

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH

Thursday, September 19, 2024

This meeting had quorum.

The Commission on Health for Montgomery County, Maryland convened via Zoom on Thursday, September 19, 2024.

Present

Gabriela Lemus (Chair), Marcela Campoli (Vice Chair), Susan Emery, Donna Cawley, Adam Finkelstein, Tatjana Meerman, Venchele Saint Dic, Milan Patel, Brent Berger, Cesar Perez, Arthur Summerville, Rashida Dokes, Cimo Chen, Tara Clemons Johnson (non-voting member), Dr. Davis (non-voting member)

Absent

Beth Barrows, Laurel Fain, Betty Smith, Joey Nichols

DHHS Staff

Felicia Hугee

Guests

Karggbo Hindawa, Ben Stevenson II, Acting Manager, DHHS Prevention and Harm Reduction Services

Agenda

Call to Order & officer report – Gabriela Lemus, Chair

Health Officer's Report, Dr. Kisha Davis, Montgomery County Health Officer. Dr. Davis yielded her time to Ben Stevenson. She had already submitted her written report to the COH members.

General Business

- A. Welcome from Gabriela Lemus.
- B. Approval of July Minutes. July minutes were reviewed and approved.
- C. Approval of Annual Report. Annual report was approved.
- D. Approval of Priority Letter. Priority Letter was approved subject to additional edits.
- E. Secretary Signup. The sign-up schedule was sent to the Commissioners. A suggestion was made to ask Beth Barrows if she is available to take minutes at the October meeting.
- F. County Committee Evaluation and Review Board (CERB) Submission. The COH must complete a survey, prepare a recommendation and report to the County Executive and the County Council demonstrating the need for the commission to continue. All Boards

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and Commissions are required to submit this information by October 30, 2024. The draft document and edits must be completed by October 4, 2024 and the final document will be approved at the October COH meeting.

New Business

- A. CDH Listening session is being held on October 8, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the County Council Building. Dr. Davis will send the flyer.
- B. COH to testify at the County Council on October 17, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

ACTIONS

Motion to approve minutes. A MOTION was made by Susan Emery to approve the July meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Brent Berger. The minutes were approved by 11 Commissioners, 1 Commission abstained.

Motion to approve the Annual Report. A MOTION was made by Marcela Campoli to approve the annual report. The motion was seconded by Tatjana Meerman. The motion was approved by 11 Commissioners, 1 Commissioner opposed.

Motion to approve the Priority Letter. A MOTION was made by Donna Cawley to approve the three priorities identified in the current draft of the Priority Letter ***subject to*** the additional edits (see below) needed in preparation for the Chair's testimony. The motion was seconded by Tatjana Meerman. The

There was significant discussion regarding the Priority Letter related to the lack of supporting data, and a clarification from Dr. Davis regarding the Clinical Manager.

- Several Commissioners were uncomfortable submitting the Priority Letter without supporting data. Earlier drafts of the Priority Letter had included data but that information was removed from the draft version the Commissioners were presented for approval. Commissioners agreed that there needs to be better data collection. It was recommended to include case studies in lieu of data. In addition, a recommendation was made for the COH to advocate for departments to improve their data management. Dr. Davis will try to obtain data but it may be difficult to find case studies. If there is data, it will be included in the Priority Letter.
- The Clinical Manager role will only support the HHS Clinic and would not include other roles included in the COH Priority Letter. The benefit of bringing on a Clinical Manager is to maximize Medicaid billing. It is also a best practice in improving access to quality care, regardless of insurance coverage. The Priority Letter will be edited to accurately describe the Clinical Manager role.