



Wicomico County Local Health Improvement Coalition Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 14, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Name:	<i>Wicomico Local Health Improvement Coalition</i>	Meeting Location:	<i>Wicomico County Health Department Adkins Building</i>
	<i>Friday, February 14, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.</i>	Minutes Recorder:	<i>Cathey Insley</i>
Meeting Time:	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	Minutes Reviewer:	<i>Group</i>
Meeting Attendees and Organizational Representation:	<i>Lisa Renegar (WiCHD), Kat Rodgers (TidalHealth), Matthew McConaughy (WiCHD), Julie Krenzer (CareFirst), Josh Boston (CHC) Jason Sammons (WDHS), Jessica Sexauer (WiCHD), Jamie Barrett (Peoples Community Alliance) Lynn Matava (UM Ext.), Deborah Stanley (CEC, Inc), Lisa Widmaier (ESAHEC), Lore Chambers (St. James AME Zion House)</i>		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
WELCOME	Matthew called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and self introduction of members present were made. Matthew reminded members that the State of Maryland prohibits use of AI, and AI note taking programs will not be allowed in LHIC meetings. (Notetaking attendees will be disconnected)	
Approval of Minutes	Jessica Sexauer made a motion to approve updated December minutes as updated today, seconded by Kat Rodgers and carried.	Cathey will post .
LHIC Co-Chair Vote	Three nominations were received for Co-Chair: Matthew, MaryBeth Waide and Kat Rodgers. Voting members submitted their votes, and Matthew and Kat agreed to continue as Co-Chairs for 2025.	
People's Community Alliance	<p>Jamie Barret, People's Community Alliance pca4easternshore@gmail.com</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Professor with UMES and facilitator for the People's Community Alliance. ● PCA mission remains the same as the former Vulnerable Populations group: to collaborate with the intention of reducing barriers to critical services in Wicomico and Somerset Counties. ● Committed to One Stops, visit once a month in each county, on the third Saturday and third Sundays of the month. ● Looking for sustainable funding to continue programs and projects that serve the community, through partnerships and grants. ● Data driven: Working to offer diabetes screenings at the One Stops since many people that are food insecure also have issues with chronic conditions. ● PCA workgroups meet once a month, and every other month is the general meeting. ● Looking at three specific areas, and working to reduce barriers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Food insecurity: working to have good partnerships for community gardens to get the food in the hands of those that need it. 	

- Housing: Looking at tenant rights; seeing many people being evicted in Wicomico.
- Providing education, and encouraging people to show up to court to work toward staying in their homes.
- Literacy Empowerment: Want to expand elementary level English services for the Haitian Creole populations, and also to find services provided in their language.
 - Kat shared that the United Way worked with TidalHealth to develop a wellness made easy toolkit and health literacy toolkit, and have been working to get that out in Haitian Creole.
 - Dr. Calixte shared that she has attended One Stop events and sees it as a great opportunity to get health education directly to those that need it. Recommended reaching out to our Prevention program (410-334-3480) to request participation and resource materials. There is also a link on the health department web site to [request vendor participation](#) for events.

Q: Kat asked what steps will be taken if someone is identified as at risk through the diabetes screening at the One Stops? Carol from the Lions Club is working on a grant, and Jamie is asking her to ask for commitment from TidalHealth to either provide the screening or help provide services if A1C indicates Type 2 Diabetes.

Q: Kat indicated willingness to discuss this further, and mentioned that many grants require 501c3 status, has the Alliance considered applying for non-profit status, or do they plan to provide only through partnerships with other entities? Jamie indicated that the Alliance does not plan to apply for non-profit status, but rather seeks to serve as a support to organizations that provide the services. Matthew also indicated that the health department can also be of assistance through our Diabetes Prevention Program.

Q: Lynn Matava asked about attending a PCA meeting? Jamie asked members to send an email indicating interest to PCA4easternshore@gmail.com

CHIP Progress

Lisa shared updates on the progress with the Community Health Improvement Plan.

- Partnership between Wicomico Health, Somerset Health and TidalHealth Peninsula Regional.
- Community Health Needs Assessment is in its final stages.
- Needs identified so far are in alignment with what the People’s Alliance is working on, particularly food insecurity.
- Next steps need input from other organizations, seeking input from LHIC members.
- Kat added that the steering committee is meeting to review findings from primary data collection and do some initial narrowing of the priority areas.
- Goal is to have the CHNA published and approved by May.
- Plan to have the CHIP completed before the end of summer, around August.
- Matthew agreed that having community input is important, particularly with Maryland moving to the AHEAD model for the SHIP; the CHIP will be our guide on what community efforts will take place in the

	<p>coming years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Matthew will present more information on the AHEAD model at a future meeting when more information is known. ● LHIC members can expect to be contacted if identified by the steering committee as a partner that can help identify priority areas. 	
<p>Health Officer Updates</p>	<p>Matthew McConaughey, Health Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Four cases of avian influenza have been identified in the poultry industry within the state. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No instances of human infection. ● There is one in Dorchester and one in Worcester County. ● Cases of wild snow geese in both Worcester and Dorchester. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our response is in an observation stage, and recommendations include proper precautions (masking, gloves) for those in the poultry and dairy industries, and advise those with backyard flocks to also implement these precautions. ● If Avian influenza is suspected, you can report it to the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Thanks to Lynn Matava for providing the phone number. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MDA reporting number (410) 841-5810 	
<p>Subcommittee Updates</p>	<p>Lisa Renegar, Wicomico County Health Department</p> <p>Behavioral Health Workgroup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next fiscal year will be a strategic planning year for the next three year plan. <p>Live Healthy Wicomico</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Just wrapped work with community health workers, in partnership with ESAHEC. <p>Health Equity and Health Access Workgroup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Working through a lengthy assessment project. 	
<p>Partner Updates</p>	<p>Kat Rodgers, TidalHealth Peninsula Regional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HealthFest is planned for March 15th at the Salisbury Fire Department on Cypress Street. ● Vendors are welcome. Please use the registration links below to sign up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Non-profit organizations: https://fs26.formsite.com/ABOOrH/ltqx5aaet6/index ○ For profit organizations: https://fs26.formsite.com/ABOOrH/ujlr8jhotm/index ● Reach grant - In the coming weeks, will pilot a “Food is Medicine” component, which include transportation vouchers for those eligible for meal delivery programs. ● TidalHealth will be identifying people with high A1C’s that are hospitalized and then discharged. Community Wellness nurses will triage these individuals for food insecurity and the need for better diabetes management. <p>Jessica Sexauer, Wicomico County Health Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LBHA is working on FY26 planning for services and budget for the year. ● Received IRB approval from both MDH and Salisbury University for the substance residential halfway 	

	<p>house needs assessment, so will be moving forward with that.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LBHA staff have been working with SU BEACON to identify people willing to do key informant interviews, and also provider feedback. ● Would love to get feedback from pregnant women or women with children that would be eligible for that level of care, all through surveys. Do not plan to do focus groups with this population. ● Harm Reduction vending machines - review committee has met and done follow up with vendors that submitted proposals. ● Have made a vendor selection, and notification letters are going out from our procurement office. ● Julie Willis accepted the Overdose Prevention Team Coordinator position. She began part time in the fall, and is now full time. Julie will be the lead for TriCounty Go Purple events in Wicomico County. <p>Lisa Widmaier, Eastern Shore Area Health Education Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community Health Worker training planned for March 10th. This is a 5 week condensed training, with classes held virtually on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9-12. ● ESAHEC received a grant from the Maryland Department of Health to provide five scholarships to underresourced individuals. Applicants must be at 250% of poverty level, self reported. Have selected four individuals for scholarships. ● Approved for Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act funding. ● Continuing Education sessions for CHWs include a series on substance use disorders. March's topic will be social determinants of health. ● The second CHW Network meeting was held on February 6th; the next meeting is April 3rd. ● Flyers for ESAHEC events will be sent to the group by email. 	
Other Discussion	Matthew shared that February is Kindness Month, and this week is Random Acts of Kindness Week. Matthew encouraged members to perform an act of kindness for your community.	
NEXT MEETING	Friday, April 4, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m. LOCATION: Adkins Conference Room (second floor), 801 N. Salisbury Blvd, Salisbury	
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 am.	