



Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Full LHIC Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2024, 9:00 am – 11:00 pm

Hybrid – In-person (Heroes Room) & Virtual (Zoom)

Minutes

Members Present:

Shafeeq Ahmed, Johns Hopkins (JH) HC Medical Center
Erin Anderson, Howard County (HC) Health Department
Anne Armstrong, Maryland Relay
Linda Ashburn, HC Health Department
Erin Ashinghurst, Accessible Resources for Independence
Senam Attipoe, Stillborn and Infant Loss Support
Jason Bashura, Board of Health
Sarah Biederman, Fit with Nirit
Bernadette Bindewald, HC Health Department
Octavia Brown, Urban Mental Health
Matthew Castner, JH HC Medical Center
Shakia Colbert, CareFirst Engagement Center
Samantha Cribbs, HC Health Department
Laura Crovo, Grassroots Crisis Intervention
Jen Dawson, Maryland Physician's Care
Lisa DeHernandez, HC Health Department
Marnetta Sanders – Ennis, HC Health Department
Nancy Ervin, University of Maryland Extension
Shar Ferrell, CareFirst Engagement Centers
Rachel Filar, HC Office on Aging & Independence
Jessica Fisher, HC Health Department
Connie Ford, HC Health Department
Katrina Fowlkes, Perfect Generation Family
JaKaiya Frisby, American Lung Association
Melissa Ganey, Humanim
Marilyn Berchie-Gialamas, Trinity Wellness
Chris Mason-Hale, Maryland Center for Dev. Disabilities
Natalie Hall, HC Health Department
Nayanie Henriquez, HC Health Department
Emily Hodson, Chase Brexton
Sherlina Holland, Maryland Department of Health
Lois Joellenbeck, HC Health Department

Rachel Krut, JH HC Medical Center
Kelly Kryspin, Autism Society of Maryland
Genny LaPorte, HC Police Department
Vanda Lerdboon, HC Health Department
Cindy Li, Community Health Initiative
Latonya Love, HC Health Department
Ilise Marrasso, HC Health Department
Melissa Melton, The Healthy Church
Lois Mikkila, Association of Community Services
Meghan Monpremier, Medstar Health
D'Paul Nibber, Horizon Foundation
Sun Nicolas, HC Health Department
Mike O'Rourke, Man to Man Support Group
Emily Paterson, Maryland Poison Center
Octavia Peterson, American Heart Association
Crystal Pope, JH HC Medical Center
Stephanie Reid, HC Health Department
Madi Repass, Alzheimer's Association
Tara-Whitney Rison, HC Office on Aging & Ind.
Carrie Ross, Community Action Council of HC
Maura Rossman, HC Health Department
Nikki Savoy, Accessible Resources for Independence
Dale Schumacher, Rockburn Institute
Joan Webb Scornaienchi, HC DrugFree
Gabi Shiffett, Alzheimer's Association
Carrie Singley, JH HC Medical Center
Marcus Smith, Maryland Relay
Lauren Soummers, HC Health Department
Matthew Swinburne, University of Maryland Law
Amber Wilson, HC Library System
Matt Wilson, HC Health Department
Antigone Vickery, HC Health Department

Janet Jones, Qlarant

Chyn e Vicks, HC Health Department
Angelina Vu, Disability Partnerships

Staff Present:

Ashton Jordan, HC Local Health Improvement Coalition
Reena Rambharat, HC Local Health Improvement Coalition

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
Welcome and Introductions	<p>Ms. Reena Rambharat, Director of the Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition (HCLHIC) of the Howard County Health Department (HCHD), called the meeting to order at 9:00am.</p> <p>Ms. Rambharat welcomed members and guests and reviewed the goal of the meeting to present updates from Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center (JHHCMC) and Workgroup activities in support of the Healthy Beginnings, Healthy Living and Healthy Minds priorities.</p> <p>Dr. Maura Rossman, Health Officer of Howard County, and co-chair of HCLHIC, gave gratitude to staff for their hard work and mentioned the effort towards growing seedlings for community members to create more vegetable gardens in the county.</p>	<p>Members are urged to review the past minutes and presentations available at: https://www.hclhic.org/home/MeetingYears/1</p>
Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center (JHHCMC) Updates	<p>Ms. Rambharat introduced Dr. Shafeeq Ahmed, President of JHHCMC, to provide updates from the Medical Center.</p> <p>Dr. Ahmed, shared updates regarding post-COVID challenges, as well as things that were going on pre-COVID and things going on currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emergency department capacity<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ In Maryland alone, over the past year, there's been a 40% reduction in number of beds.○ Staffed-bed issues from changes in staffing due to pandemic and general hesitation with working in healthcare.○ Inpatient behavioral health unit in the hospital constantly full.○ Effective capacity of the emergency department to see patients begins to shrink	



when you have Medical Boarders and psychiatric boarders.

- Challenges with wait time are ongoing
 - Emergency department sees about 76,000 pediatric and adult patients per year.
 - Behavioral health issues have changed and evolved over time increasing number of emergency department visits and longer stays.
- Plans for future
 - Behavioral health unit to be expanded from 6 space unit to 24 space unit
 - Hospital to create an additional 29 bed observation unit within hospital

Ms. Rambharat inquired how the HCLHIC can help the Medical Center. Dr. Ahmed suggested continuing to partner on programs that avoid hospitalization. Further, he mentioned providing resources that keep patients from being readmitted. Ms. Rambharat inquired how many patients are readmissions. Dr. Ahmed shared that the percentage hovers between 10-13%.

Ms. Rambharat inquired if the behavioral health unit expansion will include pediatrics. Dr. Ahmed mentioned that it will not include pediatrics as there is a separate behavioral health unit within the pediatric emergency department.

Dr. Katrina Fowlkes inquired if it was possible to use the Medical Arts Building as space for more acute patients. Dr. Ahmed shared that the observation unit expansion would accomplish this as it may not be feasible to use the Medical Art Building for that space.

Ms. Octavia Brown, inquired about the hospital patient demographics, the resources in the hospital available to people of color or people who have marginalized identities, as well as what organizations that are a part of the HCLHIC

can do on a policy level to aid in making those resources available. Dr. Ahmed shared that the demographic makeup of the hospital's population is relative to the county. Further, Dr. Ahmed mentioned that the staff population reflects the county's population as well. He also mentioned that the hospital has community health workers addressing other issues that are unique to patients.

Ms. Genny LaPorte, inquired what behavioral health staff will do after the expansion of the behavioral health unit. Dr. Ahmed shared that the staff would continue their tasks but will be moved from their current placement in the emergency department.

Ms. Janet Jones inquired if there was a hospital coalition that works with the skilled nursing facilities and home health agencies to discuss admissions and readmissions and how to work together to help. Dr. Ahmed shared that the hospital does have a connection with them, but they are also facing capacity challenges similar to the hospital.

Ms. Rambharat mentioned that Howard County data shows that the area is lacking primary care. She inquired as to why there's a shortage of primary in care in the county. Dr. Ahmed suggested that the as a primary care provider, the number of patients one may take may not be listed. A switch from primary care to concierge medicine may decrease number of patients that can stay on a provider's panel. So effectively, a provider may be there, but they may not be taking care of as many patients. Ms. Rambharat inquired if virtual primary care options were helping. Dr. Ahmed mentioned that again capacity limits how many visits a physicians can see either virtually or physically.

It was inquired what are the plans and is there a role for community health workers to help with finding some of those unmet needs and maybe decreasing that kind of burden. Dr. Ahmed shared that there would not be an expansion but there would be an optimization of the community health worker role.

Dr. Katrina Fowlkes inquired how her nonprofit can partner with the hospital to offset some of the expenses the hospital incurs. Dr. Ahmed mentioned connecting with Matt



	<p>Castner, Director of Population Health at JHHCMC, as he serves as a liaison of sorts between the hospital and the HCLHIC.</p>	
<p>HCLHIC Workgroup Updates</p>	<p>Ms. Rambharat introduced the co-chairs to provide updates on their perspective workgroups.</p> <p>Erin Ashinghurst, Accessible Resources for Independence, and Chyn�e Vicks, Howard County Health Department, provided updates for the Health Literacy (HLAC). HLAC Updates included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded a second iteration of funding for the Disability Inclusion Grant Project. • January meeting had a presentation from Marcus Smith, Maryland outreach coordinator for Maryland Relay. • March meeting had a presentation from Octavia Guthrie, health program specialist at The Parents’ Place of Maryland. • Group working on highlighting partner efforts during respective National Monthly Health Observances. <p>Ms. Crystal Pope, JHHCMC, provided updates for the Chronic Disease Prevention and Management Group (CDPMG). CDPMG updates included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Health Action Item to include information on National Minority Health Month • Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs flier has been translated into 5 languages and is available on the LHIC website • Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs poster has been created and is available on the LHIC website • Partners have hosted 6 Chronic disease related events with a reach of over 200 HoCo residents • Partners have held 12 chronic disease evidence-based programs with around 130 completers • To promote the preventative work CDPMG partners do we’ve been highlighting nutrition-based efforts from our partners. 	<p>Members may review the HCLHIC Action Plan on the HCLHIC website at: https://www.hclhic.org/community/action-plans</p> <p>To learn more about the HCLHIC workgroups and co-chairs, visit: https://www.hclhic.org/about/our-team</p> <p>If you are interested in joining one or more of the workgroups, please email us at: LHIC@howardcountymd.gov</p> <p>Members can view the Chronic Disease webpage here: https://www.hclhic.org/health/y/chronic-disease</p> <p>Members can view the Healthy Eating webpage here: https://www.hclhic.org/health/y/eating</p> <p>Members can find nutrition resources for chronic disease here: https://www.hclhic.org/health/y/chronic-disease/248</p> <p>Members can view the Maternal/Infant/Child</p>

- Had two presentations regarding nutrition-based efforts in Maryland
- Group working on highlighting partner efforts during respective National Monthly Health Observances

Ms. Carrie Ross, Community Action Council, provided updates for the Food Security Committee (FSC). FSC updates included:

- University of Maryland Extension Howard County Nutritionist is scheduled to start on April 22nd.
- Nutrition education around gardening is continuing at Talbott Springs Elementary Schools with plans to continue and expand to other schools next academic year.
- Planned Spring Break Pop Up pantry at Ducketts Lane Elementary School did not get participants as anticipated so the plan is to work with Deep Run Elementary School due to past success.
- In lieu of the next Food Security Committee meeting, LHIC will be collaborating with CEI to have a tour and volunteering on Freetown Farm.
- Howard County Public School System announced the free summer meal program that will run weekdays June 24th to August 2nd.
- Received seeds from ACE Hardware Store and grew them into seedlings for the older residents living in the Owen Brown Place.

Ms. Samantha Cribbs, Howard County Health Department, provided updates for the Growing Healthy Families Workgroup. Growing Healthy Families updates included:

- Black Maternal Health Week event's focus this year is on restoring Joy through Community Care.
- The event will start out with a panel discussion from 10:30 – 11:30am moderated by Nyanie Hendriquez and will feature panelists from Blossom and Grow Wellness Center, United Health Care Community Plan, Food at the Center and Trinity Wellness.
- There will be a Community Resource Fair after from 11:30 – 12:30pm with many partners and there will be prenatal massage, raffles, snacks and more!

webpage here:

<https://www.hclhic.org/health/y/child>

Members can view the Suicide Prevention webpage here:

<https://www.hclhic.org/health/y/suicide-prevention>

Members can view the

Physical Activity page here:

<https://www.hclhic.org/health/y/physical-activity>

Member can access the registration form for the CEI tour and volunteering here:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/0ee761930e6246a3b0c8d84a46574588>

Members can get involved with CEI here:

<https://www.communityecologyinstitute.org/get-involved.html>

Members can view HCPSS Summer meal sites here:

<https://www.hcpss.org/food-services/summer-meals/>

Members can register for the BMHW Celebration here:

<https://bit.ly/BMHW2024>



	<p>Ms. Jessica Fisher, Howard County Health Department, provided updates for the Healthy Minds and Suicide Prevention Coalition (HMSPC). HMSPC updates included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January Meeting had a presentation on Safe Messaging from Jessica LaFave • HMSPC Action Plan has been updated to include tracking partners efforts in providing HoCo residents mental health and suicide prevention support. • Group working on developing a Safe Home brochure/infographic that plainly informs Howard County Residents on how to create a safe home environment (safe storage of medications, fall prevention tips, safe storage of firearms, etc.). <p>Ms. Natalie Hall, Howard County Health Department, provided updates for the Movement Group. Movement Group updates included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March meeting had a data presentation on Falls from HCHD Epidemiologist and there was discussion on potential education outreach plans based on the data. • Recurring small group discussion will be held to plan falls prevention efforts covering various levels of influence from the Social Ecological Model and involving various partners including the Health Department teams, hospital, Office on Aging and Independence, and Fire and Rescue. 	
<p>Member Announcements, Resource Sharing & Networking</p>	<p>Ms. Shannon Harris, CAREAPP Coordinator shared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAREAPP has been updated and now includes a keyword search option. <p>Ms. Rambharat shared the following announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Howard Health Survey: Answer the Call is calling Howard County residents between April and June. • The Health Department and partner MomCares will be giving away free diapers while supplies last on April 30th and May 28th. 	<p>Members can access CAREAPP here: https://findhcreources.org/</p> <p>Members can access Howard Health Survey previous reports here: https://www.howardcountymd.gov/health/reports-data</p> <p>Members interested in the free diaper giveaway can visit here for more information:</p>

- The Office of Children and Families Family Support Center is offering parenting classes for families with children ages birth to five.
- The Health Department and HCLS are hosting their Hatchlings: Baby on the Way workshop for expectant parents.
- The LindaBen Foundation Mobile Market will kick off on April 27th and will end on November 23rd.
- Montessori Dementia Care is offering free 8-hour training program to Maryland Residents through June 2024.
- The Office on Aging and Independence will host a Cultivating Community. Cultivating Connections. Showcase on May 2nd.
- The Total Love Project offers training on effective parenting skills.
- There will be a Compassionate Approaches and Practical Tools for Parents and Caregivers Virtual Training on May 8th at 10am.

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/peace-project>

Members interested in the Family Support Center can visit here for more information:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/children-families/family-support-center>

Members can register for the Hatchlings: Baby on the Way workshop here:

<https://howardcounty.librarycalendar.com/event/hatchlings-baby-way-adultsteens-rg-209814>

Members can access the LindaBen Foundation Mobile Market here:

<https://signup.com/go/Qhdcruv>

Members interested in more information on Montessori Dementia Care can visit here:

<https://www.crossway-community.org/national-center-for-montessori-and-aging-ncma>

Members were urged to register for The OAI Cultivating Community. Cultivating Connections showcase here:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/OAIshowcase2024>

Members can access more information on the Total Love Project here:

<https://docs.google.com/form>



		<p>s/d/e/1FAIpQLSfz4GQEfXNI0KnFjKhD-9ruSODwNvbqg_VTUsGGpge3fKKvCA/viewform</p> <p>Members can register for the Compassionate Approaches and Practical Tools for Parents and Caregivers Virtual Training here: bit.ly/3vLO5Pc</p> <p>Email us at LHIC@howardcountymd.gov if interested in joining any of the other workgroups.</p>
<p>Next Steps & Wrap-up</p>	<p>Ms. Rambharat thanked participants for joining and noted that the recording and other documents will be available on the LHIC website’s meeting portal. She also noted that the next hybrid full Coalition meeting to be held on April 18, 2024.</p> <p>Ms. Rambharat adjourned the meeting at 11:00am.</p>	<p>Members are encouraged to review the minutes from Full HCLHIC and HCLHIC Work Group Meetings on the website under meeting portal: https://www.hclhic.org/home/meetingportal</p> <p><i>2024 Quarterly Full Coalition Meetings:</i></p> <p>Register</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 18, 2024 at 9:00 - 11:00am • October 17, 2024 at 9:00 - 11:00am

Respectfully submitted by
 Ashton Jordan, MSPH
 Community Engagement Coordinator
 Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition