
Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

January 16, 2025

9:00am to 11:00am

Hybrid (HCHD Conference Room and Zoom)

Minutes

Co-Chair Present:

Dr. Maura Rossman, Howard County Health Department

Members Present:

Antigone Vickery, Howard County Health Department
Carrie Ross, Community Action Council of Howard County
Lois Joellenbeck, Howard County Health Department
Sun Nicholas, Howard County Health Department
Erin Ashinghurst, Accessible Resources for Independence (ARI)
Erica Taylor, Howard County Office of Children and Families
Kelly Kryspin, Autism Society of Maryland
Bernadette Bindewald, Howard County Health Department
Amanda Vu, UMD Horowitz Center for Health Literacy
Julie Kwedar, Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO)
Emily Patterson, MD Poison Center
Joan Webb Scornaienchi, HC DrugFree
Matt Wilson, Howard County Health Department
Tori Rain, HopeWorks
Jessica Fisher, Howard County Health Department
Beatrice Osei-Amoh, African Immigrants Dream Inc.
Shannon Harris, Howard County Health Department
Sun Nicholas, Howard County Health Department
Rachel Filar, Howard County Office on Aging and Independence
Rachel Krug, University of Maryland Medical System Shock Trauma
Estafani Romero, Aetna Better Health
Katy Lee, Howard County Office on Aging and Independence
Meredith Hochman, Central Maryland AHEC
Kelly Kryspin, Autism Society of Maryland
Amanda Vu, UMD Horowitz Center for Health Literacy
Dr. Sherlina Holland, Howard County Health Department
Sheri Koller, Brave Journeys, LLC
Nancy Moreno, Howard County Health Department
Amanda Vu, UMD Horowitz Center for Health Literacy
Maria Candanoza, Howard County Health Department
Kirsten Wheeler, Medpsych Health Services
Tavia Patusky, Columbia Association
Brooke Torton, University of Maryland School of Law
Kara Griggs-Goldheim, American Heart Association

Matthew Castner, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center
 Juan Albertorio, Cycling with Age
 Natalie Hall, Howard County Health Department
 Lisa de Hernández, Howard County Health Department
 Emmanuelle Noar, Howard County Health Department
 Melissa Green-Parker, Community Member
 Harsana Showunmi, Feel Better Health Center
 Uchea Maple, Community Member
 Marlene Orantes, University of Maryland Horowitz Center for Health Literacy
 Kirk Rookwood, The Healthy Church
 George Townsend, University of Maryland School of Law
 Francisco Abate, Community Action Council of Howard County
 Christine Jones, Community Member
 Monica Bland, University of Maryland Extension
 Genesis Caplan, University of Maryland Extension
 Maria Bernadzikowski, Howard County's Office of Emergency Management
 Tina Laboy, Howard County's Office of Emergency Management
 Carla Gates, Community Member,
 Morgan Spliedt, Howard County Office of Aging & Independence
 Connie Ford, Howard County Health Department
 Monica Lewis, Community Member

Staff Present:

Ashton Jordan, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition
 Reena Rambharat, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition
 Stephanie Foster, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition
 Maribet Rivera-Brute, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action / Follow-up
Welcome and Introductions	<p>Maribet Rivera-Brute welcomed everyone virtually and in person to the Full LHIC meeting.</p> <p>Maribet Rivera-Brute set meeting rules (chat box to submit questions, raise virtual hand), housekeeping items and non-recording notification rules. Maribet Rivera-Brute then reviewed the agenda before introducing Dr. Maura Rossman, Health Officer, Howard County Health Department for Welcome & Opening remarks.</p> <p>Dr. Rossman welcomed in-person and virtual members to full LHIC meeting. She offered kudos to the Howard County LHIC group for organizing this meeting and returned the floor to Maribet Rivera-Brute.</p> <p>Dr. Matthew Castner, on behalf of Dr. Nazarian, provided a quick update on the Community Health Needs Assessment and welcomed the attendees to the meeting.</p> <p>Maribet Rivera-Brute provided a quick overview of the agenda for this meeting, which included the following topics:</p>	<p>LHIC website: https://www.hclhic.org/</p> <p>Community Request Form: https://www.hclhic.org/about/contact</p> <p>Link to the Captions: https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=HamiltonRelayRCC-0912-VA4206</p>

	<p>Welcome & Introductions</p> <p>American Heart Association (AHA) and University of Maryland, Carey School of Law presentations</p> <p>FY 26-28 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Update</p> <p>Member Announcements, Resource Sharing and Networking</p> <p>Next Steps and Wrap up of the Meeting</p>	
<p>Guest Presentation</p>	<p>Maribet Rivera-Brute introduced Kara Griggs-Goldheim, Community Impact Director, Maryland, American Heart Association to the group for her presentation.</p> <p>Kara Griggs-Goldheim reviewed the 2028 AHA Impact Goal, which will drive breakthroughs and implement Proven solutions in science, policy and care for healthier people and communities, with measurement areas including Access to Care, Quality Care, Health Factor control, and CPR.</p> <p>Community Impact Issue Areas (Points)</p> <p>Expanding Quality of Care in Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural health clinics and other high-need settings</p> <p>Improving health factor control with a focus on blood pressure</p> <p>Building capacity to address out of hospital cardiac arrests in communities with lower rates of survival</p> <p>Advancing AHA’s mission by supporting the cultivation of funding, implementation of funded initiatives, investment in the community and other activities.</p> <p>Community Impact Priorities (Points)</p> <p>Controlling Hypertension</p> <p>Nutrition Security</p> <p>Cardiac Readiness</p> <p>Kara Griggs-Goldheim shared that she was ready and available to answer questions during the Q&A period and offered her contact information to the group.</p> <p>Maribet Rivera-Brute introduced Brooke Torton, JD, Managing Director of the University of Maryland, Carey School of Law, Legal Resource Center (LRC) for Public Health Policy – Tobacco.</p> <p>Brooke Torton thanked the group for the welcome and began her presentation by covering and discussing the following points:</p> <p>Description of the Maryland Legislative Session</p> <p>Jan 8 - Session convenes</p> <p>Feb 3 - Senate Bill introduction deadline</p> <p>Feb 7 - House bill intro deadline</p>	
<p>Guest Presentation</p>		

<p>Presentation</p>	<p>March 17 - Bill crossover date April 7 - Sine die</p> <p>Brooke Torton shared the link for the description of what Lobbying activities are by categories: Legislative Action Lobbying and Executive Action Lobbying. Brooke Torton described what Participating in the Legislative Process as an Advocate is. The benefits and importance of Advocacy and Educating policymakers were also relayed to the group. Brooke Torton also presented the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testifying, including what's involved and how-to's • Fielding questions from a committee member • Contacting your Elected Official • Advocacy Survival Skills • LRC Legislative Tracking (real time Public Health bills tracker link provided) <p>Brooke Torton shared the Voter's registration link, and a link to find out who your Elected official is, as well as a link to be added to the listserv.</p> <p>Meeting Break (10 minutes)</p> <p>Maribet Rivera-Brute proceeded to share the FY 26-28 CHIP Development Update is currently in Phase III (Apr 25-Jun 25) with the new CHIP Process Timeline beginning on July 25.</p> <p>Priorities of LHIC with respect to the CHIP Analysis include the following:</p> <p>Root Cause Analysis and Main Health Drivers (January) Possible Solutions (Evidence Based, February) Community Health Forums (March)</p> <p>Maribet Rivera-Brute presented the following LHIC Priorities:</p> <p>Healthy Beginnings – Problem Statement: “Black mothers and infants face proportionately higher rates of poor health outcomes including material and infant mortality and low birthweight births.”</p> <p>Root Cause Analysis and Main Health Drivers: People to include Health, Healthcare and Culture Technology/Education/Awareness to include Information, Language and Education</p>	<p>LRC Legislative Tracking sheet: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15j8CzirjLDIHFIOf_i7DAO-N-mGfnaMrTLYolpL75A/edit?usp=sharing</p> <p>Voter's Registration link: https://elections.maryland.gov/voter_registration/</p> <p>Elected Official Locator: www.mdelect.net</p> <p>Listserv: publichealth@law.umaryland.edu</p>
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	<p>home/neighborhood Process to include Insurance and Funding People to include adult caregiving Education/Awareness to include Falls Prevention and Tools</p> <p>Possible Solutions Process: Funding access, partnerships, funding, and assistance Environment: Home safety risks, funding, and fall prevention activities Education and Awareness: Fall risk awareness to include services, resources, and partnerships</p> <p>Community Feedback included the following: Create health education campaigns about obesity, chronic disease, and sleep habits for the community. Work with local health providers to offer more health education opportunities for community members of all ages. Work with local health providers to offer more health education opportunities for community members of all ages. Collaboration with organizations to share resources, education and outreach, and communication efforts.</p> <p>Healthy Minds Problem Statement #1 “Black populations face disproportionately higher rates of suicide.”</p> <p>Root Cause analysis and Main health drivers Environment to include Services and support, Political environment and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities People to include masculinity stigma and healthcare system-culture, and trust Process to include access and barriers and resources Education/Awareness to include awareness, education, promotion, and support</p> <p>Possible Solutions: People: Lack of trust with providers due to sexism, genderism, ableism and racism, offering partnerships with BIPOC organizations, resources, and support and advocacy Process: Barriers with insurance coverage offering Resources, support and partnerships Education and Awareness: Lack of awareness of mental health resources in the community offering resources and support and partnerships Environment: Lack of systemic support offering advocates, funding, partnerships, and training.</p> <p>Problem Statement #2: “Black, Hispanic, and female youth populations face disproportionately higher rates of depression, hopelessness, and suicide.”</p>	
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	<p>Root cause analysis and Main Health Drivers People to include stigma and environment Environment to include services, resources, support, and political environment Process to include access, care, barriers, and support Education/Awareness to include awareness and education</p> <p>Possible solutions to include: Environment: Lack of cultural responsiveness in support services Process: Barriers with accessibility to mental health services, offering partnerships with BIPOC organizations, support, resources, tools, advocacy, offering access and awareness, and partnerships and support Education and Awareness: Lack of awareness of mental health resources in the community offering support and advocacy, partnerships, training, and resources</p> <p>Problem Statement #3 “Black and male populations in Howard County face disproportionately higher rates of firearm-related deaths.”</p> <p>Root cause analysis and Main Health Drivers Environment to include storage, access, and community People to include stress, messaging, and tools Process to include barriers with accessibility Education/Awareness to include storage and awareness</p> <p>Possible Solutions: People: Limited communication or collaboration with communities affected by firearm violence offering resources, partnerships and outreach, legislation Environment: Easy access to firearms offering education, collaboration, advocacy, and resources Education and Awareness: Ineffective outreach programs to communities at risk of firearm violence offering Partnerships, awareness, education, and access</p> <p>Community Feedback: Expand programs that help solve disagreements Work with organizations and businesses that support BIPOC communities to share mental health resources Explain why support resources are available and how to get them</p> <p>Collaborations with organizations to share resources and safe space: BIPOC organizations, Columbia Village Centers, College campuses, and youth organizations, organizations offering alternative therapy: animals + music, Sororities + fraternities, HCPSS, Faith-based + Social organizations</p> <p>Safe Space for: Discussions to resolve conflicts, discussions guided by professionals,</p>	
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	<p>peer support for community.</p> <p>Communications and Services:</p> <p>Patients at hospital, PSA to promote initiatives, behavioral health resources and initiatives to remove stigma, peer services such as adult mentorship, cultural competency for providers, funding for mental health providers, ways for youth to express feelings, and increase awareness of resources.</p> <p>Community Health forums were held at the following locations in March:</p> <p>Howard County Library - Columbia Central on 3/25/25 Howard County Library - Elkrige on 3/29/25 North Laurel Community Center on 3/31/25</p>	
Member Announcements, Resource Sharing and Networking	<p>2024 Howard County Health Assessment Survey report is available. Feel free to download a copy from the website.</p> <p>LHIC staff created digital content tools to help increase awareness of the resources available for the community.</p> <p>Also, on LHIC's website, an additional resource tab has been added: Transportation Resources. Please feel free to share it with your community.</p> <p>LHIC, Healthy Minds and Suicide Prevention Coalition members created a guide to help prevent suicide called Safeguard Your Home. This guide is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean. You can print or request copies in English and Spanish or download them from our website in the available 4 languages.</p> <p>HCDrugFree.org will host their medication and sharps disposal event on 4/26. Register through the link provided.</p> <p>The Y will host their annual Healthy Kids Day on 4/26.</p>	<p>2024 HCHAS Report: https://www.howardcountymd.gov/sites/default/files/2025-02/HCHAS_2024_Final_Report.pdf</p> <p>LHIC Digital content tools: https://www.hclhic.org/membership/newsletter-tools</p> <p>Transportation resources: https://www.hclhic.org/resources/transportation-resources</p> <p>Safeguard Your Home brochure: https://www.hclhic.org/healthy/suicide-prevention</p> <p>HCDrugFree event: https://hcdrugfree.org/drug-take-back-day-1/</p> <p>Healthy Kids Day: https://www.ymca.org/what-we-do/healthy-living/family-</p>

	<p>The office of Children and Families and LHIC will host the 2025 BMHW event on 4/26.</p> <p>Howard County Office of Veterans and Military Families will host Celebrate the Month of the Military Family on 4/28. Must register through the link provided.</p> <p>Howard County Office of Aging and Independence (OAI) will host the Art of Healthy Aging on 5/9. Register through the link provided.</p> <p>The Local Children’s Board will host the event on Breaking Barriers on 5/28. Register through the link provided.</p> <p>The Local Children’s Board will host the Color of Emotional Intelligence event on 5/15. Register through the link provided.</p> <p>Howard County 2nd annual Good Vibes event on 6/5. Register through the link provided.</p>	<p>time/healthy-kids-day#:~:text=Coming%20Soon%3A%20April%2026%2C%202025,being%20of%20kids%20and%20families.</p> <p>2025 BMHW: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1262476413939?aff=oddtcreator</p> <p>Celebrate the Month of the Military Family: https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/howardcounty/activity/search/detail/151551?onlineSited=0&fromOriginalCUI=true</p> <p>OAI Art of Aging: https://www.howardcountymd.gov/OAM2025</p> <p>Breaking barriers event: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054AACA-F2FA4FB6-54116685-breaking#/</p> <p>Color of Emotional Intelligence: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A48ABAF2DA1FC1-51317582-thecolor#/</p> <p>Good Vibes event: https://www.howardcountymd.gov/goodvibes</p>
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Next Steps & Wrap-up	Ms. Rivera-Brute wrapped up the meeting with the following info regarding the next hybrid, full Coalition meeting: To be held on July 17, 2025, at 9 am to 11 am. The meeting ended at 10:46 am	
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Respectfully submitted by LaTonya Love
Administrative Specialist II
Bureau of Assessment, Planning & Community Engagement,
Howard County Health Department