

**12/9/2021 Meeting Minutes**  
Cook County Commission on Women's Issues  
11/18/ 2021  
9:00 -10:00 a.m.  
Held Virtually on Microsoft Teams meeting

**Present:** Chairperson Audra Wilson, Neha Gill, Vera Davis, Michelle Garcia, Nancy Mott, Danielle Parisi Ruffato, Marjorie Manchen, Hon. Ginger Rugai, Michelle Kohler, Andrea Raila, Dr. Frances Carroll, Trina Janes

**Absent:** Dorian K. Carter, Echelle Mohn, Kelley Nichols-Brown, Susette Lunceford, Rebecca Darr, Claudia Ayala, Dr. Aparna Sen-Yeldandi

I. Call to Order at 9:04am

***Motion to approve minutes Andrea Raila, Seconded by Michelle Garcia;***

***Approved***

***Motion to approve agenda Andrea Raila, Seconded Marjorie Manchen***

***Approved***

II. Debrief Public Hearing

- Discussion on mental health support and Mental Health support phone number
- Michelle Garcia spoke about CESSA law passed and signed into law by Governor Pritzker- supported by Access Living: which requires emergency response operators to refer calls seeking mental and behavioral health support to a new service that can dispatch a team of mental health professionals instead of police, marking a significant change from current policy. CESSA requires these calls be referred to the Department of the Human Services-Division of Mental Health (DMH) for immediate assistance, which can include dispatching mobile mental health units.
- In pre meeting with panelists – co location of services and integrated service health models – important to continue to work and be led by the panelists when developing the recommendations
- Danielle P. Ruffatto happy to help lead putting together recommendations with committee of members.
- Recommendations should include the resource page and be published online, does not need to be long.
- Need for committee to convene to develop process for recommendations, what we did last year was successful.
- Is there a need for a summary of the public hearing? Important to have clear action items in the recommendations.

### III. UHAB Event

- Honoree should not be an elected official, important the honoree is “unsung”
- 25<sup>th</sup> year of Unsung Heroine Awards
- Nomination Forms are open and due 1/27 at 4pm – share on social media, newsletters etc
- At large Commissioners come together review at large nominations and share nominees
- Nominations Excel will be sent out weekly in January
- Graphics to share with nomination form

### IV. Announcements:

- Trina Janes- Volunteers with Refugee Community Connections – run free stores in various locations in Chicago – some of these leaders should be nominated for UHAB
- Applications for CCCWI At-Large appointment are still open
- Critical Race Theory Event – Wed 12/15 Audra Wilson will share information
- Calendar of meetings were sent out

### V. Motion to Adjourn

***Motion to adjourn by Andrea Raila Seconded by Ginger Rugai;  
Approved***