

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH**

Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2013

401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20850

Members Present: Mitchell Berger, Ron Bialek, Tara Clemons, Kathy Ghiladi, Michelle Hawkins, Graciela Jaschek, Alan Kaplan, Harry Kwon, Pierre-Marie Longkeng, Linda McMillan, Rose Marie Martinez, Marcos Pesquera, Marcia Pruzan, Daniel Russ, Wayne L. Swann, Shari Targum, Steve Thronson, Ulder J. Tillman

Members Absent: Gregory Serfer, Ashraf Sufi

Staff Present: Doreen Kelly

Guests: Perry Chan, Asian American Health Initiative

**1.0 Call to Order**

Chair Marcos Pesquera called the meeting to order at approximately 6:05 p.m.

**2.0 Approval of Minutes**

There were no changes to the minutes of May 16, 2013. A motion was made and seconded to approve the May 16, 2013 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously by voice consent.

**3.0 Report of Officers – Marcos Pesquera Chair**

- Chair Marcos Pesquera asked outgoing commissioners Harry Kwon and Steve Thronson to come forward. He presented a certificate of appreciation from County Executive Leggett to each of them for their years of service and dedication to the Commission on Health. On behalf of the full Commission on Health, he also thanked them personally for their contribution as liaisons to the work and effectiveness of the Commission.
- Vice Chair Ron Bialek presented a certificate of appreciation from County Executive Leggett to Chair Marcos Pesquera for his years of service and dedication to the Commission on Health. On behalf of the full Commission on Health, he also thanked him for his contributions as both Vice Chair and then Chair of the Commission.
- Chair Marcos Pesquera asked Dan Russ and Mitchell Berger to give an update for the Membership Committee. Dan Russ said the COH applicant interviews have begun and will end in late June. The Membership Committee will send a recommendation letter to the County Executive in late June, and it hopes to have the appointments in early July with confirmation prior to the close of business for the County Council at the end of July.
- The Chair announced the next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for July 18. There is no August meeting.
- All COH liaisons and COH workgroups were asked to provide a written report for the COH FY13 Annual Report. The reports will be due at the July 18 COH meeting. If you have not had a chance to review the last annual report you can do so by going to the following link:  
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/Resources/Files/BOC/CommOnHealth/COHFY12AnnRep.pdf>

- The FY14 legislative priorities worksheet was discussed. Members were encouraged to start thinking about items their workgroup might want to submit to the DHHS as legislative priorities.

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

- Dr. Ulder Tillman expressed her appreciation to the commissioners for all the expressions of condolence she had received. She presented highlights and good news related to public health services funding in the County Budget for Fiscal Year 2014. The budget was recently approved by the County Council. She also gave highlights from her Chief's Report for May, which was distributed by email. It is also attached to these minutes. She noted that the newer quadrivalent flu vaccines are complex topics to explain. Quadrivalent flu vaccines are designed to protect against four different flu viruses two "influenza A" viruses and two "influenza B" viruses. For years, flu vaccines have been trivalent, or designed to protect against three different flu viruses. Adding an extra virus to the vaccine should give broader protection. However, most flu vaccines available during the 2013 – 14 flu season will still be trivalent. Discussion followed on this topic and the need for more dental services which Dr. Tillman would like to provide from a family centered approach, when practical.

#### **5.0 COH Officer Elections**

Kathy Ghiladi and Tara Clemons, serving as the COH Nominating Committee introduced the candidates who had been nominated for the future Chair and Vice Chair of the COH. Candidates included only Rob Bialek for Chair; and both Wayne Swann and Dan Russ for Vice Chair. They asked for any further nominations from the floor. There being none, Ron Bialek was unanimously elected Chair by voice vote. The Nominating Committee then passed ballot forms around so that members could write in their choice for vice chair. The ballots were collected and counted. They announced that the ballots showed that Dan Russ was elected by a majority of the commissioners as the next Vice Chair.

#### **6.0 County Council Report**

Linda McMillan gave a report on County Council activities of interest. She said the Council would soon be voting to approve/appropriate the grant funding for the Connector Entity Grant for implementing ACA. Council also supported additional eligibility positions for Medicaid Eligibility in the budget for 2014, four for DHHS income supports and one for the DHHS Service Eligibility Unit. She suggested that the COH might want to promote the idea of Healthy Montgomery being the central data repository for health related data, rather than having individual HHS program areas, such as minority health, collecting their own data— to avoid duplication and maintaining data in multiple places.

Linda McMillan mentioned that the Employee Wellness program was the subject of a Council hearing, including how to measure results to assure progress is being made. She announced that marijuana and spice will be discussed at a future Council session; and that there is an upcoming kick-off of the 100,000 Homes Campaign to promote stable housing for homeless County residents in order to achieve stable or improved health outcomes.

#### **7.0 Liaison Reports**

- **Commission on Aging - Marcia Pruzan gave the following Commission on Aging liaison report.** The COA has decided to take up two studies for its summer study session: one on the value and viability of the village movement, and the other on caregiving. She said she will be involved with the caregiving study, which will relate to the mental and physical health of both the caregiver and the person receiving care; the COA research and review a wide spectrum of issues related to that topic. In case any of our members are interested in knowing more about the study, she provided an overview by email, which outlines principal areas of concern, expected outcomes, and work to be accomplished. She said she will certainly report back on the study results after the summer.

**African American Health Program – Michelle Hawkins gave a short verbal report and submitted this written report for the minutes.**

The African American Health Program is committed to eliminating health disparities and improving the number and quality of years of life for African Americans in Montgomery County, Maryland.

- Certified Diabetes Educator for the 1:1 Self-Management Class was recruited, oriented and started during the month of May.
- SMILE – as of May 2013 –11 prenatal referrals, 118 currently enrolled, 134 home visits, 0 premature births.
  - SMILE client ethnicity – 45 African American, 68 African, 5 Caribbean. In March there were 10 community activities.
  - By end of FY 13, SMILE database will be completely functional.
  - Discussion on what AAHP is doing to address issue of infant mortality among professional women. Heather Ross will look into building relationships with health provider offices as well as professional male and women organizations
- Cardiovascular
  - Health Freedom Walk was scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup> but cancelled due to weather
  - AAHP remains an advocate of the President’s Challenge Program to promote the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award (PALA). The PALA challenge was developed to add physical activity to the lives of American and help improve their eating habits.
  - Currently in process of inputting all AAHP blood pressures (BP) and demographic data into a SAS database to generate a report showing AAHP BP outcomes. Total number of blood pressures entered for FY 2013 is 1,532
- Oral Health – AAHP “Did you know...oral health campaign is ongoing Program provides dental kits for adults and children at every outreach event that AAHP attends.
- Diabetes – attendance remains low at Diabetes classes. One class scheduled in May at one Gwendolyn Coffield– only 6 attendees for the month. Three dining clubs scheduled in May and April – 33 participants.
  - May 6– Goshen Dining Club 10 attendees
  - May 10 - African Healthy Living Dining Club – 10 attendees
  - May 20 – Mt. Calvary – 13 attendees
  - April 13 – African Healthy Living Dining Club – 9 attendees
- HIV – Testing total was 16 clients for the month of May (STD Dennis Avenue clinic and Progress Resource Center)
  - 11 males, 5 females,
  - 9 African American, 5 African born, 0 Caribbean born, 1 White, 1 Native Hawaiian/Other pacific islander
  - Teen Summit was held April 25, 2013 at Bohrer Park Activity Center in Gaithersburg
- Community-Based Health Promoter Program – Minority Outreach Technical Assistance (MOTA)
  - Consists of the individuals from the community that assist AAHP in community outreach efforts for Montgomery County
    - In May AAHP participated in multiple outreach events in various communities in Montgomery County. Health Promoters had 218 outreach and educational encounters. 456 educational brochures and handouts were distributed. 103 screenings were conducted.
    - County members were educated on cardiovascular health, diabetes, nutrition, fitness, cancer and community health resources.
- Discussion on having a AAHP Community Day
  - Have a Community Open House
  - Raise awareness of different workgroups and programs within AAHP
  - Conduct health screenings
  - Health activities/demonstrations

- **Asian American Health Initiative Update - Harry Kwon gave a report and submitted this report for the minutes.**

Program updates—

- ECHO (empowering community health organizations) workshop on the ACA was a success. Great turnout and well received with 53 attendees representing 27 different organizations in the county
- AAHI is currently working on new topics for future ECHO workshops
- Select 2013 data on AAHI activities:
  - Outreach events: 52
  - Small Business Outreach: 288
  - Literature Distribution: 9044
  - Educational Encounters: 6071
  - Screenings & vaccinations: 853
  - Referrals (to county services): 738
- Steering Committee (SC) updates--
- SC was appreciative of the letter of support that was sent to the Council during budget review period
- SC championed first ever recognition of Lyme Disease through proclamation
- Working on bolstering efforts around data collection and analysis through forming a committee
- Planning on a steering committee retreat at the end of August to plan for upcoming year.

Other updates:

- Dr. Ashraf Sufi has agreed to become the new COH liaison to the AAHI Steering Committee.

## 8.0 Action Items/Next Steps for Workgroups

- **Obesity CVD work group** - There was no update from the Obesity CVD workgroup. Discussion followed regarding ideas to follow up on the COH past recommendations re. obesity prevention strategies. Suggestions were made that this be a topic to review at a future COH meeting, and also that the COH request an update from Healthy Montgomery regarding their obesity planning work.
- **Draft Letter Regarding ACA Recommendations** – Ron Bialek reviewed the elements for a draft letter from the COH to the County Executive and County Council to summarize the COH recommendations regarding prevention and access to care issues related to the ACA. Discussion followed. Commissioners agreed that a letter should be drafted and disseminated for review by email and then a final vote could be held at the July meeting to finalize and approve the letter. Ron Bialek offered to coordinate drafting the letter; and Michelle Hawkins and Mitchell Berger offered to assist him.
- **Update on data issues** –Members discussed the unmet need to collect better data to inform our County regarding health priorities and health disparities, from CRSP and HSCRC. However, members noted that that data is not County specific at this time, and there are not enough staff resources in Healthy Montgomery to collect new data.

## 9.0 Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn at approximately 8:10 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 May 2013

## SUCSESSES AND GOOD NEWS

### Emergency Preparedness and Response:

On Tuesday, April 30, 2013, the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Program of the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Services hosted a three hour tabletop exercise focusing on Montgomery County's closed points of dispensing (POD) operations during the initial 48-hour push of a Cities Readiness Initiative response. Representatives from 15 Montgomery County government departments and agencies and Closed POD partner organizations participated in this exercise, which took place at the Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza in Silver Spring.

### Dental Program

- As part of their continuous quality improvement efforts, CHS Dental Program completed its annual peer review process in their six dental clinics. This effort was designed to provide an effective, objective, and uniform method of evaluating clinical dental services to assure that high quality care is provided to all patients in a professional manner. The final report emphasizes that the overall quality of record keeping and the quality of care given to patients of Montgomery County dental clinics is excellent.
- The Montgomery County Dental Program participated in the Active Aging Expo at the Activity Center at Bohrer Park. As a result of this effort a total of 250 persons were educated on oral health.

### HIV/STD Program:

Joan Gorena and Dale Schacherer presented their poster; "The Immigration Challenge: What Would Jane Addams Do?" at the 25th Annual National Conference on HIV/AIDS in Chicago on May 23-26, 2013.

### Health Care for the Uninsured

Jean Hochron, Senior Administrator, Health Care Programs for the Uninsured, has been selected as a member of the 2014 class of Senior Leadership Montgomery.

## HOTSPOTS

### Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

A conference call, with representation from the majority of Maryland counties, was held with the State Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss the increase in lead cases since the CDC changed the reference blood level from 10mg/dL to 5mg/dL. Because of this change, there has been a seven-fold increase in children identified as needing case management. The State is looking at renovating and painting rules for houses built prior to 1978, expanding rental laws for MDE, and revising their targeting plan, with the possibility of testing all children by 1 year of age verses the 20% that are tested currently. There is no decision yet to change current case management standards within Montgomery County's lead program, nor are there any changes in funding levels from the State at this time. Discussion will continue.

### Disease Control:

Disease Control staff, in conjunction with L&R, conducted a large gastrointestinal outbreak investigation at an adult day care center in the County. This particular center has over 250 attendees and over 50 (staff and participants) had a gastroenteritis illness. Specimens were obtained and Norovirus was the cause of the illness. Disease Control was notified of the outbreak when there were already around 40 sick. The interventions put in place by Disease Control limited the outbreak and it quickly resolved. L&R staff made several visits to the

center to assure that restrictions were in place and food prep guidelines were being followed. L&R staff also made visits to several restaurants that deliver meals to the facility.

**UPDATES ON KEY ISSUES**

**Silver Spring Health Center**

WIC representative, Lisa Euliss, will be on site registering eligible families in the month of May and June. This is an outreach effort to increase enrollment of families who may be eligible but have not yet applied while pregnant or parenting.

**Refugee and Immunization Programs:**

Refugee Health Clinic at DAHC conducted 138 clinic appointments and initiated medical screenings for 28 Asylees and 9 Refugees (from Burma, Cuba, Iran, and Iraq) during the month of May 2013. Dr. Letha Healey and Debra Aplan completed fourteen I-693 Forms: *Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services*.

**Immunization Program** Staff attended the National Adult Immunization and Influenza Summit, in Atlanta. The 2012 -13 influenza season is reminder that seasonal flu viruses can cause significant and severe illness; the timing and duration of influenza season varies and is unpredictable; flu vaccines don’t protect many older adults as well as we want them to; vaccine effectiveness and newer quadrivalent vaccines are complex topics to explain. Quadrivalent flu vaccines are designed to protect against four different flu viruses two “influenza A” viruses and two “influenza B” viruses. For years, flu vaccines have been trivalent, or designed to protect against three different flu viruses. Adding an extra virus to the vaccine should give broader protection. However, most flu vaccines available during the 2013 – 14 flu season will still be trivalent: all nasal spray vaccines (live attenuated influenza vaccine) will be quadrivalent; some quadrivalent flu shots will be available but most will still be trivalent. CDC is not recommending one over the other. Important thing is that you be vaccinated. **2013 National Influenza Vaccination Week will be held December 8 – 14.** Planning has begun for the 2013-14 flu season.

**Montgomery Cares Program –**

- Year to date utilization, FY 2013 (July 2012 – April 2013):
  - Non-homeless patients 26,126 (81% of budget target)
  - Non-homeless encounters 70,212 (82% of budget target)
  - Homeless patients 247 (31% of budget target)
  - Homeless encounters 643 (71% of budget target)
- Becky Smith (Montgomery Cares) and Marisol Ortiz (PCC – Care for Kids) jointly represented the County’s programs for uninsured residents at the Child Welfare Resource Fair on May 9, 2013.

The Homeless Health Care program has been invited to send a representative to the “100,000 Homes Boot Camp,” a training program focused on joint service and housing solutions for those individuals identified as the “Vulnerable Homeless.” Jean Hochron will be joining representatives from Special Needs Housing, Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless, and other service providers for this event, June 9-12 in Irvine, California

**Maternity Partnership Program**

	<u>April 2013</u>	<u>FY 13 YTD</u>
Number of patients referred to contracting hospitals	148	1436
New patients enrolled in prenatal care	133	1378
Number of teens enrolled	7	61
Percent entry during first trimester	48%	54%
Fetal losses	3	11

### **Licensing and Regulatory Services**

During the month of May 2013, the EHS Staff in Licensure and Regulatory Services conducted 394 routine food service inspections, 26 re-inspections, 26 mobile unit inspections and 88 itinerant food service inspections. Itinerant food service inspections will continue to increase significantly as we move into the spring and summer. Critical violations were found during 85 food service inspections. Five food service facilities were closed and re-opened when the critical violations were corrected. Thirty-five food service complaints were investigated. There were 3 food borne outbreak investigations in March. The EHS Staff conducted 158 Trans fat inspections and noted 19 violations. Twenty-two nutritional labeling inspections were conducted and no violations noted. Twelve smoking violations were noted during routine food service inspections.

The EHS Staff inspected 8 group homes, no nursing homes, 2 domiciliary care facilities, 2 private schools and 690 swimming pools. Nine rat complaints were investigated and 3 violations noted. There were no harm done deficiencies in health care facilities noted this month. Twenty-one plans for new food service facilities were reviewed and approved.