



## Wicomico County Local Health Improvement Coalition Meeting Minutes

### Friday, February 7, 2020 @ 9:30 a.m.

<b>Meeting Name:</b>	Wicomico Local Health Improvement Coalition	<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Greater Salisbury Building Conf. Room
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Friday, February 7, 2020	<b>Minutes Recorder:</b>	Cathey Insley
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	9:30 a.m.	<b>Minutes Reviewer:</b>	Group

**Meeting Attendees and Organizational Representation:** Tuesday Trott (Holly Center), Mae Esh (Holly Center), Michelle Hardy (Wicomico LBHA), Thomas Tucker (CEC), Dhruvi Patel (UM Ext.), Steve Walas (Encompass Health), Jim Cockey (WiCHD), Rochelle Tyler (PRMC), Catherine Raley (SBDC), Habacuc Petion (Rebirth, Inc.), Pattie Tingle (MAC, Inc.), Darian Iverson (MAC, Inc.), Cathey Insley (WiCHD), Keirsten Baker (DHHC), Melinda MATtox (CHC), Jason Sammons (WiDSS), Anna Shao (UM CHL), Camilla Obasiolu (UM CHL), Lisa Renegar (WiCHD), Cara Rozaieski (WiCHD), Lori Brewster (WiCHD), Doug Wilson (RRC), Dolores Strahl (MAC, Inc.), Donna Clark (HOPE, Inc.), Mark Danderson (Community), Jennifer Berkman (ESAHEC)

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>WELCOME</b>	Lori Brewster called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. With several new members in attendance, self introductions were made.	
<b>MINUTES</b>	Pattie Tingle made a motion to approve December minutes as written, seconded by Steve Walas and carried.	
<b>PRESENTATION</b>	<p><b>Dolores Stroll, PEARLS Program Coordinator, MAC, Inc.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives (PEARLS) for adults with depression.</li> <li>● No charge to participants due to grants and partnership with hospitals.</li> <li>● Program provides 8 peer counseling visits of 1 hour each.</li> <li>● Can see individuals at the MAC Center, or in their homes.</li> <li>● Start with identifying problems, and help with problem solving.</li> <li>● Exclusions: None with serious mental disorders, substance abusers, or those with cognitive impairment.</li> <li>● Local success rate: 55% in depression remission. 77% still showing positive benefits after one year.</li> <li>● Call the MAC Center to enroll. Doctors, hospitals and home care agencies can refer individuals as well.</li> <li>● Currently at 52 active programming. 3 peer counselors work part time.</li> <li>● Dhruvi asked about the service area: Locally seeing anyone that the hospital serves. Have seen some from Delaware and some from Dorchester.</li> <li>● Jenn asked if there is a group component for the social aspect; Currently there is not.</li> <li>● Mae asked the average age of participants. Dolores estimates most are in their 70s and 80s.</li> <li>● Cara asked if volunteer match would be beneficial.</li> </ul>	
<b>LBHA Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Michelle Hardy, LBHA Director presented the final draft of LBHA Goals for approval.</li> <li>● LBHA is charged with integration of MH and Addictions.</li> <li>● Last year scored 2.4 on 1-3 scale for level of integration.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This year self-scored at 2.8. Scored 3 in every area except for workforce, which is out of the LBHA’s control.</li> <li>● Doug Wilson made a motion to approve, seconded by Tuesday Trott and carried.</li> <li>● Jenn asked about how AHEC could help specifically?</li> <li>● Lori asked what LHIC can do to support.</li> </ul> <p style="color: red;">ACTION: Cathey will share last year's letter of support with Mary Jo to update for this year.</p>	
<p><b>Health Officer Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Coronavirus Updates</b> as of the last conference call on February 5th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Originated in Wuhan, China. The physician that informed the public has now died from the virus.</li> <li>● As of today there are known cases in Washington, California, Arizona, Illinois, Massachusetts, and Wisconsin.</li> <li>● The US has had person to person transmission in a husband/wife where one spouse traveled to China.</li> <li>● WHO declared a global health emergency and the US has declared a public health emergency.</li> <li>● 28 countries affected, and travel restrictions and quarantine orders have been issued.</li> <li>● In the US there are 260 Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) being tested, which is only done at the CDC.</li> <li>● Of 260 PUIs in the US, 12 were positive. 167 were negative. There are PUIs in 36 states as of February 5th.</li> <li>● 61 from a recent cruise off the coast of Japan have tested positive.</li> <li>● Cruise ship from New Jersey has individual quarantines.</li> <li>● The public will not be informed if there are individuals in the county, due to confidentiality.</li> <li>● Treatment is palliative - developing a vaccine, which is a months long process.</li> <li>● Initial vaccine should be ready for trial in 3 months, which will then need trials.</li> <li>● Dr. Cockey shared that coronaviruses have existed for years, most of which cause the common cold.</li> <li>● Health Department staff have been asked to track time spent on Coronavirus.</li> </ul> <p><b>Who is tested?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● There is guidance based on symptoms, travel to china and/or close contact with a confirmed case.</li> <li>● People with concerns contact the health department, who contacts the state for testing determination.</li> </ul> <p><b>What is the testing process?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2 nasopharyngeal swabs are collected. 1 stays in the state and 1 goes to the CDC.</li> <li>● 1 oropharyngeal swab is also collected. That is submitted to the CDC.</li> </ul> <p><b>LHIC redesign:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lori will participate in a conference call between Health Officers and the state to discuss.</li> <li>● Health Officers will be evaluated on ability to lead a well-functioning LHIC.</li> <li>● Maryland Community Health Resource Commission will fund LHICs directly to address diabetes.</li> <li>● Becky Jones and Lori have agreed to work regionally (Wicomico, Worcester and Somerset).</li> <li>● Funding has not been determined yet, and outcome measures have not been defined.</li> <li>● We are one of three counties that have been in operation since the 90’s, and are classified as a Tier 2 LHIC, fully functioning with history. Other jurisdictions are at Tier 1 and have been directed to get their LHIC back up and running.</li> </ul> <p><b>HRSA funding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HRSA regional partnership grant funds will be received and managed regionally by PRMC.</li> </ul>	

- Wicomico, Worcester and Somerset will work together with PRMC and Atlantic on three areas: Diabetes, Behavioral Health and one other to be determined.
- Working with PRMC and Atlantic to prepare for grant application.
- Due June 19th with funds available January 2021.
- Significant funding potential for a 5 year grant period. Will focus on CDC approved programming.
- Worcester may tie in for the next CHA for a true tri-county health assessment.
- Requires that various partners are included, and LHIC is one. Will ask for participation on subcommittees.

**Budget**

- At the request of the Secretary of Health, the Governor has given additional core funding for local health departments. If budget item is approved, Wicomico will receive under \$200,000.
- Secretary has been a vocal local health advocate, and attends health officer meetings.
- Doug asked if a letter to the Governor would be helpful? Lori cannot advocate for funding. Individual members may choose to contact legislature.
- Lori would like a letter thanking the Secretary for his support.

**ACTION: Cathey will draft.**

**Other Updates:**

- SAMHSA grant for strategic prevention framework. The State is not applying. Will apply for a regional grant for substance use prevention at local level. First meeting is next week, grant due early March.
- Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) meeting today with the State’s Attorney, Law Enforcement and PRMC. Wicomico was selected by the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention to be a part of a 3 year \$770,000 grant to divert individuals with substance use issues into treatment rather than arrest. Will not be accepting felony cases. Our State’s Attorney is working to develop a policy on what cases are appropriate for this program.
  - Donna asked if there will be specific officers working LEAD? Goal is that all will be doing some diversion, but will be working with CIT trained to begin.
- Legislative session: Lori is on the Health Officer’s Legislative committee. 89 pieces of legislation were presented to the group to review this past week. There is significant legislation on flavored tobacco and vape products. Will have legislation on plastics similar to styrofoam ban that starts July 1.
  - County will be enforcing the styrofoam ban through the health department. Lori will be sure to provide education when restaurant inspections are completed.
- Dr. Tucker thanked Lori and commended her on the work she is doing.
- Habacuc asked if education for restaurants will also apply to businesses. Will no longer be able to sell styrofoam; Statewide education will be done.

**SUBCOMMITTEE AND PARTNER UPDATES**

**Donna Clark, HOPE, Inc.**

- Community cold weather shelter is up and running under the new leadership. Seeing 35-40 men a night.
- PRMC Wagner van is in the lot at Wicomico Presbyterian Church today.
- Seton Center is coming to HOPE and can provide rapid rehousing money for those eligible.

- Adult dental program continues to be funded by the Parsons Foundation and community donations. Have spent all of Parsons money this quarter.
- Need for dentures is increasing.
- Seeing 40-50 at HOPE every day they are open, doing well.
- Lori shared she was pulled into dialogue with Lt. Davala at MSP regarding increase in crime in the homeless camps. A committee has been formed consisting of law enforcement, the Health Officer and State's Attorney (will add additional members in the future).
- Drug paraphernalia is being left behind when people leave the camp, and there are children in the area.
- 4 camps are of particular concern, one of which is near a middle school. There are sex offenders in this camp. MSP will no longer send a single office into these camps.
- Donna shared that new homeless at the camps are more mentally incapacitated and some are more violent.

**Pattie Tingle, MAC, Inc.**

Flyers and brochures shared:

- Senior Call Check (automated call program) for at risk individuals at home alone.
- Life Bridges Alzheimer's day program provides a safe place for individuals with early to mid stage Alzheimer's. The program gives respite to caregivers.
- PEARLS brochure.
- Maryland Community for Life brochure.
- St. Paddy's Day 5K run/walk flyer.
- Mini Senior Training flyer. 450 were reached in January through training.

**Lisa Renegar, Wicomico County Health Department**

- The health department is in need of interpreters, particularly Haitian Creole speaking. Flyers were shared with Habacuc to distribute within the Haitian community, and attached for others interested.

**Dhruti Patel, UM Cooperative Extension**

- Farm Vitality study is now being analyzed; Hope to be done by summer.
  - Would like to present data when it is ready.

**Jennifer Berkman, Eastern Shore AHEC**

- Jen met with Dr. Kim at the regional office and discussed the Mental Health First Aid program being rolled out to reach the farming population. Will also be training members of the public that have contact with the farming community.
- MHCRC: Looking at CHW training, working to become a certified training entity, specifically for diabetes prevention and management.
- Statewide AHEC meeting scheduled for 2/10 to discuss and develop application. Hope to have it complete and submitted within a month and hope to be certified within 6 months.
- Oral Health program - have entered into a new project with Chris Leo and Kaitlin Donahue (Registered Dental Hygienists on the mid shore and southern Maryland) who have connected with the department of disability services to have an in house training as well as a webinar to provide education on oral health.

- Webinar is scheduled for March 30th.
- Pediatric dental health coalition is being formed, the first meeting is this month.
- Addressing stabilization of Mission of Mercy. Working with Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore to look at where it could be housed to create an institutionalized model.
- Other regions have hosted smaller events over the course of the year. ESAHEC is working to assemble interested parties.

**Cara Rozaieski, Prevention and Health Communications**

- Diabetes Prevention Program recently started - 18 people attending.
- SCALE started on 2/6 with 10 women and 4 youth.
- First SCALE cohort ended with a 42% retention rate. 4 of 7 checked in at follow up.
  - Evaluated feedback for next session.
- Obesity screening in dental setting - Still need three more providers.
  - March 3rd training - MDH is coming to us.
- Go Red held last friday. Good attendance.
- Walk at Lunch is May 20th. New sponsorship level added. (Platinum - this level requires an event volunteer)
  - Volunteers needed.
- Tri County Teen Tobacco Leadership Summit - Tri County
  - This year adding private schools. March 20th at UMES.
- Tobacco vendor education is ongoing.
- Substance Abuse Block Grant and OMPP - between the two, will have three commercials coming up. One educating on locking or dropping medications, one on youth alcohol use and one on young adult alcohol use.
- Chesapeake Health - Sue Gray has retired as COO. Josh Boston has assumed those roles.
- Mental Health facility construction is on target.

**Dr. Thomas Tucker, Community Empowerment Center**

- CEC would like to thank the LHIC for their support.
- New minigrant for vaping, called "Not Cool at All" Will have a health fair following the Salisbury Festival.
- Working to reach 200 children and 100 adults in 6 months.

**Darian Iverson, MAC Inc., Pearls program**

- New to the area. A personal trainer by trade. looking to connect with the community.
- Willing to partner for lunch and learns, etc.
- [diveronfit@gmail.com](mailto:diveronfit@gmail.com)

**Rochelle Tyler, Peninsula Regional Medical Center**

- Working with Tracy Ritter at United Way on an initiative called Wellness Made Easy. Partnership of PRMC, BEACON, Wicomico Library and United Way on health literacy. 9 of 10 people have difficulty understanding their health issues and how to access things that will help them. App will include games to help learn health terms. Will be a pronunciation guide with audio. Will include insurance and medicare and medicaid.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Group of community leaders started talking about health literacy, last year a strategic planning session was held to identify health literacy gaps.</li> <li>● One initiative is working with SU Computer Science and BEACON to develop a website and a phone app with resources, education, and health related events. Dorchester information will be included since United Way serves Dorchester.</li> <li>● Literacy guide being trialed at the library with Project Read.</li> <li>● Gathering data on which pages those with limited health literacy struggle with most.</li> <li>● Information included on how to understand medication labels, what questions to ask doctor.</li> <li>● For low literacy, pictorial information included.</li> <li>● Wellness Made Easy section is just inside the entrance to the library.</li> <li>● Website will allow linked resources to keep their information updated.</li> <li>● Survey was shared. CHWs in the ED can help individuals complete that may have low literacy.</li> <li>● For more information on Wellness Made Easy contact Tracy Ritter at (410) 742-5143 or <a href="mailto:tracy@uwles.org">tracy@uwles.org</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Habacuc Petion, Rebirth, Inc.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Can be a point of contact to the Haitian community.</li> <li>● Haitian community is growing rapidly. (Approximate population of 5,000 - 7,000)</li> <li>● Working with the Census Bureau for an accurate count.</li> <li>● May 17th downtown community event. Members are welcome to participate to share information.</li> </ul> <p><b>Anna Shao, University of Maryland Center for Health Literacy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The University Center for Health Literacy is excited about health literacy work being done on the shore.</li> <li>● In October, will hold 3rd Annual Health Literacy in Action conference and Health Literacy Annual Research Conference. Will include skills building. Rochelle shared that she has attended and was very pleased.</li> <li>● Training is October 18-20 at the University of Maryland, College Park Campus.</li> <li>● Flyer shared. To join a mailing list for conference updates, visit <a href="http://bit.ly/ConfList2">http://bit.ly/ConfList2</a></li> </ul>	
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	<b>Friday, April 3, 2020 @ 9:30 a.m.</b> <b>Greater Salisbury Building Conference Room</b>	
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.	