



## Wicomico County Local Health Improvement Coalition Meeting Minutes

### Friday, June 2, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m.

<b>Meeting Name:</b>	<i>Wicomico Local Health Improvement Coalition</i>	<b>Meeting Location:</b>	<i>United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore</i>
	<i>Friday, June 2, 2023</i>	<b>Minutes Recorder:</b>	<i>Google recording</i>
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<b>Minutes Reviewer:</b>	<i>Group</i>
<b>Meeting Attendees and Organizational Representation:</b>	<i>Deborah Stanley (CEC), Brittany Young (MPC), Kat Rodgers (TidalHealth), Lisa Renegar (WiCHD), Rochelle Tyler (TidalHealth), Tammy Griffin (WiCHD), Tuesday Trott (Holly Center), Michele Gregory (Sby City Council), Jason Sammons (DSS), Donna Clark (HOPE, Inc), Kathy Walker (MAC, Inc), Keirsten DeBoer (DHHC), Melinda Mattox (CHC), Doug Wilson (Community), Habacuc Petion (ReBirth, Inc)</i>		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>WELCOME</b>	Kat called the meeting to order and members completed self introductions.	
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	Minutes were approved as written. A motion was made by Deb Stanley and seconded by Donna Clark.	
<b>Health Officer Updates</b>	<p><b>Matthew McConaughy, MPH, Wicomico County Health Officer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew introduced himself and provided a brief background of his experience in public health as Director of County Health in Green County in Eastern Tennessee.</li> <li>Looking forward to engaging with the LHIC and leading Wicomico to becoming a healthier community.</li> <li>Wicomico Health recently went through PHAB recertification; should have final results by August.</li> <li>COVID public health emergency has ended, no longer providing community COVID testing.</li> <li>Working to build client and case numbers and return to pre-pandemic operations.</li> <li>Onboarding new staff into key roles to better serve the public.</li> </ul>	
<b>Healthy Delmarva Website</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kat and Rochelle Tyler presented a tour of the newly launched website.</li> <li>Background: Data feed was included on tidalhealth.org website as part of the contract with Conduent Healthy Communities, the firm that assists with the Community Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan.</li> <li>Worked with Conduent to develop <a href="http://healthydelmarva.org">healthydelmarva.org</a>.</li> <li>Branded the website to specifically represent the community, since the CHNA and CHIP, rather than use TidalHealth branding.</li> <li>Site allows partners to access customized data by zip code or county.</li> <li>Site includes a section for promising practices to assist with grant funding opportunities as well as a resource library.</li> <li>Doug asked if it would help to hold a community wide invitational meeting to launch the website in the</li> </ul>	

	<p>community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Michelle offered to add to the agenda for a future City Council meeting.</li> <li>○ Matthew can share at the Board of Health presentation to the County Council as well.</li> <li>● Website has been announced through a press release.</li> <li>● Keirsten shared she used the website to assist an individual with zip code specific data.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Medical Respite</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Donna, Kat, Lisa met several times and included Shannon Frey, head of the Homeless Alliance of the Lower Shore. Shannon offered to have one of her subgroups work on identifying need. Will require some funding to fully capture this data. Kat shared that Z codes capture some of this information; the hospital has been collecting them for a few months now.</li> <li>● Discussion at the last meeting regarding a transgender individual that was not accepted in a shelter founded on Christian doctrine, this facility does not accept public funding. This shelter’s data would not be included, Shannon will work to capture data from them.</li> <li>● The City of Salisbury is interested in being involved however they have been busy with their Anne Street housing startup.</li> <li>● Donna shared that Wicomico Presbyterian Church has met with private residents to find a building that could be rehabilitated and used for emergency shelter. Still in talking phases.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Subcommittee and Partner Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Membership Subcommittee (NEW):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Group would look at membership to ensure all groups are represented, as indicated in LHIC Bylaws.</li> <li>● Marketing: Social media, brochures, etc.</li> <li>● <i>Volunteers for membership subgroup</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Keirsten DeBoer, Deer’s Head Hospital Center</li> <li>○ Tammy Griffin, WiCHD Prevention Program</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Health Access/Health Equity Subcommittee (NEW):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Goals for subgroup: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase federal access to healthcare, have identified disparities in health coverage in Wicomico. (i.e. Hispanic population 65.3% are insured)</li> <li>○ Identify data on our Haitian populations. Currently included in “Black” demographic.</li> <li>○ Social determinants of health: screening or closed loop by directional referrals.</li> <li>○ Expand diversity of Community Health Worker workforce. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The Health Department has a grant that establishes a regional association for CHWs.</li> <li>■ CHW education and awareness of health equity, including policy.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● <i>Volunteers for Access/Equity subgroup</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tammy Griffin, WiCHD</li> <li>○ Representative from HOPE, Inc.</li> <li>○ Melinda Mattox, CHC</li> <li>○ Tuesday Trott, Holly Center</li> <li>○ Rochelle Tyler, TidalHealth</li> <li>○ Hope King, DSS</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>If interested in serving on any subgroup, contact Lisa Renegar.</p>

	<p><b>Behavioral Health Workgroup:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Completing work on this year’s plan and planning for next year.</li> </ul> <p><b>Live Healthy Wicomico</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We were waiting for the CHIP to be finalized. Now that it is, the group will begin working on the strategies.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>PARTNER UPDATES</b></p>	<p><b>Keirsten DeBoer, DHHC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hospital has officially been removed from the state divestiture list. Since the facility will remain open, capital improvement projects that have been waiting will begin.</li> </ul> <p><b>Kathy Walker, MAC Inc.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● New program: Care Provider Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Employment program for individuals that want to provide care for individuals with Alzheimer’s and dementia in their home setting.</li> <li>○ 5 week program/4 days a week.</li> <li>○ Provide training on CPR and first aid.</li> <li>○ Resume assistance through employment development center.</li> <li>○ Just completed the third group; some are already employed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Basic computer training program that will cover powering computers on and off, using MS Word and email programs.</li> <li>● Care provider technology center is open every day for caregivers to access tools to help individuals in the home, ie reading aids for visually impaired.</li> </ul> <p><b>Melinda Mattox, Chesapeake Healthcare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CHC Behavioral Health took over the Crisis Center on June 1st.</li> <li>● Expanding mental health services in Worcester.</li> <li>● Will have three primary care providers on board by the end of June. One coming to the Power Street office, one to Woodbrooke, and one to Princess Anne.</li> <li>● New dental director specializes in pediatric dentistry.</li> <li>● Now that COVID emergency has ended, will be bringing back the dental residency program.</li> </ul> <p><b>Donna Clark, HOPE, Inc.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dental funds on hold. \$70,000 remaining funds are held for promissory letters that are pending.</li> <li>● Donna will report how much remains before her retirement in August.</li> <li>● Donna’s replacement at HOPE will be decided the week of June 5th. Donna’s last day is August 17th.</li> <li>● Client visits up to 60 people a day for a four hour period on Tuesdays and Thursdays.</li> <li>● Looking for additional volunteers for feeding programs on these days at Wicomico Presbyterian Church. Typically feed 70-75.</li> </ul>	<p>For enrollment, contact Susan Hill.</p>

**Habacuc, Rebirth Inc**

- Maryland Insurance Connection comes in on Wednesdays. Have helped hundreds of people get enrolled.
- Booked through the end of July.
- Have spoken to Social Services to also have staff come in since many people are missing the interview phase of getting assistance, mainly due to language barriers.
- Case management - been very busy assisting people to appointments at TidalHealth, Chesapeake Healthcare, Health Department, etc.
- Food pantry is open to the public. Serving more and more, used to be open twice a month. Now that COVID additional financial assistance has ended, more demand. Now open on the first Thursday of the month.

**Kat Rodgers, TidalHealth**

- Diane Hitchens, director of Women's and Children's was successful in getting a grant to address Maternal Health, especially in our Haitian community.
  - \$700,000 over the next three years.
  - Currently in the implementation phase; recruiting care coordinator for women's and children's unit who will function as a health navigator and coordinate postpartum care.
  - Working with a community provider to provide maternal classes, health classes and child care classes a couple of times a month throughout the year. Will be offered in Haitian Creole.
  - Potential to improve health through pilot project to improve safe sleep, infant feeding, prenatal and postpartum care for moms.
    - Jason Sammons added that DSS investigates sudden infant death cases and all child fatalities in the county, and stated that DSS is happy to play a role through the Child Advocacy Center, if needed.
    - DSS has received a grant from the Community Foundation to purchase pack and plays; may be able to coordinate efforts to promote safe sleep.
- Working with the American Academy of Pediatrics to host a conference in the fall.
- Habacuc added that Rebirth has a large population of pregnant women that they serve. Last year they were able to provide 14-16 expectant moms with a baby shower with needed baby items.

**Matthew McConaughey, Health Officer**

- Health Department home visiting programs offer pack and plays and car seats.
- HB1080 establishes a Healthy Babies Equity Act, which goes into effect July 1.
- Provides comprehensive coverage for non- citizen pregnant Marylanders who would otherwise be eligible for Medicaid but for their immigration status from conception through . Mother receives full Medicaid coverage during pregnancy and 4 months postpartum. Newborns are covered for one year.
- Eligibility based on 250% of the federal poverty limit. Statewide an estimated 6,000 people are eligible. Must enroll prior to giving birth. Retroactive coverage of up to three months immediately preceding the month of application, however does not extend prior to the start of the pregnancy and is not available prior to April 1, 2023.

	<p><b>Tammy Griffin, WiCHD Prevention and Health Communications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Thanked Habacuc for the work that Rebirth is doing to address health disparities. They continue to meet their grant performance measures each reporting cycle.</li> <li>● Diabetes Prevention Program one year course just completed. Started with 8 individuals; 4 completed successfully. Those individuals lost more than 5% of their body weight.</li> <li>● Healthy Lifestyle Challenge is continuing to progress. Newsletter was launched last month and will be issued monthly.</li> <li>● Challenge has an average of 20 participants who come to monthly meetings held at the YMCA. Each meeting has a guest speaker - June's speaker is Lynn Matava from the Cooperative Extension, she will be demonstrating a mango salsa. Participants will go home with seeds from vegetables used to take home and grow.</li> <li>● Hosting an annual Law Enforcement luncheon that recognizes tobacco and alcohol establishments in the community who have not had any citations, and LEOs who have helped keep our children safe.</li> <li>● Recently held an anti-stigma workshop for professionals with an online format. 40 attended.</li> <li>● Struggling with staffing within the program, which many health departments are seeing. Recruiting for three positions: Coordinator for Chronic Disease programs and two Community Health Outreach Workers. A new Health Educator position will also be opening up in the coming months, which will oversee Health Department Worksite Wellness and expand worksite wellness in the community.</li> <li>● Recruiting for tobacco coordinator for cessation programming.</li> </ul>	
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	<p><b>Friday, August 4, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m.</b>  <b>LOCATION: Deer's Head Hospital Center (Logistics to follow closer to meeting date)</b></p>	
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:15 am, based on length of meet recording.</p>	