



Wicomico County Local Health Improvement Coalition Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 4, 2024 @ 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, October 4, 2024</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>Matthew McConaughey (WiCHD), Christina Gray (WiCHD), Jessica Sexauer (WiCHD), Kat Rodgers (TidalHealth), Josh Boston (CHC), Dr. Chris Snyder (TidalHealth), Hope King (WDSS), Deborah Stanley (CEC), Emily Paterson (MD Poison Center), Jamie Barrett (Aetna), Keirsten DeBoer (BACIL), Lisa Widmaier (ESAHEC), Luciana Smith (Aetna), Cathey Insley (WiCHD), Rochelle Tyler (TidalHealth), Tammy Griffin (WiCHD), Dr. Cynthia Calixte (WiCHD)</i>		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
WELCOME	Matthew called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.	
Approval of Minutes	Kat Rodgers made a motion to approve June minutes as written, seconded by Josh Boston and carried.	Cathey will post .
FY24 CHIP Progress	<p>Christina Gray, Epidemiologist and Director of Planning and Assessment Wicomico County Health Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Concluding 2nd year of three year plan; beginning next cycle planning. ● Partnership with TidalHealth. <p>ACCESS AND HEALTH EQUITY:</p> <hr/> <p>Goal 1.1 Increase equitable access to healthcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase coverage for populations with disparities in coverage. ● Target Hispanic residents to increase coverage to 75%. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WiCHD Strategies: outreach and MCHP assistance for Hispanic residents. ○ Processed over 6000 applications last year, 58% of which were LEP clients. ○ As of 2021, at almost 70%. ○ TidalHealth Strategies: Screen patients for coverage and refer to insurance assistance programs and School Based Wellness Centers enrolled students to a CHW. ○ Have established a workflow for screening and connection. 45 referrals from SBWCs. ● Establish a process to determine insurance coverage for the Haitian population. ● Work with LHIC partners to develop and pilot a process. Lengthy discussion at August meeting. ● Objective and strategy to be revised, potentially using the school system for school aged children and their families. 	

- **Implement best practices/standardization of social determinants of health screening and closed-loop referrals.**

- Environmental scan of partners to assess who is utilizing SDOH screening.
- Increase use of social care services and referral to resources.
- Launched an initiative to expand SDOH screening and referrals through the REACH grant. Working to expand adoption of findhelp as the coordination tool.

- **Expand diversity of the CHW workforce.**

- Determine baseline measure of CHWs, including number of bilingual CHWs, and establish a regional CHW association.
- CHW survey completed shows 73.3 FTE staff, 13 PRN and 2 volunteer CHWs. (Entire shore)
- ESAHEC has established a regional Eastern Shore CHW Network.

Goal 1.2 Provide education and promote awareness of health equity, including policy recommendations.

- **Develop Health Equity Frameworks with key partners.**

- WiCHD strategy: LHIC Health Equity subcommittee was formed in March 2024, and identified several health equity models.
- LHIC voted and selected the Institute of Healthcare Improvement's model.
- TidalHealth strategy: participated in health equity learning collaboratives and adopted the IHIH equity framework.
- LHIC presents at least one policy recommendation related to health equity.
- WiCHD strategy: Environmental scan to assess health literacy policies and resources, and create action plans to address gaps identified. (Both Somerset and Wicomico LHIC groups.)
- Increase engagement on Local Health Improvement Coalitions in Somerset and Wicomico.
- Annual analysis of membership and annual recruitment of new members as needed. Continue to promote to diverse groups to increase engagement in underrepresented groups.
- In FY24, recruited 4 new members.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - Reducing trauma and improving access.

Goal 2: Improve behavioral health through prevention, treatment and recovery.

- **Reduce rate of suicide deaths.**

- WiCHD strategies: Increase mental health first aid training, implement Talk Saves Lives program, educate on 988 crisis line that launched July 2023.
- Trained 149 on MHFA, Trained to LBHA staff on Talk Saves Lives, Developed 988 rack cards in multiple languages, and a social media campaign on 988.
- TidalHealth strategies: Increase access to treatment and prevention services through Crisis Stabilization Center, conduct PHQ depression surveys through primary care offices.
- 213 referrals to BH at TidalHealth, 91% of patients screened through PHQ assessment. 1089 served by the Crisis Stabilization Center. This center is funded through HSCRC five year grant.

- **Reduce and prevent opioid misuse and overdose. Reduce deaths by 40%.**
 - WiCHD strategies: Expand Narcan access and training, continue linking individuals to the COAT team, and support Go Purple campaigns.
 - 1779 Narcan kits distributed (661 to those with social experience), COAT assisted 435 individuals, with 63.8% linked to treatment. Go Purple events in FY24 reached over 3700 at the Shorebirds kickoff, 120 walkers at Shatter the Stigma walk, and good attendance at Overdose Awareness day community event at Winterplace Park.
 - TidalHealth strategies: Increase access to CSC, provide Narcan at discharge when prescribed an opioid, and promote Narcan in the community.
 - 1089 served at CSC. Narcan is given to patients discharged with an opioid medication.
- **Strengthen integrated behavioral health primary care model among local healthcare providers.**
 - WiCHD strategies and progress: Hub and Spoke program (served 13 individuals, recruited Wicomico Detention Center as a new spoke) and Academic Detailing (22 visits completed and 4 visits with non-physician providers).
 - TidalHealth strategies and progress: Increase referrals to behavioral health therapists among TidalHealth primary care practices (213 referrals made) and increase PHQ 2 and 9 screenings (91% of primary care patients screened.)
- **Decrease proportion of adults reporting poor mental health 14 or more days each month to 12%.**
 - TidalHealth strategies and progress: Expand MAC, Inc PEARLS program referrals (152 patients, 94% screened for PEARLS. 108 of these had in person or phone follow up. 96 had 6 or more sessions. 62.82% had depression at start, 21% at completion.

CHRONIC DISEASE

Goal 3.1 Reduce prevalence and mortality rates of chronic diseases in the partnership area.

- **Reduce prevalence of diabetes in adults.**
 - WiCHD strategies and progress: Facilitate at least two DPP cohorts per year (4 held, 2 English, 1 Spanish, 1 Haitian Creole, 94.8% of participants retained by session 4), and strengthen referral process between providers and DPP providers.
 - TidalHealth strategies and progress: Utilize CRISP DPP report to identify patients for referral to DPP.

Goal 3.2 Promote/support healthy lifestyles and wellness in the service area to reduce chronic disease.

- **Decrease the proportion of people overweight or obese.**
 - WiCHD strategies/progress: Increase participation in Health Lifestyle community challenges (94 participants), promote/expand walking initiatives (3 walking groups established, 482 participants at events), promote community garden use (\$50K funding from Rural Healthy Corner Stores to support 7 community gardens), and implement social marketing campaign (utilizing Facebook.)
 - TidalHealth strategies/progress: Promote/expand participation in Chronic Disease Self Management Lifestyle programming (MAC - 25 workshops with 190 participants: 81% completion rate; REACH

	<p>supported DPP at the YMCA; healthy lifestyle programming with Haitian Development Center and Rebirth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase the proportion of residents achieving recommended 150 minutes of activity per week. ○ WiCHD strategies/progress: promoting walking initiatives. (3 walking groups established via Healthy Lifestyles Challenge.) ○ TidalHealth strategies/progress: Increase and promote activities through MAC, Inc for older adults (MAC had 1,143 monthly membership contracts in FY24, REACH grant supported 12 YMCA memberships). <p>The group briefly discussed referral processes in place, with phone referrals still being a barrier.</p>	
<p>CHW Survey Results</p>	<p>The Live Healthy Wicomico subcommittee partnered with Eastern Shore Area Health Education Center to complete the survey in July and August.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Received responses from 6 organizations (Chesapeake HealthCare, Rebirth, Wicomico, Worcester and Somerset health departments, TidalHealth) with a wide service area. ● Titles vary and include: Community Health Worker, Certified Health Outreach Worker, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist, Interpreter ● Next steps: explore partnering with ESAHEC on the Eastern Shore CHW Network. 	
<p>Stroke Smart Community</p>	<p>Dr. Christopher Snyder, Chief Quality Officer TidalHealth Stroke Smart Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provided an overview of the program, with a goal of getting individuals in the hospital within a four hour window after a stroke. ● TidalHealth is a comprehensive stroke care center. ● Presentation covered how to identify a stroke, and what will happen at arrival and assessment at the hospital. Important to look at a clock to remember the time of onset of symptoms. ● Education encourages calling 911 and getting to the hospital, not driving yourself, or waiting for symptoms to pass. ● Free MIEMMS resources are available, and will be shared at any business, organization or churches that are willing to help educate the population on how to recognize and seek treatment. ● Seeking champions in the community. If interested in sharing, please contact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trudy Hall, Chief Medical Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ trudy.hall@TidalHealth.org or 240-463-7871 ○ Christopher Snyder, Chief Quality Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ chris.snyder@TidalHealth.org or 410-430-3792 <p><i>Christina asked if there are any silent symptoms that may not be as known?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dropping things, losing control, etc. Will be asked when symptoms started, and sometimes it is hard to determine, since things can start small. 	

<p>Health Officer Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Environmental Health is working with MDE, MDH and Perdue to communicate to the public the levels of PFAs around the Perdue Agricultural plant on Zion Church Road. ● Source of contamination has not been identified. Advising residents out of abundance of caution. ● Health department is receiving phone calls from residents. Referring to documents and resources from MDE. “Forever chemicals.” ● Working with MDE and Perdue to test a radius around the facility to identify contamination in private wells. ● Perdue is providing bottled water to those in the affected area. ● These chemicals are common and can build up in the body. Primary concern is for prenatal residents. ● Reverse osmosis systems can be installed that will remove PFAs, charcoal based systems for point of entry systems for the entire home's use. 	
<p>Subcommittee Updates</p>	<p>Behavioral Health Workgroup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meet virtually every month, working to implement the local behavioral strategic plan for the county. ● Provided CLAS training using behavioral health scenarios. ● September activities: Go Purple, Suicide Prevention month, Overdose Awareness Day, Shatter the Stigma walk. ● Language access survey completed with local behavioral health providers to collect metrics and establish a baseline of services provided and in what languages. ● RFP for Harm Reduction for Narcan vending machines. Salisbury University is the first location. <p>Live Health Wicomico Chronic Disease Workgroup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Completed survey of CHWs on the shore. ● Discussing colonoscopy scheduling challenges; Health department program operating on a wait list. ● TidalHealth is working to implement a fellowship program that will help bring providers to the area. ● Health Equity and Access Workgroup ● New group is meeting regularly to begin work on the framework model selected by the LHIC in a previous meeting. ● Meeting 1st Monday of each month. 	
<p>Partner Updates</p>	<p>Jessica Sexauer, Wicomico Deputy Health Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm Reduction Center is expanding services to include safeguarding kits. ● Have already seen new visitors coming to the center. <p>Dr. Cynthia Calixte, Wicomico Physician Deputy Health Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recently appointed to the State Health Equity Commission. <p>Hope King, Wicomico Department of Social Services</p> <p><u>Results Count initiative:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 59% of kids in care are African American. ● Centers on racial equity, with the goal of developing strategies to reduce the number of kids in care. 	

- Have found that the DSS electronic database doesn't have a great way to capture all data efficiently.
- Rely on hand counts for some things; particularly hard to capture information when providing services to the Haitian community.

Safer Stronger Together:

- Collaborative effort between DHS, DJS and Corrections/public safety.
- Population of clients that crossover with all three agencies. Working to reduce recidivism.
- Kickoff with new advisory board. Looking to bring in more stakeholders.
- Two large pockets in the community hold many of the crossover clients.
- Focusing efforts within zip code 21801 to start.

Lisa Widmaier, Eastern Shore Area Health Education Center

- First poverty simulation exercise with DSS was held at Washington Hospital.
- Goal is to improve processes and practices to engage the underserved and their families.
- Next simulation is 10/21 at UMES. Anticipate 100 staff and students.
- Volunteers are always needed to role play the various resource organizations.
- 1 hour training is provided for volunteers.

CHW survey:

- Next steps are to identify dates to present to interested individuals.
- Diabetes prevention with Spanish cohort starting soon (virtually) Starts 10/16.

Kat Rodgers, TidalHealth Peninsula Regional

- Drive through flu clinic last Friday - 660 vaccinated. Additional clinics scheduled, will share flyer by email.
- Plans for Third Friday, Westside Fire Department. Willing to visit other churches/neighborhoods, if you know of potential locations, let Kat know
- Mobile mammography van fundraising events ongoing.
- Next week will kick off the CHNA process.

Tammy Griffin, Prevention and Health Communications

- Partnering with TidalHealth to develop a walk-in cessation program in the pulmonary unit.
- Have gotten a lot of good feedback from physicians at the unit.
- Pending hospital board approval.
- Go Red 2025 planning underway, Somerset Health Department acting as the lead agency this year.
- Recruiting for GEMS, with 400 applications received. Program has been very successful over 21 years.
- Expanding DART (Drug Action Response Team) youth-led drug task force, incorporating True You.
- Have recruited 12 new youth to the program.
- Three DPP classes are running currently. One in Spanish, one in English and one Haitian Creole.
- Teaching DSMP diabetes self management class at MAC Inc. Two classes left in that session.
- Soles for Seniors Walk is 10/5 from 9-1 at MAC. Health Department and Walk Wicomico will be there.
- Shared that the health department Community Health Workers are doing a phenomenal job getting out into the community, reaching places we've never been before with feet on the ground.

	Luciana Smith, Aetna Better Health of Maryland <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Laundry day is October 10th from 10-12 at the laundry on Eastern Shore Drive.● Participants receive a free wash and dry.	
NEXT MEETING	Friday, December 6, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m. LOCATION: Adkins Conference Room (second floor), 801 N. Salisbury Blvd, Salisbury	
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 am.	
ATTACHMENT	Stroke Smart presentation handouts.	