



Wicomico County Local Health Improvement Coalition Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 4, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.

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| Meeting Name: | <i>Wicomico Local Health Improvement Coalition</i> | Meeting Location: | <i>Wicomico County Health Department Adkins Building</i> |
| | <i>Friday, April 4, 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>Deborah Stanley (CEC), Andra Taylor (SCHD), Anne Conway (Aetna Better Health), Cathey Insley (WiCHD), Danielle Weber (SCHD), Elizabeth Kromm (MDH), Dr. Gail Jordan Randolph (Aetna Better Health), Jason Sammon (WDSS), Josh Boston (CHC), Julie Krenzer (CareFirst), Corey Cobram (SCHD), Tuesday Trott (Holly Center), Jessica Sexauer (WiCHD), Kat Rodgers (TidalHealth), Rochelle Tyler (TidalHealth), Lisa Renegar (WiCHD), Eloka Ifudu (Aetna Better Health)</i> | | |

| TOPIC | DISCUSSION | ACTION |
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| WELCOME | Kat Rodgers called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and self introduction of members present were made. | |
| Approval of Minutes | Jessica Sexauer made a motion to approve updated December minutes as updated today, seconded by Tuesday Trott and carried. | Cathey will post . |
| Guest Presenter | <p>AHEAD Model - Maryland Department of Health Elizabeth Kromm, PhD, Assistant Secretary for Population Health and Strategic Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kromm was present to discuss the AHEAD Model, a multi-state CMMI model that builds on the successes of the Maryland TCOC model and is being used by the state to enhance State Health Equity Plan (SHEP) efforts. • Cooperative agreement signed July 2024 - pre-implementation period. • State agreement was signed in November 2024. • Reviewed pre-implementation milestones and full implementation timeline. • Goals are to ensure high-value care, improve access to care and promote health equity. • CMS provided a template states can use for SHEP development. • Contains 5 components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identifies health disparities and population health focus areas; ○ Sets measurable goals to reduce disparities and improve population health; ○ Identifies evidence-based strategies to advance goals; ○ Informs plans for allocating resources; ○ Develops processes to include stakeholders in implementation. | <p>Dr. Kromm elizabeth.kromm@maryland.gov</p> <p>Bronte Nevins, MPA Senior Health Policy Analyst bronte.nevins@maryland.gov</p> |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be informed by existing work (SHIP and local CHIP) • Five Core Domains and One “Optional” Domain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Population Health ○ Prevention/Wellness ○ Chronic Conditions ○ Behavioral Health ○ Health Care Quality/Utilization ○ Optional domain must be one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Maternal Health Outcomes, Prevention Measures, Social Drivers of Health. • SHEP is due to CMS by July 2025. • Proposed SHEP Implementation Process Reviewed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A group of Health Officers have been meeting regularly for the last few months to advise on the implementation process. • Discussed alignment with existing state plans and identified priorities, coordination among partner organizations, data sharing, and alternative investment vehicles to gain efficiencies and scale programs. • New Health Secretary Dr. Amina Seshwani was confirmed, and will work with the AHEAD models. <p>Questions:</p> <p>Kat asked who is eligible for Population Health Improvement funds?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Review process not finalized yet, pending legislation to establish the fund. Anticipate creating a set of eligibility criteria and an application system. A review team will evaluate. At this time, it should be open to any organization that works collaboratively on local health improvement to apply.</i> <p>Julie asked how Carefirst can get more information on the Medicaid Advance Primary Care portion?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MDH Chief Medical Officer Dr. Djinge Lindsay will be able to provide this information. Contact information provided.</i> <p>Danielle asked if Dr. Kromm would be willing to present to Somerset’s LHIC?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Will work with Corey to schedule this for a future meeting.</i> | Dr. Lindsay djinge.lindsay@maryland.gov |
| Health Officer Updates | <p>Jessica Sexauer, Wicomico County Deputy Health Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working to address the impact of federal service pauses at the local level, and notifying any partners of any shifts in services. • Public Health Week is April 7-13. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Outstanding Public Health Leader Ceremony is planned for Tuesday April 8th at the Wicomico Civic Center. ○ Health Department hosting a health and wellness fair for employees on April 7th. Partners are welcome to participate. | |
| Subcommittee Updates | <p>Lisa Renegar, Wicomico County Health Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Health Plan in final stages, hope to have a final by May 15, 2025. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Subcommittees currently paused until after the end of our fiscal year when new CHIP is in place. ● Health Access and Equity subgroup will continue to meet. ● May contact partners for information in the coming weeks. ● The Behavioral Health Workgroup is scheduled to meet at the end of April. ● Upcoming events: Color Run at Kylan Barn, | |
| Partner Updates | <p>Deborah Stanley, Community Empowerment Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Annual Community HealthFair June 7th from 11 am - 2 pm at St. Paul AME Zion (Delaware Avenue). ● Flyer being finalized and will be shared by email. ● Partners invited to attend. <p>Eloka Ifudu, Aetna Better Health of Maryland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New outreach contact for Aetna for this meeting (lfuduc@aetna.com) ● Monthly advisory committee meetings open to any interested members. The next meeting is in May. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Please contact Eloka if you are interested. <p>Julie Krenzer, CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eastern Shore Food Coalition being formed to develop a food council on the shore. ● Initial kickoff meeting coming soon; will share the invite with anyone interested. <p>Kat Rodgers, TidalHealth Peninsula Regional Medical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presented a proposal to MCHRC on 4/3/25 for supporting operations of the mobile mammography van. ● Van should be here by this summer and aim to have it equipped and wrapped in time for October and breast cancer awareness month. ● TidalHealth staff are available to come present to interested groups, contact Kat to schedule. ● The CHNA report is in final formatting stages and should be ready to share by our next meeting. Kat thanked partners for support and input during this process. ● Submitted a funding request to HSCRC to expand behavioral health services and integration, particularly for substance use disorders. ● In partnership with the Salisbury Fire Department, will be implementing a model where Tidal Health Community Wellness NPs can bridge a gap if needed to provide initial prescriptions for those interested in starting treatment right away, so they don't need to wait for an appointment. ● Looking to bring someone on board to help with implementation of social care coordination platform "FindHelp," that the REACH coalition is using in both Atlantic General and TidalHealth hospitals. ● Anticipate the TidalHealth merge with Atlantic General to be completed in the coming weeks. | Cathey will update Aetna contact on LHIC email listing. |
| Meeting Format | <p>Recent meetings have been hybrid, with a small number of partners attending in person. Lisa proposed moving to an all virtual format moving forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The group discussed, and a proposal to meet virtually for 5 meetings a year with one meeting held in person, each year in August was made. ● Members present voted, and the all virtual meeting format was approved. | |

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| NEXT MEETING | Friday, June 6, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m. (Virtual only) |
| ADJOURNMENT | The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am. |