



**Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition**  
Access to Care/Healthy Weight/Healthy Aging Work Group Meetings  
April 1, 2020 – 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (Access to Care Work Group)  
April 2, 2020 – 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (Healthy Weight Work Group)  
April 3, 2020 – 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (Healthy Aging Work Group)

*Virtual meetings held via WebEx*

**Minutes**

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>	Kelly Kesler, Director of the Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition called the meetings to order at 1:00 PM.	
<b>Announcements</b>	<p>The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange extended the special enrollment period until June 15<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>During the Healthy Aging work group call on Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 Kelly Kesler shared that the Howard County Government had launched a new online tool that morning (<a href="https://bit.ly/2x1V6SA">https://bit.ly/2x1V6SA</a>), which allows users to track the number of active and recovered COVID-19 cases in Howard County, as well as deaths related to the virus. The tool is expected to be updated daily but it should be noted that due to the timing of updates, data may differ from other COVID-19 related dashboards.</p>	<p>Uninsured Marylanders may enroll through the state’s health insurance marketplace <a href="http://www.marylandHealthConnection.gov">www.marylandHealthConnection.gov</a>, download the free “Enroll MHC” mobile app or by calling 1-855-642-8572 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays - Request or select “Coronavirus Emergency Special Enrollment Period.”</p>
<b>COVID-19 Updates</b>	<p>During the April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup> work group meetings, Kelly Kesler offered remarks on behalf of Dr. Rossman who was unable to join the calls due to the emergency response. During the April 2, 2020 Healthy Weight work group call, Dr. Rossman offered key information and provided HCHD organizational updates for addressing COVID-19 in Howard County. She commended all the Howard County government partners and agencies that are working together to promote resources and services available for the citizens of Howard County during this pandemic.</p> <p>Social distancing and physical activity were discussed and Dr. Rossman affirmed that it is important to find ways to be physically active while the Governor’s stay at home order is in effect (I.e. going outside for a walk). She reinforced that it is key to maintain social</p>	<p>The Howard County COVID-19 testing site located at the Maryland VEIP testing sites on Broken Land Parkway in Columbia opened on April 7, 2020. For more information visit <a href="https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health/MM-Alerts-and-Recalls">https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health/MM-Alerts-and-Recalls</a></p>

	<p>distancing guidelines and not congregating in big groups even outdoors.</p> <p>COVID-19 testing was discussed and the opening of a testing site at the Maryland VEIP testing sites in Howard County located on Broken Land Parkway in Columbia was discussed. At the time of this call the site was awaiting final approval.</p>	
<p><b>COVID-19: LHIC Resource and Response Survey</b></p>	<p>Kelly Kesler discussed preliminary results from the HCLHIC Member Communications Survey: COVID-19 Resources and Response.</p> <p>According to the survey, members indicated that updates on 1) Medical Updates on COVID-19, 2) Communications Updates on COVID-19, and 3) COVID-19 and Special Populations and 4) Social isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic would be important topics to be support the communities served by the organizations they represent.</p>	<p>Coalition members may still complete the HCLHIC Member Communications Survey: COVID-19 Resources and Response at <a href="https://forms.gle/9kBNiG9jKpSUXMGeA">https://forms.gle/9kBNiG9jKpSUXMGeA</a></p> <p>Coalition members are encouraged to visit the following webpages to learn about the current LHIC media updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">HCLHIC Monthly Digests</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">HCLHIC Member Action Alerts</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>COVID-19 Communications Messaging</b></p>	<p>During the April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup> work group meetings, Lisa De Hernandez, Public Information Officer at Howard County Health Department, and on April 3, 2020, Karen Spicer from Howard County Government discussed emergency response communications and the key messages that coalition members and community partners are asked to share through their networks.</p> <p>Efforts to effectively communicate key messages with populations who have limited English proficiency was discussed.</p>	<p>LHIC members are encouraged to visit the following for COVID-19 updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Howard County Health Department Coronavirus Information <a href="https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health/MM-Alerts-and-Recalls">https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health/MM-Alerts-and-Recalls</a></li> <li>• Howard County Government Coronavirus Page <a href="https://www.howardcountymd.gov/coronavirus">https://www.howardcountymd.gov/coronavirus</a></li> <li>• Maryland Department of Health <a href="https://coronavirus.maryland.gov">https://coronavirus.maryland.gov</a></li> <li>• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <a href="http://www.cdc.gov">www.cdc.gov</a>.</li> <li>• You can also contact the Howard County Health Department for health-related questions at 410-313-6284.</li> </ul>



		<p>LHIC members are encouraged to participate in the Howard County COVID-19 Foreign-born Services Response and Resources hosted by the Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition and Howard County Health Department Bureau of Behavioral Health on Friday, April 24, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Register at <a href="https://bit.ly/34hxEYZ">https://bit.ly/34hxEYZ</a></p>
<p><b>Workgroup Members Updates and Discussion of COVID-19 Response</b></p>	<p><b>[Access to Care Workgroup 04.01.2020]</b></p> <p>Heidi Weiss-Beedie from Howard County Health Department shared that the Health Department’s Foreign-born Population program has been busy helping to provide its clients services via tele-medicine and that clients have indicated increased stress due to job loss.</p> <p>Vanda Lerdboon from Howard County Health Department shared the We Care Initiative launched in January. The initiative focuses on two residential buildings with high 911 utilization and is working with the Chronic Disease program to do a needs assessment in those complexes.</p> <p>Jennifer Lee from the Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services, Office on Aging and Independence shared that they are strategizing ways to offer evidence-based programs such as Chronic Disease Self-Management in virtual formats. Additionally, she shared that the Department’s Health Promotion program is working to develop videos that promote staying active at home and that address mental health, stress and anxiety.</p> <p>Shanika Cooper from Howard County Health Department discussed the increased need for Medicaid services due to changes in employment status resulting from COVID-19 related lay-offs and closures. Additionally, it was noted the Medical Assistance Transportation Program is operating with modifications. Ms. Cooper shared that no new coverages have been extended during the special open enrollment period for undocumented workers who</p>	<p>For questions related to the Health Department’s Foreign-Born and Psychogeriatric Programs contact Heidi Weiss-Beedie at <a href="mailto:hweissbeedie@howardcountymd.gov">hweissbeedie@howardcountymd.gov</a></p> <p>For questions related to the Health Department’s WeCare and CareAPP Programs contact Vanda Lerdboon at <a href="mailto:plerdboon@howardcountymd.gov">plerdboon@howardcountymd.gov</a></p> <p>For questions related to the Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services Programs contact Jenna Crawley at <a href="mailto:jcrawley@howardcountymd.gov">jcrawley@howardcountymd.gov</a> or Jennifer Lee at <a href="mailto:jlee@howardcountymd.gov">jlee@howardcountymd.gov</a>.</p> <p>For questions related to the Health Department’s Medical Assistance and Medical Assistance Transportation call the Health Department at 1-410-313-5845.</p> <p>Columbia Association has made available online videos for a variety of exercise classes and instruction can be found at <a href="http://columbiaassociation.org">columbiaassociation.org</a>. Click on CA@Home Discover More on the home page.</p> <p>For information about the virtual nutrition education services available through Giant Food contact Melanie</p>

aren't insured. She stated that if they have a doctor's order for COVID-19 testing, the cost for that has been waived and will be free of charge to them.

**[Healthy Weight Workgroup 04.02.2020]**

Shawni Paraska from Columbia Association discussed current changes to operations and closures and shared that Open Space and Golf Course workers continue to maintain these spaces. Pathways remain open, but the tot lots are closed. Although the clubs are closed, a limited number of team members are providing safety and operational checks, maintenance, and cleaning. Preparations for summer activities are still underway.

Melanie Berdyck from Giant Food shared that nutrition education services are now being offered online. Additionally, Giant Food is offering [Nutrition at Noon](#) webinars Monday – Friday and is offering its Six Weeks to Wellness classes virtually.

Mary Ann Barry from Transition Howard County shared that the activities through public gardens are on hold due to COVID-19. However, they are working with organizations to provide education and guidance for people that may want to start a garden at home.

**[Healthy Aging Workgroup 04.03.2020]**

Bruce Fulton from Neighbor Ride stated during the COVID-19 pandemic, they have been supporting older adults and the community including food delivery in collaboration with the Howard County Food Bank and the Howard County Office on Aging and Independence (OAI).

Rashel Taylor from Horizon Foundation shared the upcoming grant opportunity that non-profit organizations could apply for funding in response to the COVID-19

Jenna Crawley, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services, Office on Aging and Independence provided an update on COVID-19 response. She shared that:

Berdyck at [Melanie.Berdyck@giantfood.com](mailto:Melanie.Berdyck@giantfood.com) or visit <http://giantfood.com/nutrition> and <https://www.facebook.com/events/2280739155566496/>

For information about services and volunteer opportunities with Neighbor Ride visit [www.neighborride.org](http://www.neighborride.org) or contact Bruce Fulton at [director@neighborride.org](mailto:director@neighborride.org).

Rashel Taylor from the Horizon Foundation discussed Covid-19 emergency response funds for nonprofits. The first round of grant applications will open on MONDAY 4/6 and close FRIDAY 4/10. Learn more and apply at [www.Hocorespond.com](http://www.Hocorespond.com)

For information and resources to address Poison Control during the COVID-19 emergency response contact Emily Patterson at [epaterson@rx.umaryland.edu](mailto:epaterson@rx.umaryland.edu) or visit [Maryland Poison Center](http://MarylandPoisonCenter.org). Resources for information about Chloroquine and Hydroxychloroquine are available at <https://bit.ly/CQ-HCQ-Info>. Additionally, information regarding safety and Hand Sanitizer is available at <http://bit.ly/HandSanitizer-Info>

Howard County providers requesting PPE should complete the COVID-19 Supply Request at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q7MPHNM](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q7MPHNM)

Member organizations that are interested in providing virtual educational programs in collaboration with the HCLHIC should contact Kelly

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maryland Access Point had been continuously providing the information referral and assistance</li> <li>• All 50 + centers will remain closed till the state of emergency is lifted. However, exercise classes and other supports were available through online platform.</li> <li>• Instead of providing congregate meal service at 50+ centers, meal packs consisted of five frozen meals and juice/milk were delivered to registered individuals through the neighbor Ride to ensure food access and security of their clients.</li> <li>• The OAI distributed over 470 meals to their nutrition site at Longwood Senior APT over the past two weeks.</li> <li>• Ombudsman/Guardianship and State Health Insurance Program had been remotely available as well.</li> </ul> <p>Emily Patterson with the Maryland Poison Center encouraged members to visit the website of the Maryland Poison Center for information about safety information and information regarding usage of drugs and hygiene products related to the COVID-19.</p> <p>Yolanda Wright from the Alzheimer’s Association of Maryland shared Coronavirus Preparedness for Caregivers and Coronavirus Tips for Dementia Caregivers resources.</p>	<p>Kesler at <a href="mailto:kkseler@howardcountymd.gov">kkseler@howardcountymd.gov</a></p>
<p><b>Wrap Up and Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Work group meetings were adjourned at 2:00 pm.</p>	<p>Coalition members may obtain meeting materials at <a href="http://hclhic.org/membership/meeting-portal">http://hclhic.org/membership/meeting-portal</a></p> <p>Community members with health-related COVID-19 questions may contact the Howard County Health Department COVID-19 Hotline at 410-313-6284 or email <a href="mailto:askhealth@howardcountymd.gov">askhealth@howardcountymd.gov</a></p>

**Meeting Participants:****Access to Care Workgroup Meeting 04.01.2020:**

Leslie Adams, Howard County Health Department	Tehani Mundy, Howard County General Hospital
Nicole Becerra, Department of Community Resources & Services	Rodney Oldham, HCLHIC - Howard County Health Department
Shanika Cooper, Howard County Health Department	Johnathan Ortega, Health Care Access Maryland
Lisa DeHernandez, Howard County Health Department	Janice Stanton, Howard County General Hospital
Melissa Ganey, Humanim	Kerrie Wagaman, Howard County Public School System
Natalie Hall, Howard County Health Department	Heidi Weiss-Beedie, Howard County Health Department
Lois Joellenbeck, Howard County Health Department	Dr. Jeffrey Wetstone, Community Member
Kelly Kesler, HCLHIC - Howard County Health Department	Patricia Wright, Aetna Better Health Maryland
Seojin Kim, HCLHIC - Howard County Health Department	Sue Song, Howard County Korean American Association
Jennifer Lee, Department of Community Resources & Services	
Vanda Lerdboon, Howard County Health Department	

**Weight Workgroup Meeting 04.02.2020:**

Mary Ann Barry, Transition Howard County	Kirsten Minor, Howard County Health Department
Melanie Berdyck, Giant Food	Shawni Paraska, Columbia Association
Lisa DeHernandez, Howard County Health Department	Maura Rossman, Howard County Health Department
Kelly Kesler, HCLHIC - Howard County Health Department	Razan Sahuri, University of Maryland Extension
Seojin Kim, HCLHIC - Howard County Health Department	
Rodney Oldham, HCLHIC - Howard County Health Department	

**Aging Workgroup Meeting 04.03.2020:**

Karen Basinger, University of Maryland Extension	Shirely Marc, Nurturing Care At Home
Andrea Bendig, BrightStar Care of Howard County	Ted Meyerson, AARP Maryland
Malarie Burgess, Howard County Department of Community Resources & Services	Andrew Monjan, Transition Howard County
Jennifer Crawley, Howard County Department of Community Resources & Services	Chris Moore, Howard County Department of Community Resources & Services
Jeannie DeCray, Howard County Department of Community Resources & Services	Rachael Parran, Howard County General Hospital
Roel Manuel Evangelista, AAA Physical Therapy	Emily Paterson, Maryland Poison Center
Bruce Fulton, Neighbor Ride	Jim Sanders, The Village in Howard County
Terri Hansen, Howard County Department of Community Resources & Services	Rashel Taylor, Horizon Foundation
Kelly Kesler, HCLHIC - Howard County Health Department	Sharonlee Vogel, Howard County Commission on Aging
Seojin Kim, HCLHIC - Howard County Health Department	Kathy Wehr, Howard County Department of Community Resources & Services
Rodney Oldham, HCLHIC - Howard County Health Department	Heidi Weiss-Beedie, Howard County Health Department
Karen Spicer, Howard County Health Department/Howard County Government	Yolanda Wright, Alzheimer's Association

## **Future Meeting Dates:**

### **Upcoming Virtual Meetings**

**Behavioral Health** – Wednesday, April 8, 2020; 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

**Behavioral Health** – Wednesday, April 15, 2020; 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

**Access to Care** – Thursday, May 7, 2020; 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

**Healthy Aging** – Tuesday, May 12, 2020; 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

**Healthy Weight** – Thursday, May 14, 2020; 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

### **FULL HCLHIC**

**Howard County COVID-19 Foreign-born Services Response and Resources Call** - hosted by the Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition and Howard County Health Department Bureau of Behavioral Health - Friday, April 24, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Register at <https://bit.ly/34hxEYZ>

Full LHIC Meeting April 30, 2020; 8:30 – 10:30am – Virtual \*Registration to follow

Respectfully submitted by  
Seojin Kim, MSW, & Rodney Oldham, CPT, CHES, Program Coordinators  
Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition