

Cleveland Foundation Fellow Agatha Hickerson shared a brief report on the success of the November period product donation drive that was just completed. Overall, more than 16,000 products were collected and more than \$1,000 was donated. All products and financial donations were delivered to Pride Among Daughters and Sisters (PADS), a local nonprofit, to be distributed to women and girls in need throughout our community.

Agatha also shared photos from the collection drive as well as the thanks from representatives at the PADS organization for the partnership and generosity. Agatha also noted that more than 7,000 of the products donated were collected from HHS employees at Jane Edna Hunter. A special word of thanks was extended by the group to David Merriman and his team.

Sabrina Roberts also shared for the record that Emily Cambell and Mayor Thomas led a successful donation drive with their Leadership Cleveland Class and those donations will be added to our total.

b. Committee Reports

i. Mental Health

Jazmin Long shared a brief report of initiatives from the October meeting of the Mental Health Committee. First, she shared an update on the partnership with the Office of Violence Prevention to host a successful Domestic Violence event in October to help empower women throughout the County. She then shared that the group is continuing to focus on the topic of Domestic Violence with an event series in October 2026 that will be led by Councilwoman Conwell. Councilwoman Conwell shared that she is already starting to work on this and more logistics will be nailed down in the new year.

The committee also focused on moving forward the idea of a women's health podcast. The group discussed potential hosts and topics and agreed to flesh out more details at the next committee meeting in January. Additional research is being done regarding what podcasts might already be out there for women.

ii. Physical Health

Dr. Melanie Golembiewski shared a brief report on the initiatives from the October meeting of the Physical Health Committee. The focus of this group is to plan a series of two Women's Health Community Events in 2026 – one will be centered on the East side and one will be centered on the West side. More details and logistics for the events will be nailed down at committee meetings in the new year.

Sabrina Roberts shared that Jasmin Santana has kindly volunteered to be a lead on the West side event and Councilwoman Turner and Mayor Thomas have volunteered as leads for the East side event. A calendar of initiatives was then shared with the commission, laying out all of the initiatives and meeting dates for both committees for 2026 to give a full picture of what the group can expect moving forward. Clerk Bucholtz stated that she will share the full calendar with members following the meeting.

c. SNAP Update – David Merriman

David Merriman shared an update with the commission about changes to SNAP and Medicaid programs as a result of the passing of the federal HB 1. He shared an overview of the impact that the federal shutdown had on our community and the continued impact that the changes to SNAP and Medicaid requirements will have on Cuyahoga County residents. By law, work requirements have changed but the rules are still being written and are not expected to be implemented until Feb. 1st. However, that are expecting between 20,000 and 30,000 residents to be impacted by this change in our community.

David shared that Newcomers in particular have already been heavily impacted and will continue to feel the impacts as these changes continue to be implemented from the federal level. Another group that will be heavily impacted is individuals from 55-64, with the belief being that upwards of 17,000 residents in this range would lose benefits.

Cuyahoga County has continued to communicate with the community about these impending changes and has worked to convene partners for SNAP and Medicaid work groups to focus on helping the community through these transitions. David also shared that County HHS will not be able to add staff to address these issues and we will have to ask for patience from the public as federal rules are written and case loads are readjusted.

Commission members asked a number of clarifying questions about the new work requirements that individuals might now be facing including timing of the 80-hour work requirements, who will be impacted, and what types of activities could qualify. Sabrina Roberts shared a word of thanks on behalf of the Executive to Director Merriman and his team for their outward facing focus during this time for people to be able to ask questions and get help. His team has really been working hard and collaborating partners to serve our residents through this difficult time.

d. Overview of Issue Brief – Center for Community Solutions

The Center for Community Solutions representative was unable to join the meeting today due to illness so the presentation on the Issue Brief will be moved to the agenda for the February meeting.

7. Additional items of business

Councilwoman Conwell shared that she met with Nailah Byrd and Habeebah Grimes of the CACE committee on the topic of how WHC and CACE might be able to work together on some initiatives. Chair Kaus shared that there have been past discussions and collaboration with CACE leadership and the group is open to continuing to explore partnership opportunities as they relate to women's health.

Jazmin Long share that Birthing Beautiful Community has broken ground on their new community health center. She thanked the County for their support and shared excitement for the opportunities that this new center could present for partnership to serve women and families in the community.

8. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held on February 19, 2026 at 9am. A calendar invitation will be sent out by Clerk Bucholtz.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by David Merriman; seconded by Jazmin long. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 3:46pm.