



**HCFA**  
Health Care For All  
MASSACHUSETTS

**PFAC**  
MASSACHUSETTS  
PATIENT & FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCILS  
*Making a Difference in Care*

## PFAC Annual Report Form

Health Care For All (HCFA) advocates for health justice in Massachusetts by working to promote health equity and ensure coverage and access for all. HCFA uses direct service, policy development, coalition building, community organizing, public education and outreach to achieve its mission. HCFA envisions a day when everyone in Massachusetts has the equitable, affordable, and comprehensive care they need to be healthy.

### Why complete an annual report for my PFAC?

Under Massachusetts law, hospital-wide PFACs are required to write annual reports by October 1<sup>st</sup> each year. These reports must be made available to members of the public upon request. As in past years, HCFA is requesting a copy of each report which will be posted on HCFA's website, <https://hcfama.org/pfac/>. HCFA recommends using this template to assist with information collection, as well as the reporting of key activities and milestones.

### What will happen with my report and how will HCFA use it?

We recognize the importance of sharing of information across PFACs. Each year, we:

- make individual reports available online
- share the data so that PFACs can learn about what other groups are doing

### Who can I contact with questions?

Please contact us at [atappan@hcfama.org](mailto:atappan@hcfama.org) or call us at 617-275-2982.

Please email completed forms to [PFAC@hcfama.org](mailto:PFAC@hcfama.org).

**Reports should be completed by October 1, 2021.**

# 2021 Patient and Family Advisory Council Annual Report Form

The survey questions concern PFAC activities in fiscal year 2021 only: (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021).

## Section 1: General Information

### 1. Hospital Name: Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Plymouth, Inc.

NOTE: Massachusetts law requires every hospital to make a report about its PFAC publicly available. HCFA strongly encourages the completion of an individual report for each hospitals-wide PFAC.

#### 1a. Which best describes your PFAC?

- We are the only PFAC at a single hospital – skip to #3 below
- We are a PFAC for a system with several hospitals – skip to #2C below
- We are one of multiple PFACs at a single hospital
- We are one of several PFACs for a system with several hospitals – skip to #2C below
- Other (Please describe):

#### 1b. Will another PFAC at your hospital also submit a report?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

#### 1c. Will another hospital within your system also submit a report?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

### 3. Staff PFAC Co-Chair Contact:

2a. Name and Title: Megan Luizzi, Director Patient Experience & Volunteer Services

2b. Email: mluizzi@bidplymouth.org

2c. Phone: 508-830-2075

Not applicable

### 4. Patient/Family PFAC Co-Chair Contact:

3a. Name and Title: Susan Grassie

3b. Email: suri3940@aol.com

3c. Phone:

Not applicable

### 5. Is the Staff PFAC Co-Chair also the Staff PFAC Liaison/Coordinator?

- Yes – skip to #7 (Section 1) below
- No – describe below in #6

### 6. Staff PFAC Liaison/Coordinator Contact:

6a. Name and Title:

6b. Email:

6c. Phone:

Not applicable

## Section 2: PFAC Organization

**7. This year, the PFAC recruited new members through the following approaches (check all that apply):**

- Case managers/care coordinators
- Community based organizations
- Community events
- Facebook, Twitter, and other social media
- Hospital banners and posters
- Hospital publications
- Houses of worship/religious organizations
- Patient satisfaction surveys
- Promotional efforts within institution to patients or families
- Promotional efforts within institution to providers or staff
- Recruitment brochures
- Word of mouth/through existing members
- Other (Please describe):
- N/A – we did not recruit new members in FY 2020

**8. Total number of staff members on the PFAC: three (3)**

**9. Total number of patient or family member advisors on the PFAC: seven (7)**

**10. The name of the hospital department supporting the PFAC is: Administration**

**11. The hospital position of the PFAC Staff Liaison/Coordinator is: Director of Patient Experience & Volunteer Services**

**12. The hospital provides the following for PFAC members to encourage their participation in meetings (check all that apply):**

- Annual gifts of appreciation
- Assistive services for those with disabilities
- Conference call phone numbers or “virtual meeting” options
- Meetings outside 9am-5pm office hours
- Parking, mileage, or meals
- Payment for attendance at annual PFAC conference
- Payment for attendance at other conferences or trainings
- Provision/reimbursement for child care or elder care
- Stipends
- Translator or interpreter services
- Other (Please describe): Standing agenda time for PFAC feedback from Community
- N/A

### Section 3: Community Representation

*The PFAC regulations require that patient and family members in your PFAC be “representative of the community served by the hospital.” If you are not sure how to answer the following questions, contact your community relations office or check “don’t know.”*

**13. Our hospital’s catchment area is geographically defined as:** Plymouth, Carver, Kingston, Duxbury, Bourne, Sandwich, Wareham, Plympton, Middleboro, Halifax, Pembroke, Marshfield

Don’t know

**14. The racial and ethnic groups in these areas include (please provide percentages; if you are unsure of the percentages check “don’t know”):**

	RACE						ETHNICITY	
	% American Indian or Alaska Native	% Asian	% Black or African American	% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	% White	% Other	% Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	
14a. Our defined catchment area	1%	2%	2%	1%	91%	3%		<input type="checkbox"/> Don’t know
14b. Patients the hospital provided care to in FY 2021								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don’t know
14c. The PFAC patient and family advisors in FY 2021					100%			<input type="checkbox"/> Don’t know

**15. The languages spoken in these areas include (please provide percentages; if you are unsure of the percentages select “don’t know”):**

	Limited English Proficiency (LEP) %	
15a. Patients the hospital provided care to in FY 2021	91%	<input type="checkbox"/> Don’t know
15b. PFAC patient and family advisors in FY 2021		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don’t know

15c. What percentage of patients that the hospital provided care to in FY 2021 spoke the following as their primary language?

	%
Spanish	
Portuguese	
Chinese	
Haitian Creole	
Vietnamese	
Russian	
French	
Mon-Khmer/Cambodian	
Italian	
Arabic	
Albanian	
Cape Verdean	

Don't know

15d. In FY 2021, what percentage of PFAC patient and family advisors spoke the following as their primary language?

	%
Spanish	
Portuguese	
Chinese	
Haitian Creole	
Vietnamese	
Russian	
French	
Mon-Khmer/Cambodian	
Italian	
Arabic	
Albanian	
Cape Verdean	

Don't know

**16. The PFAC is undertaking the following activities to ensure appropriate representation of our membership in comparison to our patient population or catchment area: Our PFAC spent one of our meetings discussing recruitment efforts including ways to reach a more diverse group including those who speak Portuguese. There has been effort in reaching out to BID-Plymouth's hospital interpreter who may**

have suggestions for patients that may be interested. The group also discussed referrals from their communities, and local school systems for potential members.

#### Section 4: PFAC Operations

**17. Our process for developing and distributing agendas for the PFAC meetings (choose):**

- Staff develops the agenda and sends it out prior to the meeting
- Staff develops the agenda and distributes it at the meeting
- PFAC members develop the agenda and send it out prior to the meeting
- PFAC members develop the agenda and distribute it at the meeting
- PFAC members and staff develop agenda together and send it out prior to the meeting. (Please describe below in #17a)
- PFAC members and staff develop agenda together and distribute it at the meeting. (Please describe below in #17a)
- Other process (Please describe below in #17b)
- N/A – the PFAC does not use agendas

17a. If staff and PFAC members develop the agenda together, please describe the process: A standing agenda template that the group developed and agreed upon is used at each meeting. In addition, the upcoming meeting agenda is discussed and issues are added to the standing agenda items as needed. Educational presentations are provided by Hospital staff to PFAC members on a routine basis to provide ongoing education about key hospital issues.

17b. If other process, please describe:

**18. The PFAC goals and objectives for 2021 were: (check the best choice):**

- Developed by staff alone
- Developed by staff and reviewed by PFAC members
- Developed by PFAC members and staff
- N/A – we did not have goals for FY 2020– Skip to #20

**19. The PFAC had the following goals and objectives for 2021: Our goal for 2021 was to continue to engage our PFAC and use their vast experience, knowledge and background with current issues facing our hospital during the pandemic. Our PFAC continued to participate in virtual opportunities and full membership on key committees, including quality improvement and patient safety teams, and governing boards. Including the Institutional Review Board, Patient Care Assessment Committee, Workplace Violence Committee, Patient Rights Committee and Infection Prevention and Control Committee.**

**In continuing with utilizing PFAC in keeping the patient and family voice in the forefront, our PFAC was instrumental in assisting the hospital as we developed new COVID -19 visitation guidelines, virtual visits for family and the development of new signage on the hospital campus to assist patients and visitors with wayfinding.**

**PFAC had two additional opportunities to work with other PFACs across the BILH system by participating in a follow up event on Universal Access Group Crisis Standards of Care engagement in October of 2020 and a forum on the impact of reverse transfers (when patients would be transferred from community hospitals to BIDMC for a procedure or specialty care and then transferred back to their home hospital for the rest of their stay). Both of these forums asked the PFAC to provide feedback and perspectives on how patients may feel about these concepts.**

The perspectives from PFACs across the system is deeply valuable and our PFAC members have commented on having enjoyed participating in broader forums. We look forward to more opportunities to share knowledge and insights with other PFACs.

20. Please list any subcommittees that your PFAC has established: None from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

21. How does the PFAC interact with the hospital Board of Directors (check all that apply):

- PFAC submits annual report to Board
- PFAC submits meeting minutes to Board
- Action items or concerns are part of an ongoing "Feedback Loop" to the Board
- PFAC member(s) attend(s) Board meetings
- Board member(s) attend(s) PFAC meetings
- PFAC member(s) are on board-level committee(s)
- Other (Please describe):
- N/A – the PFAC does not interact with the Hospital Board of Directors

22. Describe the PFAC's use of email, listservs, or social media for communication: The PFAC has a webpage on the hospital's website where Committee information is shared with the community and the community is able to contact the PFAC through an email link on that webpage.

- N/A – We don't communicate through these approaches

### Section 5: Orientation and Continuing Education

23. Number of new PFAC members this year: none

24. Orientation content included (check all that apply):

- "Buddy program" with experienced members
- Check-in or follow-up after the orientation
- Concepts of patient- and family-centered care (PFCC)
- General hospital orientation
- Health care quality and safety
- History of the PFAC
- Hospital performance information
- Immediate "assignments" to participate in PFAC work
- Information on how PFAC fits within the organization's structure
- In-person training
- Massachusetts law and PFACs
- Meeting with hospital staff
- Patient engagement in research
- PFAC policies, member roles and responsibilities
- Skills training on communication, technology, and meeting preparation
- Other (Please describe below in #24a)

N/A – the PFAC members do not go through a formal orientation process

24a. If other, describe: Members of the PFAC recruitment subcommittee meet with the new PFAC members, provide them with an orientation and manual that covers: Hospital physical layout, organizational structure, website, policies and procedures, hospital responses to PFAC recommendations form, meeting structure, meeting minutes, timekeeper, secretary, process for community feedback, portal use, current composition of PFAC members and contact information, previous PFAC projects, current PFAC efforts.

**25. The PFAC received training on the following topics:**

- Concepts of patient- and family-centered care (PFCC)
- Health care quality and safety measurement
- Health literacy
- A high-profile quality issue in the news in relation to the hospital (e.g. simultaneous surgeries, treatment of VIP patients, mental/behavioral health patient discharge, etc.)
- Hospital performance information
- Patient engagement in research
- Types of research conducted in the hospital
- Other (Please describe below in #25a)
- N/A – the PFAC did not receive training

25a. If other, describe: PFAC also received presentations from department leaders on the following:

- Annual Quality and Patient Safety Presentation
- COVID-19 updates including safety protocols and vaccination
- Patient Experience and HCAHPS
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Behavioral Health Updates
- BID-Plymouth Strategic Update

**Section 6: FY 2021 PFAC Impact and Accomplishments**

*The following information concerns PFAC activities in the fiscal year 2021.*

**26. Please share the following information on the PFACs accomplishments and impacts:**

26a. What were the three greatest accomplishments/impacts of the PFAC related to providing feedback or perspective?

Accomplishment/Impact	Idea came from (choose one)
<b>Accomplishment/Impact 1:</b> PFAC Participation with BILH system forums. This provided the voice of a community hospital in larger system programming and provided our PFAC to learn from and engage with other PFAC members from BILH hospitals.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patient/family advisors of the PFAC <input type="checkbox"/> Department, committee, or unit that requested PFAC input



<b>Accomplishment/Impact 2: PFAC assistance with the development of COVID-19 visitation materials for BID-Plymouth website and materials provided to families upon admission including FAQ for families.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient/family advisors of the PFAC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department, committee, or unit that requested PFAC input
<b>Accomplishment/Impact 3:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient/family advisors of the PFAC <input type="checkbox"/> Department, committee, or unit that requested PFAC input

26b. What were the three greatest accomplishments/impacts of the PFAC related to influencing the institution's financial and programmatic decisions?

<b>Accomplishment/Impact</b>	<b>Idea came from (choose one)</b>
<b>Accomplishment/Impact 1: Having representation on BID-Plymouth's Work Place Violence Committee.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient/family advisors of the PFAC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department, committee, or unit that requested PFAC input
<b>Accomplishment/Impact 2:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient/family advisors of the PFAC <input type="checkbox"/> Department, committee, or unit that requested PFAC input
<b>Accomplishment/Impact 3:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient/family advisors of the PFAC <input type="checkbox"/> Department, committee, or unit that requested PFAC input

26c. What were the three greatest accomplishments/impacts of the PFAC related leading/co-leading programs and initiatives?

<b>Accomplishment/Impact</b>	<b>Idea came from (choose one)</b>
<b>Accomplishment/Impact 1: PFAC assisting with community communication around COVID restrictions and visitation.</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patient/family advisors of the PFAC <input type="checkbox"/> Department, committee, or unit that requested PFAC input
<b>Accomplishment/Impact 2:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient/family advisors of the PFAC <input type="checkbox"/> Department, committee, or unit that requested PFAC input
<b>Accomplishment/Impact 3:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient/family advisors of the PFAC <input type="checkbox"/> Department, committee, or unit that requested PFAC input

27. The five greatest challenges the PFAC had in FY 2021:

Challenge 1: Recruitment of new PFAC members

**Challenge 2: Recruitment of diverse members that mirror the community BID-Plymouth serves.**

**Challenge 3: Ensuring continued engagement of PFAC members during continued COVID restrictions (PFAC not being able to enter the hospital, continuation of virtual meetings).**

**Challenge 4: Recruitment of ESL community members for PFAC**

**Challenge 5:**

N/A – we did not encounter any challenges in FY 2021

**28. The PFAC members serve on the following hospital-wide committees, projects, task forces, work groups, or Board committees:**

- Behavioral Health/Substance Use
- Bereavement
- Board of Directors
- Care Transitions
- Code of Conduct
- Community Benefits
- Critical Care
- Culturally Competent Care
- Discharge Delays
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Drug Shortage
- Eliminating Preventable Harm
- Emergency Department Patient/Family Experience Improvement
- Ethics
- Institutional Review Board (IRB)
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) – Sensitive Care
- Patient Care Assessment
- Patient Education
- Patient and Family Experience Improvement
- Pharmacy Discharge Script Program
- Quality and Safety
- Quality/Performance Improvement
- Surgical Home
- Other (Please describe): Workplace Violence Committee, Patient Rights Committee, and Infection Prevention & Control Committee
- N/A – the PFAC members do not serve on these – **Skip to #30**

**29. How do members on these hospital-wide committees or projects report back to the PFAC about their work? Members report out monthly at the PFAC meeting about relevant work and updates from the committees they are involved with. These updates are a standing agenda item for the PFAC monthly meetings.**

**30. The PFAC provided advice or recommendations to the hospital on the following areas mentioned in the Massachusetts law (check all that apply):**

- Institutional Review Boards
- Patient and provider relationships

- Patient education on safety and quality matters
- Quality improvement initiatives
- N/A – the PFAC did not provide advice or recommendations to the hospital on these areas in FY 2020

**31. PFAC members participated in the following activities mentioned in the Massachusetts law (check all that apply):**

- Advisory boards/groups or panels
- Award committees
- Co-trainers for clinical and nonclinical staff, in-service programs, and health professional trainees
- Search committees and in the hiring of new staff
- Selection of reward and recognition programs
- Standing hospital committees that address quality
- Task forces
- N/A – the PFAC members did not participate in any of these activities

**32. The hospital shared the following public hospital performance information with the PFAC (check all that apply):**

**32a. Complaints and serious events**

- Complaints and investigations reported to Department of Public Health (DPH)
- Healthcare-Associated Infections (National Healthcare Safety Network)
- Patient complaints to hospital
- Serious Reportable Events reported to Department of Public Health (DPH)

**32b. Quality of care**

- High-risk surgeries (such as aortic valve replacement, pancreatic resection)
- Joint Commission Accreditation Quality Report (such as asthma care, immunization, stroke care)
- Medicare Hospital Compare (such as complications, readmissions, medical imaging)
- Maternity care (such as C-sections, high risk deliveries)

**32c. Resource use, patient satisfaction, and other**

- Inpatient care management (such as electronically ordering medicine, specially trained doctors for ICU patients)
- Patient experience/satisfaction scores (eg. HCAHPS - Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems)
- Resource use (such as length of stay, readmissions)
- Other (Please describe):
- N/A – the hospital did not share performance information with the PFAC – **Skip to #35**

**33. Please explain why the hospital shared only the data you checked in Q 32 above: N/A**

**34. Please describe how the PFAC was engaged in discussions around these data in #32 above and any resulting quality improvement initiatives: PFAC has offered suggestions for improving patient experience and HCAHPS scores as it relates to MD/RN communication. PFAC shares monthly feedback that they have received in the community about patient safety issues or overall hospital experiences. Many of our PFAC members have vast healthcare experience and are engaged in discussions around patient safety and quality**

improvement efforts. At least two of our meetings last year were dedicated to quality and the patient experience. These discussions include a presentation and then open discussion amongst the group.

**35. The PFAC participated in activities related to the following state or national quality of care initiatives (check all that apply):**

35a. National Patient Safety Hospital Goals

- Identifying patient safety risks
- Identifying patients correctly
- Preventing infection
- Preventing mistakes in surgery
- Using medicines safely
- Using alarms safely

35b. Prevention and errors

- Care transitions (e.g., discharge planning, passports, care coordination, and follow up between care settings)
- Checklists
- Electronic Health Records –related errors
- Hand-washing initiatives
- Human Factors Engineering
- Fall prevention
- Team training
- Safety

35c. Decision-making and advanced planning

- End of life planning (e.g., hospice, palliative, advanced directives)
- Health care proxies
- Improving information for patients and families
- Informed decision making/informed consent

35d. other quality initiatives

- Disclosure of harm and apology
- Integration of behavioral health care
- Rapid response teams
- Other (Please describe):
- N/A – the PFAC did not work in quality of care initiatives

**36. Were any members of your PFAC engaged in advising on research studies?**

- Yes
- No – Skip to #40 (Section 6)

**37. In what ways are members of your PFAC engaged in advising on research studies? Are they:**

- Educated about the types of research being conducted
- Involved in study planning and design
- Involved in conducting and implementing studies
- Involved in advising on plans to disseminate study findings and to ensure that findings are communicated in understandable, usable ways

- Involved in policy decisions about how hospital researchers engage with the PFAC (e.g. they work on a policy that says researchers have to include the PFAC in planning and design for every study)

**38. How are members of your PFAC approached about advising on research studies?**

- Researchers contact the PFAC  
 Researchers contact individual members, who report back to the PFAC  
 Other (Please describe below in #38a)  
 None of our members are involved in research studies

38a. If other, describe:

**39. About how many studies have your PFAC members advised on?**

- 1 or 2  
 3-5  
 More than 5  
 None of our members are involved in research studies

**Section 7: PFAC Annual Report**

*We strongly suggest that all PFAC members approve reports prior to submission.*

**40. The following individuals approved this report prior to submission (list name and indicate whether staff or patient/family advisor):** All PFAC members were provided with this report for review, editing and approval.

**41. Describe the process by which this PFAC report was completed and approved at your institution (choose the best option).**

- Collaborative process: staff and PFAC members both wrote and/or edited the report  
 Staff wrote report and PFAC members reviewed it  
 Staff wrote report  
 Other (Please describe):

**Massachusetts law requires that each hospital's annual PFAC report be made available to the public upon request. Answer the following questions about the report:**

**42. We post the report online.**

- Yes, link: <http://www.bidplymouth.org/annual-reports>  
 No

**43. We provide a phone number or e-mail address on our website to use for requesting the report.**

- Yes, phone number/e-mail address: [dnorris@bidplymouth.org](mailto:dnorris@bidplymouth.org) or 508-830-2006  
 No

**44. Our hospital has a link on its website to a PFAC page.**

- Yes, link: <http://bidplymouth.org/patientfamilyadvisorycouncil>  
 No, we don't have such a section on our website