



Wicomico County Local Health Improvement Coalition Meeting Minutes

Friday, December 2, 2022 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Name:	<i>Wicomico Local Health Improvement Coalition</i>	Meeting Location:	<i>Rebirth Inc.</i>
	<i>Friday, December 2, 2022</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>Lori Brewster (WiCHD), Brandy Wink (WiCHD), Donna Clark (HOPE), Rose-Gaelle Desiral (Rebirth), Eddline Petion (Rebirth), Habacuc Petion (Rebirth), Lisa Renegar (WiCHD), Joanase Harris (Sby), Joe Ruffo (Sby), Brett Sanders (Sby), Rochelle Tyler (TidalHealth), Tammy Griffin (WiCHD), Kiersten DeBoer (DHHC), Kat Rodgers (TidalHealth), Deborah Stanley (CEC), Tuesday Trott (Holly Center), Emily Paterson, Josh Boston (CHC), Ellen Willingham (JHHC), Jason Sammons (WDSS), Mary Beth Waide (DHHC), Cathey Insley (WiCHD), Brittany Young (MPC), Skylar Harris (SU student), Christina Gray (WiCHD)</i>		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
WELCOME	Kat Rodgers called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and self introductions were made.	
Approval of Minutes	A motion was made to approve October minutes by a member attending the meeting in person that was not audible on the meeting recording, seconded by Keirsten DeBoer and carried.	
CHIP	<p>Kat shared an overview and history of the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required every 3 years; collects/analyzes data from key informant interviews, focus groups, and community surveys. Combines assessments to set priorities. ● Partnership between TidalHealth and Somerset and Wicomico Counties, includes Sussex County Delaware. ● County demographics, economic summary, disease condition metrics and areas of racial/ethnic disparities were shared. ● Data synthesis identified needs areas are Access to Health Care Services, Mental Health and Mental Health Disorders, Economy and Job Availability, and Nutrition, Healthy Eating, Physical Activity/Weight status. ● Planning committee completed data prioritization to identify three priority areas. Looked at previous plans to build upon work already being done. Priority areas align with both Maryland and Delaware state strategies. <p>1. Priority Area One: Access and Health Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Goal 1.1: Increase equitable access to healthcare. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Goal 1.2: Provide education and promote awareness of health equity, including policy recommendations. <p>2. Priority Area Two: Behavioral Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Goal 2: Improve behavioral health through prevention, treatment, and recovery <p>3. Chronic Disease and Wellness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Goal 3.1: Reduce prevalence and mortality from chronic diseases in the partnership area. ● Goal 3.2: Promote and support healthy lifestyles and wellness in the services area to reduce risk of chronic disease. ● Next Steps: Finalize target performance measures and outcomes for all goals and objectives. ● Present to LHIC, Boards, File with IRS ● Implement, Evaluate and Revise plan <p>Motion to approve the CHIP made by a member present in person that could not be heard on the meeting recording, seconded by Ellen Willingham, and carried.</p>	
<p>Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Lisa shared a draft of the Wicomico County Health Department Strategic Plan overview for 2022 - 2025. Priorities are high level areas where efforts will be focused.</p> <p>Four areas identified by staff and senior leadership identified are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Address the top health issues in Wicomico County as identified through the CHNA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete CHIP by 1/1/23. ● Partner with LHIC to monitor and update CHIP. ● Partner with LHIC to update CHNA. 2. Improve internal and external communication, collaboration and engagement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete assessment of internal communication (PIO team) and develop plan for improvement. ● Educate and inform the community through social media, outreach, new interviews, newspaper articles. Want to do a better job engaging target populations, using input from the target population. ● PHAB is requiring an assessment on how the community trusts the health department. From this assessment will develop a plan for areas identified for improvement. 3. Strengthen workforce efforts in succession planning and recruitment/retention of a competent and diverse workforce. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Each health department division will add a measure to the performance management system to meet regularly with staff. ● Maintain an active Workforce Development Committee (WDC) to plan, implement and 	

	<p>monitor the WDC plan.</p> <p>4. Improve use of technology for service delivery and information management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop staff capacity to use data to make decisions, improve performance and quality. ● Train staff how to track data efficiently using IT resources. ● Expand online customer satisfaction survey. ● Identify software tools to enable staff to collect, access and use data for decision making. 	
<p>Health Officer Updates</p>	<p>Lori Brewster, Wicomico Health Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One year ago the MDH computer network was attacked. We are still not reconnected; target date for reconnection is February 2023. ● Thanked partners for being patient as we navigate the challenges of reconnection. ● Maryland Environmental Services agreement has been signed to help the health department with timely completion of septic applications. Recruitment has been difficult. ● Seven years ago, Lori requested that the state look at the salary structure for Environmental Specialists to be competitive with private salaries. As of right now we have one specialist and one specialist trainee to serve the entire county. State is now looking at the salary for EH Specialist classifications. ● COVID, flu and RSV are significant in our community with an uptick after Thanksgiving. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lori encouraged all to practice prevention by handwashing, and staying home if sick. ● Brandy Wink was named Acting Health Officer until a new incoming Health Officer is appointed. ● Josh asked what the recruitment process is? ● The state announces the recruitment; the county conducts interviews. ● County has requested a minimum of a master’s degree with two years of public health experience and 5 years of supervisory experience. ● There were 7 panel members on the initial round of interviews. ● Once they select a candidate, a recommendation will be made to the Secretary of Health to appoint a health officer. Josh thanked Lori for her commitment to the community. 	
<p>Subcommittee and Partner Updates</p>	<p>Lisa Renegar, Wicomico County Health Department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Behavioral Health Workgroup: Working with the LBHA on a three year plan, due mid-January. ● Live Healthy Wicomico: Waiting for new CHIP to be finalized to start working on new goals and objectives. ● Working to establish a new workgroup for health access and equity. <p>Ellen Willingham, Priority Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promoting COVID vaccinations, flu vaccines at events in the community. ● Supporting lower health insurance navigators to enroll people in the MCOs. 	

- Working with all MCOs to enroll individuals.
- Handouts and posters are available if organizations want to share at their sites.

Josh Boston, Chesapeake HealthCare:

- Open enrollment event December 3rd from 9-3 at the OB/Gyn Conference Center.
- Pediatric offices are being hit with both RSV and flu.
- Appointments are limited due to provider availability.
- Birth level reports show that we are over 180 deliveries from this time last year, with over 2,000 deliveries in 2022 by the end of the month.
- Seeing increase in postpartum depression; have instituted additional behavioral health resources.

Donna Clark, HOPE

- Dental funds are still on hold.
- Robert Shatner Foundation funds received last year (\$115,000) to provide dental care allowed HOPE to be able to assist 127 different people. A lot of this amount went to extractions to allow individuals to continue chemotherapy.
- Other quarterly funds received are restricted who can be served.
- New application to the Shatner Foundation was submitted; hope for an answer soon.
- Donna has notified the Board at HOPE that she will not be retiring until next year.
- Have seen almost 700 people in the HOPE office since July. Saw 69 yesterday, 58 on Tuesday.
- Feeding program serves even more.
- Half of these individuals are new clients that haven't been served before, many are under age 30.
- Many have transitional mental health problems. Thankful for behavioral health programs.

City of Salisbury

- Hoping to get Anne Street tiny home village up and running by the end of January.
- Looking for wraparound services for clients that can be provided on site.

Tammy Griffin, Wicomico County Health Department

- Reinitiating our Walk Wicomico Coalition.
- Meeting Tuesday 12/6 at 10:00. Looking for new members. If interested, contact Tammy.
- Will plan walks or runs in the county in 2023; identify new walking paths.
- Will provide small mini grants for faith based or non profits to create walking clubs.
- Healthy Lifestyle Challenge:
- Currently 90 participants with monthly lecture at YMCA (fitness, gardening, stress reduction) December topic is eating healthy and moving during the holidays.
- Incentives provided for participants that are tracking their water and fruit/vegetable intake.
- DPP class has been meeting weekly, starting monthly format in January.
- New DPP class starts in March
- Trained for Diabetes Self Management (DSMP) classes. New class beginning in the spring, working

with MAC.

- TOPS, community driven class starting soon.
- Onboarding three new staff members in Prevention: two Community Health Outreach Workers and one additional Community Health Educator.
- PHASE intern started in Prevention, a Hopkins master's student. Will work to improve advertisement and increase enrollment for DPP. For DPP to be a creditable class, need to maintain at least 5 people in the class.
- Public Health Week ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday April 4th at 3pm at SU.
- Looking for speakers. If you have suggestions, contact Tammy.

Kat Rodgers, TidalHealth

- HealthFest is planned for March 25th at James M Bennett High School from 8am - 12 pm.
- Returning to the original format for the first time since 2019.

Habacuc Petion, Rebirth

- 12/15 will receive a truckload of chicken at the Rebirth offices to be distributed.
- First and 3rd Thursday of the month - provide nutrition classes, and food and produce distribution. Yesterday 100 individuals attended.
- Assisting new mothers with getting health insurance, with Maryland Health Connection representative on site.

Eddline Petion, Rebirth Inc Program Navigator

- Continues Sunday education program, helping individuals arriving into the area. Many are pregnant women, assist in getting medical assistance. Provide transportation to their appointments.
- Accepting baby item donations for pregnant women assisted through Rebirth.
 - Josh shared that CHC has one Haitian Creole interpreter to assist with applications. Looking for referrals for individuals interested in being certified interpreters.
 - Lori shared that the health department will look at ways to bring services to Rebirth.

Rochelle Tyler, TidalHealth:

- TidalHealth received a \$1.1 billion grant from CHRC for pathways to health equity. Two year funding that started in May 2022. Partner with the health department and many other local organizations.
- Rural Equity and Access to Community Health (REACH) focuses on reducing health inequity, focusing mostly on diagnosis of prediabetes, diabetes and hypertension.
- Everyone is eligible for REACH program services, but prioritizing black and haitian creole populations due to prevalence of risk for those diseases.
- Partner services include health education, DPP programs, CDSM, access to all types of social determinants of health.
- Thanked Habacuc and his team, have another community based organization in Pocomoke.
- Working with the YMCA and the DPP program. The Y is offering up to four months of free access for

	<p>those participating.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Also reaching out to faith based organizations to get REACH info into churches in the community to establish partnerships and identify people that qualify for services. ● Submitted first 6 month report. ● Rochelle.tyler@tidalhealth.org or 410-912-5726 for questions. 	
NEXT MEETING	<p>Friday, February 3, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m. LOCATION: United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore, Salisbury MD</p>	
ADJOURNMENT	<p>Lori Brewster made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ellen Willingham, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.</p>	