

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH**

Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2013

401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland

Members Present: Mitchell Berger, Ron Bialek, Tara Clemons, Kathy Ghiladi, Michelle Hawkins, Graciela Jaschek, Alan Kaplan, Harry Kwon, Pierre-Marie Longkeng, Marcia Pruzan, Ashraf Sufi, Wayne L. Swann

Members Absent: Linda McMillan, Rose Marie Martinez, Marcos Pesquera, Daniel Russ, Gregory Serfer, Shari Targum, Steve Thronson, Ulder J. Tillman

Staff Present: Doreen Kelly

Guests: Marla Caplon, Dr. Seth Morgan

**1.0 Call to Order**

Vice Chair Ron Bialek called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. upon reaching a quorum.

**2.0 Approval of Minutes**

There were no changes to the minutes of January 17, 2013. A motion was made and seconded to approve the January 2013 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously by voice consent.

**3.0 Report of Officers – Ron Bialek, Vice Chair**

- Smoking Restrictions Legislation - Vice Chair Bialek reported on the County smoking restriction legislation. He said that since the last meeting, the Commission had sent a letter to the Council restating its support for legislation to reduce and restrict smoking in the County. Subsequently, the Council held a hearing and then approved Bill 33-12 to prohibit smoking on most County owned or leased property. There were some amendments including one requested by DHHS that allows designated outdoor smoking areas on certain County properties such as those which house programs used to treat people with addictions.
- County Navigator /Connector Proposal-Letter of Support - Vice Chair Bialek asked Doreen Kelly to update the Commission on the DHHS proposal and the Commission's offer of a letter of support. Ms Kelly summarized the DHHS proposal including a draft organizational chart for the connector entity that would be submitted by February 28, 2013 in response to State's RFP for the Connector Entity. The goal is to assist those applying for insurance under the ACA in both Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. Although the DHHS staff was grateful to the Commission's offer of a support letter, they said it would not be necessary or helpful for this particular proposal, but they would welcome it for other grant proposals where it could be helpful.
- COH Recommendations for Meeting with County Executive – Vice Chair Bialek said that the meeting with the County Executive and officers of boards and commissions had still not been scheduled. Therefore, based on motions approved at the previous meeting, the Chair and Vice Chair would draft a statement noting the COH priorities and workgroup activities. Dr. Kaplan suggested that it would be an opportunity to ask about any updates based on the COH obesity recommendations. Ron agreed that would be helpful to add. He asked each work group to email any specific recommendations they had to the Chair, Vice Chair and to Jeanine Gould-Kostka.

- The Vice Chair announced that members were invited to the PCC Forum on the Affordable Care Act on March 5, 2013. Several members and staff said they planned to attend.

**4.0 PHS Chief's Report** In Dr. Tillman's absence, Doreen Kelly reviewed certain highlights from the January 2013 Chief's Report, which is attached.

## **5.0 COH Liaison Reports**

**Obesity Work Group** --- Dr. Alan Kaplan said that the County's Obesity Work Group is concerned that there has not been enough response or follow up from the County on the good recommendations that the Commission brought up last year.

**Commission on Aging and Disabilities – Marcia Pruzan** gave an update regarding discussion points from the full Commission on Aging (COA) monthly meeting:

- a.) The COA continues to focus on the senior agenda, especially in area of transportation and housing--both immensely important to the health and access issues for seniors.
- b.) The former chair of the Commission on Aging, Elaine Binder, has been working as a senior fellow with the County Council, and has developed a transportation plan which, implemented, would improve transportation options for seniors that would help increase their mobility and access to medical care and other activities; the plan also recommends a funded County position dealing with senior transportation issues.
- c.) Outreach/education/communication to seniors continues to be a huge issue, especially in the ethnic/immigrant area and that the Director of Public Information is trying to be creative about all types of outreach; COA recommended using multi-pronged approaches to reach target audiences and more coordination in this area among departments, each of which has its own outreach networks and outreach strategies.

Discussion points from monthly COA Health and Wellness Committee:

--The committee will recommend full COA support for the following bills in the state legislature:

- a.) An Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council, which would establish a Council
  - b.) Palliative Care, which would require hospitals to provide palliative care as needed.
  - c.) Geriatric Mental Health would create a geriatric mental health program throughout the state.
- Committee also is considering topics for summer study that affect health/wellbeing of seniors:
- a.) Fire safety/prevention in multi-unit residential structures (apartment buildings, condominiums)
  - b.) Recreation department programming focusing on needs of seniors--especially social isolation issues that can lead to mental health repercussions.
  - c.) How the Affordable Care Act affects seniors.

**Dr. Seth Morgan** noted that work at the Bethesda Metro to improve safety in the bus area will impact on the disabled community. He also said that the Commission is working on a proposal to give tax credits to builders for renovations related to helping make visitable and livable spaces in individuals' homes for those with disabilities.

### **Harry Kwon gave an update from the Asian American Health Initiative (AAHI):**

There are two main updates from the AAHI steering committee: First, the three initiatives have just completed a joint work session with DHHS to ensure that future service delivery across the board involving the five different service delivery areas of HHS be fair, equitable and focused on the most needy and the minorities in the county. Second, the Steering Committee has been on an aggressive recruitment drive and has been successful, having recruited additional members to be announced very soon. These members come with varied experiences which should help us interact with the HHS departments to improve service delivery.

The AAHI has recently participated in a few outreach events. Two of those events are associated with the Lunar New Year Celebration. The events were organized by Association of Vietnamese Americans (formerly MVMA) and Chinese Culture and Service Center (CCACC). We provided health education, health information, and service referrals at those events. In the meantime, AAHI continues to provide outreach services to the Asian

American owned small businesses such as restaurants, nail salon, dry clean stores.etc. On 2/20/13, AAHI also went to a Housing Opportunity Commission (HOC) building to deliver Hepatitis B education to the residents.

**Michelle Hawkins gave a brief update on the African American Health Program.** The program is committed to eliminating health disparities and improving the number and quality of years of life for African Americans in Montgomery County, Maryland.

- The Project Director position for the AAHP has been filled by Dr. Abimbola Idowo whose first official day was Tuesday, February 19, 2013.
- Project Director Report – Activities continue throughout the county on:
  - SMILE – 114 currently enrolled, 121 home visits, 1 premature birth at 36 weeks (5 lbs., 12 ounces). Work on database continues. All old data will be moved to new system. Nurses will be testing system. Should be able to report back data in 2-3 weeks. Potential to use for other areas, such as Diabetes. HIV may be a concern because of confidentiality issues.
  - Cardiovascular
    - Heart Health Symposium was held February 16<sup>th</sup>
    - Heart Freedom walk to be held on June 8th
  - Oral Health – Distributes information kits throughout county which includes toothbrush and information on available dental facilities
  - Diabetes – class structure will change in 2013. Plan is to have more generalized Diabetes classes (Diabetes 101). Participation has declined. Want to reach more people. Classes had been held only in down county locations. Plan for 2013 is to have diabetes classes in regular locations in both up county and down county. Will have classes in recreation centers versus libraries. Work with provider offices to generate referrals to Diabetes classes. Diabetes dining club unchanged.
  - HIV – 17 clients seen last month
  - Health Promotion and Disease Prevention – attended 13 events prior month. BP screening done at each event. Participants are given BP readings. Concern over number of participants with hypertensive readings. AAHP will develop a wallet size card with normal BP parameters to educate attendees. Dr. Gaston wants increased focus on BP.
- The New AAHP Program Manager, Heather Ross, starts February 25<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Ross has worked with other Healthy Start programs. Worked with Howard County WIC and Baltimore City Healthy Start
- Additional staff changes
  - Xerxeser Kayode – now Deputy Project Director
  - Denise Dixon will move to HIV educator (Dr. Idowu vacated this position)
  - Nia Williams promoted to Senior Nurse Case Manager
- Coalition Reports
  - HIV/AIDS/STI – partner with Advocates for Youth on Teen Summit
  - Healthy Montgomery – working with Obesity Workgroup
  - Infant Mortality – Need for 2 more nurses. This is a priority for next budget. Discuss the need to follow infants through the first year of life.
- AAHP interested in learning more about Affordable Care Act.

**MCPS Report - Marla Caplon** reported that the Governor included \$1.8 in the FY2014 budget to expand the MMFA (Universal – in classroom) breakfast program. Today, 2/21/13, I testified in front of the Senate Education Committee to speak to the importance of the program. In MCPS, we currently have 40 schools participating in the MMFA program. If all of the eligible schools could participate, we would have 82 schools in this very worthwhile program.

**6.0 Workgroups – Breakout Discussion and Wrap Up** – Vice Chair Bialek suggested members spend time meeting in their workgroups determining actions the COH should consider for future action, and report back to the COH following these discussions. Due to absences, the Obesity Prevention group members combined with other groups.

**Prevention Workgroup – Michelle Hawkins** reported for the group that education and outreach are the two themes that keep coming up. The Prevention Workgroup thinks the COH could

recommend that Montgomery County should provide education to all county residents to include County employees on what preventive services are available through the ACA. Montgomery County should assess what educational materials and resources are available on prevention and distribute to County residents and County employees. The County should explore applying for grants to provide outreach to county residents and employees on prevention strategies.

**Access Workgroup – Kathy Ghiladi** gave the following update. The Access Workgroup suggest items for action include raising awareness of County officials regarding the gap in provider capacity after ACA increases demand for access to medical providers, including specialty providers. They also see a need to raise concerns about access to health care for the large number of people in the County who will remain uninsured even after the roll out of the ACA; and the Commission may collaborate with the Montgomery Cares Advisory Board on this. The group heard about the Washington DC approach to streamline their eligibility for both the ACA and for their income support programs, and would like to hear about the County’s plans in this regard. The group also noted its support for the County’s application to the state to serve as the lead patient navigator for the County, and remains interested in exploring “enabling” services that may be eligible for funding through the ACA, such as transportation, language translation, housing, etc.

**The Data Workgroup - Graciela Jaschek** said the group is exploring data collection opportunities and gaps with the ACA including whether data about health disparities and other Healthy Montgomery data needs (local data needs to help inform public health planning) will be available to the County from the new State Health Information Exchanges. They might recommend that this be considered now while the State Health Information Exchange is setting everything up, even though they will probably have to focus on the task of sharing health information electronically between patients and providers and hospitals first which is a huge task. They may suggest the COH recommend cultural sensitivity training related to the new ACA requirements for race and ethnicity data, for DHHS staff or contractors. They would like to have a presenter from CRISP for the COH.

**7.0 Unfinished Business/New Business/Announcements** – There was no unfinished business and no new business.

## **8.0 Adjournment**

There was a motion to adjourn at approximately 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by voice consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Doreen Kelly  
Administrator, Public Health Services

**Chief's Monthly Report for January 2013**  
**Public Health Services**

**SUCCESES AND GOOD NEWS**

- The State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene recognized the strong performance of the **Montgomery County Infant Mortality Reduction Demonstration Project** for being on track or exceeding its annual performance measures already, at mid-year, for most program activities.
- Mr. Marco Davis of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics and Mr. Robert Gomez of the U.S. Department of Education visited the **Northwood High School Wellness Center** on January 29. A presentation about Northwood High School Wellness Center Youth Development and Health Services was provided by Mr. Luis Cardona, DHHS Children Youth and Families Youth Violence Prevention Coordinator in addition to Ms. Joan Glick, Director, DHHS School Health Services, Kimberly Townsend, DHHS School Health Services Nurse Manager, staff from Identity, Inc. and three Northwood High School students.
- Public Health Services staff quickly organized and conducted 2 additional **community flu clinics** (Jan 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>) in response to requests from County residents as vaccine became scarce. Three hundred ninety-six doses of flu vaccine were administered to residents aged 6 months through 86 years old. The clinics (in addition to online appointments) were planned and operationalized within 72 hours. Also in January 2013, Immunization Program outreach workers conducted 1,240 immunization record reviews in 29 private schools. Number of Vaccines for Children (VFC) vaccines administered in January 2013: DAHC= 73 (includes 56 flu), GHC= 59 (includes 8 flu), SSHC= 46 (includes 15 flu), and SHSC= 1,015 (includes 181 flu).

**UPDATES ON KEY ISSUES**

The **Montgomery County Cancer Crusade Program** screened 130 patients for Colorectal Cancer in the first half of the fiscal year; and is pleased to report that no colorectal cancers were found so far this fiscal year. The program had a successful site visit, January 15, from DHMH for this program which is funded by the Cigarette Restitution Funds. The program also coordinates outreach and health education on other types of cancer.

**Dental Program** continues to collaborate with Montgomery Cares, PCC, and School Health Services to facilitate timely access to dental care for adults and children. Following is the Dental Services mid-year utilization data:

- **Maternity:** A total of 405 maternity clients were seen at the dental clinics with an average of 1.80 visits per client. 31% of these clients (127) were treated for oral infection.
- **Children –** A total of 781 children were seen at the dental clinics with an average of 1.51 visits per client. 595 (76%) of them completed their dental treatment plan.
- **Adults in Montgomery Cares:** A total of 384 adults were seen at Metro Court Dental Clinic, with an average of 1.74 visits per client. A total of 284 clients were seen at Colesville Dental Clinic, with an average of 2.12 visits per client. Adult Seniors at Piccard – 402 adult seniors were seen at Piccard Drive Dental Clinic, with an average of 2.02 visits per client.
- On January 9<sup>th</sup>, Kathy Lyter (Program Director) and Beth Mc Kinney (Dental Hygienist) attended a meeting of the state dental directors which included a presentation of the results of Dr. Alice Horowitz's study on health literacy in Maryland dental clinics. The report on the Montgomery County dental clinics contains many favorable comments and some suggestions for ways to improve access and literacy among our patients.

**Montgomery Cares Program's** year to date utilization data for FY 2013 (July – December 2012):

• Non-homeless patients	19,597	Non-homeless encounters	39,984
• Homeless patients	<u>173</u>	Homeless encounters	<u>365</u>
• TOTAL patients	19,770	TOTAL encounters	40,349

- On January 9, 2013, the Montgomery Cares Advisory Board approved the completion of the Montgomery Cares Expectations for Participating Provider Organizations. These Expectations will be used as the basis of the County's contracts for Montgomery Cares services, and will serve as a template for those external organizations considering whether to play a role in the Montgomery Cares program.

<u>Maternity Partnership Program</u>	<u>December 2012</u>	<u>FY13 Total YTD</u>
Number of patients referred to contracting hospitals	136	864
New patients enrolled in prenatal care	127	827
Number of teens enrolled	1	33
Percent entry during first trimester	52%	56%
Fetal losses	2	8

### Care for Kids Program Update

Number of children newly enrolled in Care for Kids this month:	<b>114</b> children
Number children served by CFK:	<b>2,494</b> children
Number of CFK children screened for case management:	<b>432</b>

**Germantown Health Center (GHC) and Silver Spring Health Center (SSHC)** provided Maternity Partnership orientation to 139 new clients and maintained balanced distribution among our hospital partners.

- GHC had a successful site visit from DHMH Center for Immunization Site Reviewer Scott Romanoski.
- Washington Adventist University Senior Nursing Student began their clinical rotation January 24 and will be at the SSHC one day a week for the spring semester.
- Stuart Venzke, COO made site visit on January 16 and met with all staff in the 5 programs housed at the SSHC
- The SSHC successfully completed the State of Maryland VFC (vaccine for children) site evaluation 1/25/13.

The **Refugee Health Program** at the Dennis Avenue Health Center conducted 157 clinic appointments to screen 42 Asylees and 15 Refugees during the month of January 2013. 80% of Refugees were from Iraq.

During January, the **EHS Staff in Licensure and Regulatory Services** conducted 699 routine food service inspections, 36 re-inspections, 12 mobile unit inspections and 16 itinerant food service inspections. Critical violations were found during 169 food service inspections. Seven food service facilities were closed and re-opened when the critical violations were corrected. Fifty four food service complaints were investigated. The Food-borne Team investigated 4 food illness complaints. Staff conducted: 291 Tran's fat inspections and noted 38 violations; 43 nutritional labeling inspections and noted 10 violations; 12 smoking violations noted during food service inspections.

The EHS Staff inspected 22 group homes, 3 nursing homes, 7 domiciliary care facilities, 3 private schools and 16 swimming pools. Seven rat complaints were investigated and 5 violations noted. Eleven (11) plans for new food service facilities were reviewed and approved. Five (5) plans for new swimming pool installations were reviewed. The two EHS assigned to the plan review section conducted 10 meetings with industry representatives.

### HOT SPOTS

#### Emergency Preparedness and Response

Nurse Administrator Kay Aaby attended an invitation only, January 23-24<sup>th</sup> Workshop in Washington D.C., on the subject of "Nationwide Response Issues after an Improvised Nuclear Device Attack: Medical and Public Health Considerations for Neighboring Jurisdictions." The workshop was sponsored by the Institute of Medicine and the National Association of County and City Health Officials.

**Medical Assistance eligibility Program** Staff is currently working with Dourakine Rosarion on the RFP-Connector Entity Proposal which is due at the end of February.