



Public Health
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Wicomico County
Health Department

Wicomico County Local Health Improvement Coalition Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 1, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Name:	<i>Wicomico Local Health Improvement Coalition</i>	Meeting Location:	<i>Virtual</i>
	<i>Friday, August 1, 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), Bobbi McDonald (TidalHealth), Lisa Widmaier (ESAHEC), Josh Boston (CHC), Jessica Sexauer (WiCHD), Matthew McConaughy (WiCHD), Cathey Insley (WiCHD), Kat Rodgers (TidalHealth), Catherine Maybury (Horowitz Center), Jolene Isaac (WiCHD Intern), Ellen Willingham (Priority Partners) Jason Sammons (WiDSS), MaryBeth Waide (DHHC), Lauren Holfield (University of Maryland), Tuesday Trott (Holly Center), Rochelle Tyler (TidalHealth), Cynthia Calixte (WiCHD), Tammy Griffin (WiCHD), Julie Krenzer (CareFirst)</i>		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
WELCOME	Matthew McConaughy called the meeting to order at 9:01 am and informed attendees that the meeting is being recorded, and AI note taking apps are disconnected from the call. Members present added their name/organization in the chat for meeting attendance.	
Approval of Minutes	Jessica Sexauer made a motion to approve June minutes, seconded by Bobbi McDonald and carried.	Cathey will post.
Meeting Structure	Lisa Renegar, Kat Rodgers and Christina Gray met prior to the meeting to discuss LHIC meeting options. Polls were presented to the group to determine preferences for meeting frequency, date and time, and whether we will continue discussing each focus area at every meeting, or focus on one focus area. ● 9 of 11 voters prefer a quarterly meeting structure. ● 9 of 12 voters voted to continue meeting Fridays at 9:00 am, virtually. ● 8 of 11 voters prefer dedicating one LHIC meeting for each priority area.	Lisa will update calendar invites. Lisa/Cathey will update the LHIC webpage and notify the County.
LHIC Bylaws Review	The group reviewed current bylaws to determine if updates are needed. Key Stakeholders discussion: ● The group discussed which providers and organizations should be listed as individual stakeholders: ○ Matthew suggested that while updating stakeholder categories can be beneficial, it does not need to be an exhaustive list since our bylaws specify that participation “includes, but is not limited to” the listed stakeholders. ○ After discussion the group decided not to separate behavioral health providers into a separate category, but will indicate which stakeholders are behavioral health providers, as this is a priority	Lisa will make the suggested changes and send to the group for approval.

	area. The decision was based upon the agreement that behavioral health is healthcare. Lisa proposed adding that “healthcare providers” includes somatic health, behavioral health and addictions. ○ Other groups/organizations that will be listed separately include public libraries and veteran’s support organizations, and creating a new category for first responders, rather than just a group for law enforcement. Other suggestions are financial institutions, food banks, and transportation programs. ■ Eileen added that federal grants recognize 11 public sectors with multiple subcategories. ■ Mary Beth Waide informed the group that Deer’s Head has a staff member from Maryland Department of Veterans and Families housed at the hospital. Attendance discussion: ● Matthew suggested changing attendance requirements due to the change in meeting frequency. ○ Josh Boston proposed a 75% attendance rate over a 12 month period, with consideration that members can send a designee to meet the attendance requirement, and may additionally assign voting proxy to the designee. ■ Members present agreed. Voting discussion: ● Matthew suggested adding a minimum quorum for voting. ○ Lisa shared that our current roster is 19 voting members and 9 non-voting members. ○ Josh suggested a minimum of ⅓ of our voting members present for a quorum. ■ Lisa will add that when a proxy is in attendance, they can serve as a voting member. Organizational Structure: ● The health department will continue the administrative responsibilities of scheduling, developing agendas, minutes and membership. ● Bylaws are to be reviewed annually, which will be prioritized moving forward. ● Workgroups will each have a chair assigned to coordinate meetings, and presentation to the full committee for their respective focus areas.	
Membership Review	● The group discussed gaps in organizational representation, and proposed an annual membership renewal commitment. ● Matthew suggested creating membership interest flyers to be posted throughout the community. ● A new committee will meet to discuss membership. Josh Boston, Tuesday Trott, Tammy Griffin and Kat Rodgers volunteered to serve on this committee.	Lisa will make all suggested changes and share by email.
Subcommittees	● Lisa Renegar shared that the subcommittees have not been meeting in the summer, pending the start of the new fiscal year. ○ The behavioral health workgroup will begin strategic planning in October	

Partner Updates	Kat Rodgers, TidalHealth ● August 14th from 1:00 - 3:00 pm will be the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Edward Q. Wilgas Community Clinic at 805 East Church Street. ○ Partners are invited to attend. ● Year one of the REACH health equity grant is complete. ○ Congratulated Rochelle Tyler and all partners on serving 3,000+ unduplicated participants. ● September 26, 2025: Annual drive-thru flu clinic at Perdue stadium. ● Anticipating delivery of mobile mammography van by the end of August, with ribbon cutting and launch in October. ● Two members of the SWIFT team (NP and LCSW) have reconvened the homeless outreach team. ● March 1st is the official merge date for TidalHealth and Atlantic General Hospital, when all sites will use the same electronic medical record. ● "Walk with the Doc" begins in September, held the first Saturday of every month from 10 - 11 am at Unity Square. ○ Part of the REACH grant; will feature an educational session with a TidalHealth provider. MaryBeth Waide, Deer’s Head Hospital Center ● Celebrated Deer’s Head 75th anniversary on July 20th. ● Dedicated July 20, 1950. Jason Sammons, Wicomico Department of Social Services ● Saw a 3% reduction in the number of substance-exposed newborn cases over the last year. ○ Most referrals received are for meconium testing that indicates marijuana exposure (110 cases in Wicomico). ○ Larger jurisdictions have stopped this meconium testing, to their numbers ● Federal changes to SNAP benefits will require 18-64 year olds to work, effective fiscal year 2027. Lisa Widmaier, Eastern Shore Area Health Education Center ● September 8, 2025: Community health worker training program begins. Offered twice a year. ● The last week of August is National Community Health Worker Awareness Week. ESAHEC is planning a social media campaign, press releases with partner organizations, and distributing CHW pins and certificates of appreciation. ○ Employers can submit photos and names of their CHWs for recognition through this promotion. ○ An email went out in recent weeks; if you did not receive it, please reach out to Lisa to have one of your CHWs recognized through these testimonials. ● AHECs are In jeopardy of losing federal funding. Partners may be asked to submit letters of support to help advocate for federal funding. ● Eileen Willingham thanked Lisa for the Poverty Simulation held at UMES, and stated it was very impactful. Tammy Griffin, Wicomico County Health Department Prevention and Health Communications	
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- Have been awarded two new grants:
 - Firearms Prevention grant will focus on safe storage and education, and will allow us to give out gun locks.
 - Healthy Corner Store grant will be a pilot program to have an outreach worker and an AmeriCorp worker to replicate Maryland's Healthiest Business program. Will work with local corner stores, gas stations and small grocery stores to create opportunities for fruits, vegetables, and healthy beverages.
 - Will begin by coordinating outreach strategies to determine when it is best to reach the owners to provide the education needed to implement.
 - Kat added that this grant aligns with REACH, and suggested connecting with Rochelle.
 - Diabetes Prevention Program - Spanish class has moved to a virtual format due to low in person attendance. This has worked well. English class is also running virtually.
- Walk Wicomico has some funding this year to work with county Parks and Recreation to update and clean up trail signage.
- Flyer will be shared with upcoming Overdose Awareness activities in August and September.
- Tammy shared the loss of a long time member of the Prevention Team. Cindy Shifler passed away on July 29th. Cindy was an advocate for prevention and drug misuse, and she loved working with the community and with youth. Cindy served the county for over 40 years. Funeral services are planned for August 16th at 10 am at Holloway Funeral Home.

Lauren Rachel Holfield, University of Maryland

- SNAP-Ed in Wicomico County ends September 30, 2025 due to a federal cut to this funding.

Matthew McConaughey, Wicomico County Health Officer

- Shared a Maryland Medicaid FAQ sheet that can be shared with clients with questions on their coverage.
- Shared a situational review of the federal budget changes for Maryland Medicaid.
 - 175,000 Maryland residents are projected to lose coverage.
- Wicomico Goes Purple kicks off in September, with several events planned.
 - Information can be found at wicomicogoespurple.com/events.

ADJOURNMENT	Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.
NEXT MEETING	Friday, November 7, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m. - VIRTUAL MEETING

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Maryland Medicaid FAQ sheet](#)
2. [Impact of Congressional Budget on Maryland Medicaid Program](#)