



## Somerset County Health Department

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Health Officer: Danielle Weber, MS, RN

### Meeting Minutes

<b>Meeting Name:</b>	HEALTH	<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Sign Post Conference Room
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	November 20, 2025	<b>Minutes Transcriber:</b>	Julianne O'Brien
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	3:00 p.m.	<b>Minutes Reviewer:</b>	Chris Osment
<b>Meeting Attendees and Organizational Representation:</b>	Chris Osment-SCHD, Rowan Renshaw-SCHD, Nancy Baker-Chesapeake Healthcare, Julie Krenzer-Care First		

#### Chris Osment

Chris welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### HERC Program Quarterly Evaluation Report - July 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025

- Somerset County Health Department's (SCHD) HERC program showed significant operational improvement in Q1 FY26 following severe staffing shortages in Year 1.
- The program added 32 new participants, which is an increase from the entire year 1 total, but unfortunately enrollment remains below the quarterly target.
- Major achievements:
  - The chronic disease program launched with many people successfully linked to the Healthy Heart Ambassador program.
  - Insurance enrollment is at a 100% success rate.
  - The service intensity increased from Year 1.
  - The engagement almost doubled from Year 1.
- Critical Gaps:
  - The staffing shortage is being addressed, SCHD is replacing the two CHWs who have left.
  - The enrollment is below target, but the funder is willing to work with SCHD because they see an improvement.
  - There is a low admission conversion because many people are enrolled in the program, but have not yet completed the program. Many people will be completing the program very soon.

- Food security failure, people are being referred to the food banks, but we need to establish a clear mechanism for tracking food security referrals to satisfy our funder's reporting requirements. The funder requires proof that individuals referred by SCHD have utilized the food bank.
  - To address this, SCHD is planning to issue coded food referral tickets to individuals. These individuals will then present the tickets to the food bank upon collection. Community Health Workers (CHWs) will be responsible for collecting the used tickets from the food bank.
  - Not everyone will turn in their ticket to the food bank.
  - Not all food banks will take the food referral ticket.
- The diabetes program doesn't have anyone enrolled because this is a year long program that people need to stay engaged in. This program is a hard sell because of its length of the program.
  - Buy incentives to keep people in the program?
  - Go to a self-management tool?
  - For the DPP program, SCHD will have someone receive their license to teach people and have smaller phone based classes from 3 to 5 people.
  - Transportation is a hurdle for Somerset County citizens.
  - A budget mod to fiscal is being done and waiting for funding for transportation.
- PCP linkage is an issue in Somerset County. A primary care provider couldn't be found in Somerset County.
- In FY25 40% of the participants were aged 18-39, 40% were aged 40-64, and 20% were aged 65 and over, with the majority being female.
- In FY26, there was a dramatic increase in the 40-64 age bracket. There is also an increase in males and in Blacks/African Americans.
- A suggestion is to redefine admission criteria, but this can't be done due to the funding specification; another way or solution will need to be contemplated.
- The people who pick up vegetables from the garden project were not counted, should they fill out a form, or will that turn them away?
- Some milestones cannot be shown or counted, e.g., a CHW helping someone for 30 minutes to find a job, but that person didn't get the job.
- Blood pressure mandatory health screening can be done at home and during class, and count as a self reporting measure.
- SCHD and the funder are in line with each other.
- SCHD's goal was to hire a nutritionist; there was no interest after trying 5 times. Now, an individual who is credentialed working in education, to give diabetes, DPP, and nutrition classes, will go out as an RFP in a week or two.
- SCHD made numerous improvements, but we always have room for improvement.

## **Program Updates**

### **Chris Osment on behalf of Elizabeth**

- Elizabeth field for supplemental grants for hypertension and Alzheimer education.

### **Rowan Renshaw - Healthy Heart Ambassador**

- The Healthy Heart Ambassador (HHA) program is finishing up before the holidays. The close out date is in January 2026.
- Almost all the people will have completed the class, with a guess of 5 to 7 people dropping out.
- Rowan is planning on teaching a HHA cohort with the SOAR program at the Board of Education with 5 people in January.
- Pastor Mills expressed interest in conducting a cohort, stating 25 people would be interested. Rowan is currently awaiting confirmation.

### **Agency Updates**

None

### **Questions/Comments**

None

Adjourned: The time the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 18, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.