
Sponsor: Public Health

Meeting Date: 7/12/2022

Title: Appointments to the Community Health Services Advisory Committee

File Number: 2022-363

Background and Rationale:

The Saint Paul - Ramsey County Community Health Services Advisory Committee (CHSAC) advises the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and Saint Paul Mayor and City Council on issues related to public health. The CHSAC members attend monthly meetings, which consist of presentations and discussions focused on current public health issues, which may include:

- Identifying priority public health issues based on data, community engagement, professional knowledge and lived experiences. These priority issues provide guidance related to programs and services, action teams and budgetary allocation.
- Working with the department on the development and implementation of the Strategic Plan and Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Serving on department committees such as the Ethics Committee, or panels to review grant applications, public health award recipients, etc.
- Assisting the department in various stages of interview process to fill vacant staff positions.
- Connecting the department to communities, resources, data and insights related to a current or upcoming issue.
- Providing policy recommendations to elected officials on public health issues, such as youth tobacco use and breastfeeding friendly workplaces.

The CHSAC has a total of 13 seats. Appointment terms are two years and staggered 50% each year.

There are eight at-large vacancies on the CHSAC. Recruitment through the county's open appointment process resulted in four applications. On June 8, 2022, the applications were forwarded to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners for review and recommendations.

Additionally, the commissioners held interviews with each applicant, which gave the commissioners the opportunity to engage with and learn more about each applicant beyond just the review of the online applications. On June 16, 2022, three commissioners interviewed the applicants for final recommendation.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

Appoint the following individuals to the Community Health Services Advisory Committee: Rajaram Swaminathan for a term starting July 12, 2022 and ending June 26, 2023; Christiaan A. Van Lierop, Hongyi Lan and John W. Larkin for a term starting July 12, 2022 and ending June 26, 2024.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Reinhardt, seconded by Commissioner McDonough.
Motion passed.

Aye: - 6: Carter, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Absent: - 1: Frethem

By: 

Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board