



Wicomico County Local Health Improvement Coalition Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 2, 2021 @ 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Name:	Wicomico Local Health Improvement Coalition	Meeting Location:	Virtual Meeting
Meeting Date:	Friday, April 2, 2021	Minutes Recorder:	Cathey Insley
Meeting Time:	9:30 a.m.	Minutes Reviewer:	Group

Meeting Attendees and Organizational Representation: Lori Brewster (WiCHD), Cathey Insley (WiCHD), Lisa Renegar (WiCHD), Steve Walas (Encompass Health), Jake Frego (ESAHEC), Mary Beth Waide (DHHHC), Lisa Renegar (WiCHD), Pattie Tingle (MAC Inc), Christine Whitworth (WCDSS), Josh Boston (CHC), Donna Clark (HOPE Inc), Michelle Hardy (WiCHD), Dr. James Cockey (WiCHD), Habacuc Petion (Haitian Community), Joe Ruffo (City of Salisbury)

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
WELCOME	Mary Beth Waide called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and members announced themselves.	
FEBRUARY MINUTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Patti Tingle made a motion to approve February minutes as written, seconded by (inaudible) and carried. <p style="text-align: center;">ACTION: When making an official motion in web/phone meetings, please announce yourself clearly to allow for complete and accurate minutes.</p>	
BYLAWS REVIEW & MISSION/VISION	<p>Article II: Mission is in line with the Health Department mission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The group agreed to adopt the mission as drafted by Lisa (draft shared prior to meeting). <p>Article III: No changes requested.</p> <p>Article IV: No changes requested.</p> <p>Article V, Section 1: Subgroup worked to develop a list of key stakeholders that only reflects the organization sector, but not their individual organization name.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Donna asked that Homeless Service Providers be added, and Lori Brewster suggested adding Insurers since we have had members from this sector in the past. ● Habacuc asked if Faith Based Organizations should be listed separately from Community. ● Michelle Hardy suggested adding Cultural Service Providers. ● Steve Walas suggested possibly combining multiple sectors under a single “Not for Profit” sector. ● Lori Brewster also suggested changing “Local Public School System” to “Education.” <p>Article V, Section 2: Membership interest form was emailed to the group on 4/1/21.</p> <p>Article VI: No changes requested. (Grantor requested that the voting process be included.)</p> <p>Article VII: No changes requested.</p> <p>Article VII: No changes requested.</p> <p>Motion to approve: Donna Clark made a motion to accept with the discussed changes, seconded by Josh Boston, and carried.</p>	<p>ACTION: Lisa will make final changes and publish.</p>

**Subcommittee
Updates**

Lisa Renegar, Health Planner -

2022 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)

Partners for the next round of our CHNA will include Somerset County Health Department, TidalHealth Peninsula Regional, TidalHealth Nanticoke, and Wicomico County Health Department. The geography covered will include the three lower counties and Sussex County, DE. The CHNA will break out data for each jurisdiction. The partners met with consultant Conduent Healthy Communities Institute on 3/23/21 to start planning. The finalized product is projected to be completed by next spring.

The Maryland Community Health Resources Commission (CHRC) LHIC Grant

- DPP HALT has been implemented (see Michelle Hardy's update below)
- There was no response to our letter of interest for the Academic Detailing (AD) consultant. We have reached out to a potential vendor. They have more staff that can be trained for AD, increasing the number of healthcare providers that can be reached. This will increase the Academic Detailing training cost and require a grant modification. Training for AD is sparse and only a few agencies nationally provide it. But evidence shows it is a good strategy to get healthcare providers to use evidence based practices. Funding will be shifted from the WalkWicomico strategies. It would be difficult to implement the walking strategies right now with the Prevention Director position being vacant. We will seek input on the modification from Live Healthy Wicomico.

Live Healthy Wicomico

At our March meeting, Jen Naugle from Tidal Health Peninsula Regional was invited to give a presentation. She is the Cancer Services Operations Manager of Clinical Support for the Richard A. Henson Cancer Institute. Jen has agreed to join LHW. We hope this can help more partnerships around our cancer priority area.

LHW is also looking to update a diabetes resource guide that was last done by the now defunct Tri-County Diabetes Alliance. This will be used as part of the materials for the AD program.

Local Cancer Program update as of the end of March:

Colorectal Cancer Screening and Breast and Cervical Cancer Program continue to assist patients with screening. 18 patients have been case managed through their colonoscopies.

- 39% had precancerous polyps removed
- 89% were minority
- 44% male/56% female
- 11 were new to the program
- Breast and Cervical Cancer program has screened 181 of 371 goal for the fiscal year.
- Additional funding has been warranted for interpretation since 78% of patients are of Hispanic origin.
- Local hospital GI practice is being used routinely, and have noticed referrals are increasing from TidalHealth.
- Continue to provide written materials to the hospital oncology program.
- Attended annual skin cancer screening program at the hospital.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Outreach has been difficult due to the pandemic, but have worked around limitations and have participated in 41 targeted education and outreach events. <p>Michelle Hardy, Wicomico Health LBHA/Prevention</p> <p>Diabetes Prevention Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cohort started March 15th consisting of 8 individuals. ● HALT online platform being utilized. ● Michelle has participated in statewide calls to problem solve program engagement. <p>Behavioral Health Workgroup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting monthly, with active subgroups. ● Data subgroup: Resource was developed and posted on LBHA website. ● MHFA: Moved to a virtual format. ● Harm Reduction and tobacco use prevention/cessation are busy. ● Harm Reduction campaign running on social media, and text campaign ongoing for Narcan training. ● Have had success in Tobacco subgroup. Data has always been there for comorbidity with behavioral health and tobacco use. Data is now being captured. Data subgroup will be working with this group to look at outcomes for these individuals. ● Tobacco Cessation Coordinator has been on television, and has been running ads. Participation has increased due to current campaigns. ● CLAS committee held a “Cultural Diversity at a Glance” training, supported by the LBHA. ● Presenter was Thelma Orr. ● Hope to hold another diversity training in the summer. 	
<p>Partner Updates</p>	<p>Steve Walas, Encompass Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 50% through bed expansion with expectation of 10 additional beds by October 2021, the tentative start date for Encompass’ new nursing unit. ● Encompass routinely takes a percentage of charity cases. During COVID, there has been a noted drop in the number of referrals from the community. Steve made members to be aware that this is an option. Individuals do need to meet Medicare rehab criteria. <p>Alane Capen, Coastal Hospice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coastal Hospice will resume some in-person bereavement groups in May. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Salisbury meetings will be outdoors at the main campus. ○ Worcester will be in a large meeting room in the library with distancing in place. ● Groups are open to all in the community, including those impacted by loss due to COVID. <p>Pattie Tingle, MAC Inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Governor Hogan announced that Senior Centers may reopen after consideration for establishment of vaccination site. 	

- Have been in discussion with the Health Department to establish a vaccination site at the MAC office. Anticipate guidance from the Maryland Department of Aging.
- Alzheimer's Care Conference planned for May 31st.
 - Flyers will be forwarded for the virtual half day conference.

Donna Clarke, HOPE, Inc.

- Normal hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am - 2 pm.
- Seeing an increase in the numbers of people not seeking health care out of fear.
- Many have chronic health issues.
- Documentation assistance ongoing.
- Dental program funds are holding at about \$30,000.
- Currently have about \$25,000 out in promissory letters.
- Have seen an increase in referrals from TidalHealth Oncology for dental treatment/extractions.
- Appointment scheduling has been difficult with the change in provider staff at Chesapeake Dental. Appointments are being scheduled out to June.
- Having a similar issue with Dr. Asher.
- Have been using the University of Maryland Dental Clinic, which comes with transportation problems.
- Americorp volunteer has been a huge asset with the cold weather shelter and with assisting clients in getting benefits they are entitled to. (food stamps, medical assistance, etc.) Has been helpful for this population that don't have access to online applications through Social Services since they are not at full service level.
- Michelle Hardy reminded Donna that if they have a dental client with a substance use disorder, LBHA Harm Reduction Funds that may be available to assist them.

Josh Boston, Chesapeake Health Care

- Recruiting for dentists, which has been a more difficult process than in the past.
- Mental Health is expanding.
- Currently 250 waiting for intake, about 4 months out. Working to recruit therapists, as well.
- Primary Care visits are down.
- Seeing a lot of no shows, and hesitancy to visit the office.
- Pediatric department is also down about 25%, posing concerns about immunizations, malnutrition, and potential issues around child abuse, with pediatricians not being able to lay eyes on children.
- Outreach ongoing to get patients in the office.
- Brittney Yerkes, a Physician Assistant that specializes in HIV, has joined Chesapeake Health Care Internal Medicine.
- Working with UMES, and now have a specialty pharmacist, managing HIV cases.

Jake Frego, Eastern Shore Area Health Education Center

- Continuing programs virtually.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children’s oral health program is going very well virtually. ● Health Careers program directed at high school students will be offered virtually, as well. <p>Joe Ruffo, City of Salisbury Homeless Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Joe asked if there is a timeline for opening Social Services to the public? ● There is also a need to connect with the Social Security Administration, if anyone has any resource/contact. <p>Christine Whitworth, Social Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paper applications are available in the office for food stamps and medical assistance. ● There is always someone at the desk. ● Christine followed up with the Assistance Director for FIA and was advised that customers can contact Maryland Hunger Solutions for assistance by phone at 1 (866) 821-5552. ● Social Services is also willing to mail applications to individuals. 	
NEXT MEETING	Friday, June 4, 2021 @ 9:30 a.m. (VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE ANNOUNCED)	
ADJOURNMENT	Steve Walas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alane Capen. The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 am.	