



Wicomico County Local Health Improvement Coalition Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 4, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Name:	<i>Wicomico Local Health Improvement Coalition</i>	Meeting Location:	<i>Virtual Meeting</i>
Meeting Date:	<i>Friday, February 4, 2021</i>	Minutes Recorder:	<i>Cathey Insley</i>
Meeting Time:	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	Minutes Reviewer:	<i>Group</i>
Meeting Attendees and Organizational Representation	<i>Mary Beth Waide (DHHC), Lisa Renegar (WiCHD), Nicole Acle (Wico County Council), Lori Brewster (WiCHD), Mae Esh (Holly Center), Tammy Griffin (WiCHD), Habacuc Petion (Rebirth Inc), Josh Boston (Chesapeake Healthcare), Christina Gray (WiCHD), Dhruvi Patel (UM Cooperative Extension), Jill Kenney (MAC, Inc.), Katherine Rodgers (TidalHealth), Tasha Jamison (WiCHD), Christina Bowie-Simpson (Wicomico Opioid Coordinator), Claire Otterbein (UWLES), Lisa Renegar (WiCHD), Cathey Insley (WiCHD), Dr. James Cockey (WiCHD), Nate Sansom (City of Salisbury), Tara Wampler (Aetna Medicaid)</i>		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
WELCOME	Mary Beth called the meeting to order at 9:30 and in the interest of time asked that anyone attending by phone announce themselves; members joining by Google meet appear on the screen.	
December Minutes	Kat Rodgers made a motion to approve December minutes, seconded by Mae Esh. December minutes approved.	Cathey will add to website.
Priority Area Review	<p>Christina Gray, Epidemiologist (Wicomico County Health Department)</p> <p>CHNA focused on both primary and secondary data collection.</p> <p>Primary: Focus Groups, Key Informant Interviews, Resident Surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Looked at challenges from COVID-19, health needs and issues, barriers to accessing care, identifying areas with greater needs, strengths and resources and perception of health. <p>Secondary: Risk factor information, disease prevalence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shows where changes occurred <p>12 health needs emerged as significant, with Mental Health, Diabetes, Alcohol shown as the largest issues in this survey cycle. (1 Access to Health Care Services, 2 Mental Health/Mental Disorders, 3 Nutrition/Healthy Eating/Physical Activity/Weight Status, 4 Alcohol & Drug Use, 5 Diabetes, 6 Other/Chronic Conditions/Older Adults, 7 Cancer, 8 Crime, 9 Homelessness/Unstable Housing, 10 Heart Disease & Stroke, 11 Oral Health, 12 Prevention/Safety)</p> <p>The ability to impact each issue allows identification of the areas of need we are most able to change.</p> <p>Proposed Priority Areas, in no particular order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Behavioral Health: Priority area status remains unchanged from 2019 based on overdose deaths, ED 	

	<p>encounters, youth suicide risk factors, and treatment outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chronic Disease and Wellness: Priority area status is modified based on diabetes prevention and mortality, heart disease prevention and mortality, weight status, nutrition and food access, physical activity, hypertension and cholesterol. ● Access and Health Equity: Priority area status is new/defined. Examples include median household income, insurance status, education, and use of CHWs in care coordination. <p>Addressing potential concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cancer: Some risk factors for cancer overlap with chronic disease. Wellness could capture preventative screening for colon, prostate. ● COVID-19: All three priorities are strongly impacted by COVID. It is important to measure progress from COVID baseline. ● Older Adults: Considered a priority population, measures specific to older adults can be incorporated across all priority areas in the CHIP. 	
<p>Priority Area Vote</p>	<p>Lisa Renegar, Health Planner (Wicomico County Health Department)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lisa posted the Priority Area voting poll live in the meeting and provided instruction on how to vote. Health Department staff were asked to refrain from voting, other than our one voting member. ● Nicole asked when the last needs assessment was completed. (2016) Nicole posed the question that if we are identifying the same issues, are we looking at the areas in too broad a scope? ● Lisa answered that in previous years there were more focus areas. ● Mary Beth noted that positive changes regarding stigma with behavioral health may make it appear as more of an issue, when it may actually be that individuals are more willing to share their challenges. ● Kat added that it is important to focus on priority areas where we are able to make change. Focusing on them continually doesn't necessarily mean we haven't "moved the needle" but continually building on the interventions from year to year. ● Priority 1: 13 votes to approve as written. ● Priority 2: 9 votes to approve as written. 1 person (Kat Rodgers) voted to approve with modifications to wording on prevention of chronic disease through healthy eating, and active lifestyles. ● Priority 3: 11 votes to approve as written. ● The proposed priority areas were accepted. ● CHNA will be finalized with the three priority areas. Late April is the timeline for completion. 	<p>Kat to email Lisa suggested wording.</p>
<p>Co-Chair Nominations and Voting</p>	<p>Lisa Renegar, Health Planner (Wicomico County Health Department)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lisa accepted Co-Chair nominations electronically prior to the meeting, and three individuals accepted their nominations: Mary Beth Waide, Katherine Rodgers, Habacuc Petion. ● Virtual poll vote was held, with Kat Rodgers (TidalHealth) and Habacuc Petion (Rebirth, Inc) elected. ● Nicole thanked the coalition for the support during her tenure as Co-Chair, and thanked Mary Beth. ● Lisa thanked both Mary Beth and Nicole for their service to the coalition. 	

Community Health Improvement Plan

Tasha Jamison, COAT Program Supervisor (Wicomico County Health Department)

- COVID has limited access, particularly Deputy rides, hospital access.
- Hospital ED staff have been helpful in running phones to individuals in the ED.
- Staffing has also been an issue.
- COAT Team has had contact with 193 different individuals. Of those 193, 150 were Wicomico residents.
- 63% of the 150 Wicomico residents have accessed the treatment center of their choice. (National average has been only 20, so this number is outstanding.) These numbers do not include individuals presenting at the Safe Station.
- 43 individuals served from other counties; 51% of those individuals have accessed treatment services.
- An additional 20 times, COAT has assisted individuals that have already been helped with seeking treatment services.
- 43% of individuals encountered report alcohol as drug of choice and 35% report heroin or other opiates.
- Successes: numbers are the biggest success.
- New programs and resources i.e. Overdose notification from the hospital.
- Habacuc asked how LEP individuals seek services. Tasha explained that the Language Line is utilized. Finding providers is more difficult; have identified a treatment provider that offers services in Spanish.
- Crissy added that while it is not treatment linkage, LHBA has a Spanish speaking Narcan trainer, and the LBHA is also developing a resource index that will be translated into Spanish, Haitian Creole and Korean.

Christina Bowie-Simpson, Opioid Coordinator (Wicomico County)

- Crissy shared the Opioid Intervention Team progress and challenges.
- The Opioid Intervention Team has provided 18 Narcan trainings this fiscal year.
- Partnered with vaccination clinics to provide training while individuals wait post vaccination.
- First responder appreciation dinner is planned for April. Currently seeking speakers.
- Overdose fatality review team is now also reviewing non-fatal overdose cases.
- ODTA grant: individual has been hired to assist the overdose coordinator to assist in reviewing data. This individual also provides academic detailing.
- Continue to offer continuing education for providers.
- Partnered with Wor-Wic to offer CEUs for seminar with Dr. DiClemente.
- Final attendance numbers not in yet.
- Lori asked if additional training will be offered for those that weren't able to attend the last session. Crissy is working with Michelle Hardy to offer another session.
- Go Purple Campaign Year 4 planning underway with a kickoff event in August at Shorebirds stadium.
- Will partner with Somerset and Worcester again for this event.
- Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) is a partnership of the health department WCSAO and Salisbury Police Department.
- Referrals are starting to come in, and have been successful in providing resources and reducing recidivism through this intensive case management program.
- Uses a harm reduction framework format.

Speaker suggestions to Crissy.

	<p>Sustainable Change and Lifestyle Enhancement (SCALE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lisa shared SCALE data since the coordinator was unable to attend the meeting. ● Somerset county is the lead for both counties. Coordinator is retiring as of February 4th. ● Unable to provide a class in Wicomico. ● Grant extended through June 2021. 	
	<p>Kat Rodgers, Director of Community Health Initiatives (TidalHealth Peninsula Regional Hospital)</p> <p>Priority 1: Behavioral Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SWIFT 1.0 (nurse led model) served 15 patients the first 2 quarters of this year; total caseload of 180+ ● Within 1 month of these 15 individuals being enrolled in SWIFT have seen a decrease of ~\$24,000 in hospital charge, decrease of ~\$9,000 in ED charges, and a decrease of 87% in ED visits, and decrease of 54% in total visits. ● SWIFT 2.0 adds an MDCN team that responds to low acuity calls in real time. Launched August 2021. ● In the first 2 quarters of this fiscal year, the team has responded to 169 calls to 911. ● 100 calls were appropriate for the program. 64 consented to MDCN as opposed to being transported to the ED, resulting in a \$140,600 ED visit savings. ● 128 of these patients were SWIFT 1.0 patients that were case managed rather than going to the ED ● Telehealth/Smith Island: ● 29 in person patient visits from July - December 2021, twice a week. ● Winter has been challenging since providers typically take the boat to the island, and internet/phone service is too poor for telehealth. ● Services are provided by a Nurse Practitioner, Pharmacist, a Physician, and soon will add a diabetes educator. ● Data is from January - November 2021 due to a staff member out on leave. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 9 telehealth visits, 66 office visits, 65 labs, 19 med refills, 49 flu shots, 29 allergy shots, 62 blood pressure checks, 57 COVID vaccinations, and 58 COVID tests. <p>Priority 2: Diabetes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TidalHealth’s intervention is the Mobile Community Wellness Team and the Wagner Wellness Van. ● 55 community based events from July 1 - December 31, 2021. ● 35 of these events were in Wicomico County. ● Services: 8 diabetes risk assessments, 31 blood pressure screenings, 702 flu shots, 110 COVID shots. ● Van resumed Tuesday screenings in November at HOPE, Inc and Salisbury Urban Ministries. 	<p>Kat will provide updated data when the staff member returns.</p>
	<p>Jill Kenney, MAC, Inc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Acquired a tablet loaner library. Tablets are through wireless companies. No internet access required. ● Tablets are preloaded with Chrome, Webex meet, Zoom, and apps that address the priority areas. ● Has greatly increased access to MAC’s education and programs during COVID; has solved the 	

	<p>transportation issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MAC staff can deliver the tablets to participants and provide in person tablet use instruction. ● Have seen an increase in individuals participating from outlying areas of the county. ● Has increased social engagement. ● Data is collected through evidence based programs. Residence, race, insurance status, chronic conditions are collected. ● 69% of individuals participating report having diabetes. ● PEARLS evidence based program is for older adults presenting with mild depression tied to a health diagnosis or loss of pet, etc. The 19 week program is offered individually through licensed facilitators, overseen by a psychiatrist. Seeing a 72% improvement in PHQ9 scores after completing the program. ● Jill thanked MAC’s partners at the health department and the hospital. ● Maryland Access Point - sending referrals directly to them. 	
<p>Subcommittee Updates</p>	<p>Subcommittee Updates (Lisa Renegar, Wicomico County Health Department)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Behavioral Health Workgroup is meeting and working on their annual plan. ● Sent a poll asking for feedback on their priorities. ● Live Healthy Wicomico Group continues to meet. ● CHRC LHIC grant: Tammy Griffin met with the consultant that will be providing evaluation of the DPP program. <p>Tammy Griffin (Wicomico County Health Department)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Received funding from BC/BS for diabetes prevention. Collaborating with Somerset County on initiatives to increase the reach. ● Meeting with partners to determine how to adjust funding, best meet goals. 	
<p>Partner Updates</p>	<p>Kat Rodgers (TidalHealth Peninsula Regional)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The hospital is a finalist for CHRC health equity funding; will find out February 15th. ● Only a few modifications were requested after the proposal was submitted. ● If awarded, will be able to support DPP. ● Tammy will touch base with Kat re: Food Pharmacy. ● The hospital is coming out of Crisis standard of care, with hospitalizations decreasing. ● Continue to provide antibody treatments. ● Encourage vaccination, continued masking and handwashing. ● COVID testing at the Hospital is open Tuesday - Saturday. ● Run by the State, on hospital grounds off of Waverly Drive (old Vine Street) in a white metal outbuilding. ● Self testing assisted by the National Guard. ● Test turnaround time is 24 - 48 hours. <p><i>Dr. Cockey asked what monoclonal antibody treatment the hospital is using, and do they have an adequate supply?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kat shared that the pharmacy receives their supply from the state. May offer multiple treatment types. Kat will follow up. 	<p>Kat will email Dr. Cockey the</p>

	<p><i>Dr. Cockey understands that Paxlovid has been in short supply and wondered if any members know if this is becoming easier to obtain.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No members had an immediate answer. 	<p>treatment the hospital is using.</p>
	<p>Habacuc Petion (Rebirth Inc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Habacuc thanked the group for nominating and installing him as the new Co-Chair of the LHIC, and stated that he looks forward to working with Kat. Also thanked Mary Beth and Nicole for their services. <p>Mary Beth Waide (Deer’s Head Hospital Center)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US News and World Report lists Deer’s Head in the top 13% in the country for best practices for their type of facility. ● The only facility on the shore on the list. ● 3rd year they have made the top 15%. Pleased to be able to maintain this status with all of the challenges COVID has brought, to be able to maintain outcomes. 	
<p>Health Officer Updates</p>	<p>COVID:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wicomico’s positivity rate is declining; not at the same rate as the state. ● Testing demand and at home test kit demand have declined after the holidays. ● Continue to test 2 days a week and vaccinate 2 days a week. ● Have seen a slight uptick in vaccinations in the last few weeks. ● Planning for vaccine rollout for ages 6 months to 4 years. Meeting February 15th to approve, and anticipate starting vaccinations for this age group later this month. <p>Legislative Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Following a bill that makes it a crime to threaten or harass health care workers. ● A couple of Health Officers from other jurisdictions have testified in support. ● Some health officers have received significant threats to them and their families that required them leaving their homes. <p>Health Officers Recognized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In December, the Baltimore Sun announced that Maryland’s 24 Health Officers were voted Marylanders of the Year. ● Secretary Schrader’s response to the Baltimore Sun article, which includes the original article and photo. 	
<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.</p>	
<p>NEXT MEETING</p>	<p>Friday, April 1, 2022 @ 9:30 AM (VIRTUAL) https://meet.google.com/rmy-cgaw-ngz or call 1(862) 295-2214 PIN: 314 793 458#</p>	