



## **MINORITY HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION FOR YOUTH AMBASSADOR APPOINTMENT**

The Minority Health Advisory Committee (MHAC) invites applications from Minority Youth living in Rhode Island. To apply for Minority Youth ambassadors, ages of applicants should range between 16 to 22 years. The MHAC will appoint up to four Youth Ambassadors to serve on the Advisory Committee for a term of one school year (September 2010-June 2011).

A MHAC Youth Ambassador represents his/her school and community by:

- Attending at least 9 monthly MHAC meetings, held on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 3:00pm-5:00pm. (No meetings in July and August)
- Providing input that surrounds minority health issues, programs and policies, based on their knowledge or experience.
- Undertaking a related project or making a presentation about Minority's health topic in his/her school or community.

The Office of Minority Health at the R.I. Department of Health helps to facilitate access to health information, education and risk reduction activities for racial and ethnic minority communities and to develop policies, plans and tracking systems for ensuring that the needs of these communities are integrated and addressed within all HEALTH programs.

The Minority Health Advisory Committee shall provide direct advice to the Director of Health; and indirect advice to the Department's senior administrators and planners through the Director regarding the health of racial and ethnic minorities.

The Youth Ambassador selection process will be based on applicant's prior experiences, community representation, and on his/her interest and activism in eliminating health disparities, and working to achieve Health Equity.

An interested applicant should:

- (1) Complete a one page application form
- (2) Submit a one-page letter of introduction about himself or herself
- (3) Provide a summary of his/her work or activism related to eliminating health disparities and/or achieving health equity
- (4) Submit a personal letter of reference

10/06/2010

**1. Please check all demographic characteristics that apply:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Female                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino               | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Asia                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American        |  |

**2. As a member of the Minority Health Advisory Committee to the R.I. Department of Health, I am willing to serve on one of the following subcommittees (please check one):**

**A. DATA Subcommittee**

- Identify data needed by MHAC for planning purposes.
- Advise Minority Health Disparities Elimination Database/Report Card development.
- Inform existing Minority Health Data Workgroup at HEALTH.
- Help focus data applications on minority health and health disparity issues.

**B. Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee**

- Coordinate feedback to HEALTH on emergency preparedness will respect to minority populations (includes Pandemic Flu Plan).
- Inform existing emergency preparedness initiatives at HEALTH.
- Provide feedback on emergency preparedness materials developed by HEALTH.
- Make recommendations for preparedness for “special populations”-vulnerable and disenfranchised populations.

**C. Event Planning and Membership Subcommittee**

- Help plan themes, speakers, and agenda for events all year round (i.e. annual meeting, minority health month, and other events as needed.)
- Promote planned events of the Office of Minority Health.
- Work closely with the Office of Minority health staff, help identify communities that should be represented on the minority Health Advisory Committee (MHAC).
- Identify representatives of those communities to apply for MHAC membership.
- Develop a semi-annual recruitment calendar for open seats to be filled in January and July of each year.

**D. Legislative/Advocacy Subcommittee**

- Track state and national legislation impacting minority health.
- Develop working relationships with the Minority legislative Caucus and brief the Caucus quarterly.
- Lead communication campaigns to legislators on topics of concern to MHAC.
- Lead any Minority Health advocacy campaign.
- Produce templates of letters to be sent to legislators on behalf of the MHAC.

10/06/2010