



PRESS RELEASE
June 11, 2020

Contact: Melissa Wojnaroski
(312) 353-8311
mwojnaroski@usccr.gov

Ohio Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces Study:

*Civil Rights and Equity in the Delivery of Medical and
Public Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Ohio*

The Ohio Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene two public meetings to discuss health disparities related to the 2019/2020 COVID-19 pandemic in Ohio. The Committee will consider state and federal responses to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus Pandemic in an examination of health disparities on the basis of race, color, age, disability, or other federally protected categories; access to and delivery of medical and public services; and alternative or remedial policies and practices with the demonstrated potential to address identified concerns. The Committee will hear testimony from medical professionals, advocates, academics, and government officials. Members of the public will be invited to speak during an open comment period near the end of each meeting. The Committee will also accept written testimony submitted to mwojnaroski@usccr.gov by Monday August 24, 2020.

The meetings will take place:

- **Thursday, July 16, 2020** from 12:00pm - 1:30 pm EST online at: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/3e7wk7eqxm9g&eom>
- **Thursday, July 23, 2020** from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm EST online at: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/qimswm0d0zxo&eom>

For **audio** (both meetings), please dial: 800-367-2403 and provide conference ID: 7997507.

Please plan to use **both** the call-in number **and** the above web access links in order to fully participate in the meetings. Persons with hearing impairments may also follow the proceedings by first calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 and providing the Service with the above listed conference call number and conference ID number.

Committee Chair, Diane Citrino said, “Our Committee will add Ohio’s perspective to how COVID-19 has affected different groups of our people and assess the civil rights impact of our response to the pandemic. We look forward to examining the data and reporting our findings.”

The Ohio Committee will issue findings and recommendations in a report to the Commission after all testimony has been received.

#####

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 51 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The Commission: in our 7th decade, a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights. For information about the Commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).