

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH**

Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2013

401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20850

Members Present: Mitchell Berger, Ron Bialek, Tara Clemons, Kathy Ghiladi, Graciela Jaschek, Linda McMillan, Rose Marie Martinez, Marcos Pesquera, Marcia Pruzan, Daniel Russ, Ashraf Sufi, Shari Targum, Ulder J. Tillman

Members Absent: Michelle Hawkins, Alan Kaplan, Harry Kwon, Pierre-Marie Longkeng, Gregory Serfer, Wayne L. Swann, Steve Thronson

Staff Present: Doreen Kelly

Guests: Pat Brennan, DHHS Legislative Officer, and Seth Morgan, Liaison with Commission for People with Disabilities

**1.0 Call to Order**

Chair Ron Bialek called the meeting to order at approximately 6:15 p.m.

**2.0 Approval of Minutes**

There was a correction made to the minutes of June 20, 2013. Kathy Ghiladi asked that the Dr. in front of her name be removed in the minutes since she was incorrectly identified with this title. Staff noted the correction. A motion was made and seconded to approve the June 20, 2013 minutes with this correction. The motion was approved unanimously by voice consent.

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

- Chair Ron Bialek gave a brief overview of the quarterly meeting with the DHHS Director Uma Ahluwalia and the chairs of the DHHS commissions. The meeting focused on plans for DHHS activities regarding implementing the ACA including plans for ambassador speakers for the ACA and the DHHS Connector Entity. He said the COH members had subsequently responded very well to the request to be trained as ambassador speakers. Ten COH members responded to the request including Kathy Ghiladi, Rose Marie Martinez, Alan Kaplan, Ashraf Sufi, Michelle Hawkins, Tara Clemons, Wayne Swann, Graciela Jaschek, Pierre-Marie Longkeng and Ron Bialek.
- Chair Ron Bialek mentioned that a Retreat Committee was needed to help plan for the upcoming annual COH retreat, scheduled for Thursday October 17 from approximately 3 p.m. - 8 p.m. Members who volunteered for the committee were Graciela Jaschek, Mitchell Berger, Michelle Hawkins, Dan Russ and Ron Bialek.
- The Chair announced there is no August meeting so the next meeting will be September 19, 2013.
- Dan Russ, Vice Chair and head of the COH Membership Committee announced that three new Commission members were appointed by the County Executive and approved by the County Council. They include: Nelson Rosenbaum, Tonya Saffer, and Dr. Joneigh Khaldun. He also congratulated other current commissioners who had been re-appointed for second terms.
- Chair Ron Bialek thanked both Dan Russ and Mitchell Berger for serving on the Membership Committee.

#### **4.0 PHS Chief's Report**

- Dr. Ulder Tillman thanked commissioners for volunteering to serve as ACA/ Connector Entity ambassador speakers. She presented highlights related to public health services, including some changes in the Dental program for future years, and she noted her full Chief's report for June had been distributed electronically ahead of the meeting. It is also included with these minutes.

#### **5.0 DHHS Legislative Overview**

Guest Speaker Pat Brennan, DHHS Legislative Officer, gave an overview of the structure within the County government related to advocacy on legislative issues, and noted how the Commission fits into that structure by advising the department, the Council and the County Executive. She said the County's Office of Intergovernmental Relationships has three staff and she works closely with them; however, they have to balance multiple service area priorities and views and arrive at a united County message on important bills. This is sometimes done with other constraints such as sensitivity to our funding partners at the state (DHMH for example) and how they view certain proposals. She spends a lot of time monitoring state budgets for impacts on our county programs. She noted the early June deadline for departmental input to the next year's legislative priorities, so the Commission should offer input well before June if they have a legislative priority to suggest. Ms. Brennan also said that she can provide the Commission with feedback when recommendations that are made by the Commission do not become part of the county's legislative agenda.

#### **6.0 Discussion and Vote on ACA Letter to County Executive and County Council**

The Commission discussed and offered several edits to the proposed draft letter (which had been shared with commissioners in advance of the meeting, from the COH to the County Executive and County Council on the subject of COH recommendations related to the Affordable Care Act. The Chair noted the suggestions. A motion was made and seconded to vote on approving the substance of the letter including the edits as discussed, and to allow the Chair, Mitchell Berger, Dan Russ and Michelle Hawkins to finalize the letter. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **7.0 Liaison Reports**

- **Linda McMillan** gave a brief report on County Council activities of interest, noting that the issue of synthetic marijuana was discussed in Council. She also said that the Food Recovery Group was continuing to develop and refine its proposal, which has Council funding, to recover food that would otherwise be wasted from caterers, grocery stores, etc. and make it available for food pantries, homeless shelters, etc. There is a September hearing scheduled and she should be able to brief the COH after that. She also noted the annual breakfast meeting with the Council and the DHHS commission chairs is October 17, 2013. Council will be on recess in August.

#### **8.0 Adjournment**

There was a motion to adjourn at approximately 8:12 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by voice consent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doreen Kelly, Administrator Public Health Services

# Public Health Services Chief's Report June 2013

## **SUCSESSES AND GOOD NEWS**

### **Commission on Health**

Ten members of the Commission on Health have volunteered to become trained as ambassador – speakers about the Affordable Care Act (ACA) on behalf of the DHHS Connector Entity, to promote awareness of the ACA by making presentations to community organizations.

### **Dental Program**

#### **FY13 Dental Performance toward Annual Goals:**

- Maternity: A total of 757 maternity clients (108% of the target) were seen at the dental clinics with an average of 2.5 visits per client. 31% of these clients (237) were treated for oral infection.
- Children – A total of 1383 children (125% of the target) were seen at the dental clinics with an average of 1.8 visits per client. 83% of them (323) completed their dental treatment plan.
- Adults @ Metropolitan Court: A total of 742 adults (106% of the target) were seen @ Metro Court Dental Clinic, with an average of 1.8 visits per client.
- Adults @ Colesville – A total of 665 clients (95% of the target) were seen @ Colesville Dental Clinic, with an average of 2 visits per client.
- Adult Seniors @ Piccard – 716 adult seniors (102% of the target) were seen @ Piccard Drive Dental Clinic, with an average of 2 visits per client.

### **School Health Services**

Ten Northwood High School School-Based Wellness Center students and contracted Positive Youth staff went to Capitol Hill to advocate for school based health centers as a part of the School-Based Health Alliance (formerly NASBHC) annual conference in Washington, D.C. on June 25<sup>th</sup>. School Health Services managers attended the conference, June 23 – 26<sup>th</sup>, which focused on the roles school based health/wellness centers will play in the era of health care reform.

### **Improved Pregnancy Outcomes Grant**

DHHS hosted the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Board and its Community Action Team (CAT) Annual Data Meeting & Member Appreciation Event on June 6. Two of the featured speakers have joined FIMR & CAT as members --Dr. Hani Atrash from the Health Resources & Services Administration's Maternal & Child Health Bureau, and Dr. Irene Dankwa-Mullan from NIH's National Institute on Minority Health & Health Disparities. Dr. Dankwa-Mullan is the former manager of the HHS Cigarette Restitution Fund programs for cancer awareness and screening and tobacco prevention and cessation.

## **HOTSPOTS**

### **Disease Control**

The incubation period for spread of measles from the person who arrived back in Montgomery County from Ethiopia has ended (July 3) with no further cases in the County. This outbreak investigation involved two separate planes, from Ethiopia to Turkey to Dulles. The person who was the index case went to one of our local hospitals at the end of the person's contagious period. The Infection Control office at the hospital worked closely with Disease Control to notify anyone who was in the ER at the same time as the case. The DHMH State Epidemiologist and staff worked with other authorities regarding the airports and surrounding jurisdictions.

## **Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response**

The County Emergency Management Group exercise was held at the Emergency Operating Center (EOC) on June 20, 2013. Public Health staff for Emergency Support Function #8, participated in the chemical spill exercise along with our five local hospitals. Bill Kelly and Clark Beil were at the EOC, monitoring the situation and providing updates using WebEOC. Kay Aaby participated from CD&E by processing medical equipment requests from the hospitals and forwarding the requests to DHMH/EOC.

## **UPDATES ON KEY ISSUES**

**Licensing and Regulatory Services -** During the month of June 2013, the EHS Staff in Licensure and Regulatory Services conducted 464 routine food service inspections, 35 re-inspections, 15 mobile unit inspections and 210 itinerant food service inspections. Critical violations were found during 80 food service inspections. Four (4) food service facilities were closed and re-opened when the critical violations were corrected. Forty-four (44) food service complaints were investigated. There were no food-borne outbreak investigations in June. The EHS Staff conducted 174 Trans fat inspections and noted 10 violations. Twenty-five (25) nutritional labeling inspections were conducted and three (3) violations noted. Eight (8) smoking violation were noted during routine food service inspections.

The EHS Staff also inspected 16 group homes, no nursing homes, 2 domiciliary care facilities, 4 private schools and 528 swimming pools. Nine (9) rat complaints were investigated with 7 violations noted. There were no harm-done deficiencies in health care facilities noted this month. Forty (40) plans for new food service facilities and pools were reviewed and approved.

Food Recovery and Food Council have agreed to make Food Recovery a work group of the Food Council. They plan to work the details of the relationship. More importantly, the Food Recovery group will work to complete their plan for use of County Council approved funding. The next meeting is scheduled for July 25 and will be dedicated solely to developing the plan. Linda McMillan is leading the process and providing guidance on what an acceptable plan should look like. She indicated that Council does not meet in August, and reiterated that the plan needs to be done as soon as possible.

## **Montgomery Cares Program**

Year to date utilization data for FY 2013 (July 2012 –June 2013):

Non-homeless patients	29,454	(91% of budget target)
Non-homeless encounters	84,547	(99% of budget target)
Homeless patients (May)	253	(31% of budget target)
Homeless encounters (May)	698	(78% of budget target)

## **Maternity Partnership Program**

	<u>May 2013</u>	<u>FY 13 YTD</u>
Number of patients referred to contracting hospitals	149	1585
New patients enrolled in prenatal care	154	1532

## **Eligibility for Medicaid**

The focus this past month for MA Eligibility Programs has been Integrated Eligibility and the Affordable Care Act.

- Electronic Case Management (ECMS) scanning went live for the MA Eligibility Programs, effective July 1, 2013.
- Several staff will be attending User Acceptance Testing - remote training for the Health Information Exchange (HIX) beginning July 11, 2013.
- Medicaid Eligibility Program staff is involved with the Customer Service Focus Groups with consultant Deborah Nicholson.