



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
December 17, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Jonathan Arias, Alana Aronin, Brent Berger, Elliott Brown, Christopher Burt, Marcela Campoli, Desiree de la Torre, Crystal DeVance-Wilson, Sarah Emami, Amy Gyau-Moyer, Kendra Harris, Nadia Hashimi, Lenna Israbian-Jamgochian, Jessica Kronstadt, Terri McGuire, Linda McMillan, Jelani Murrain, Rosemary Payne, and Fabienne Santel.

Members Absent: Marla Caplon, Brittne Jackson, and Travis Gayles.

Staff Present: Vanessa Kachipande, and Karen Thompkins.

Guests: Susan Emery, Brittany Foushee, and Chris Rogers.

AGENDA ITEMS/PRESENTER	ACTION ITEMS /RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<p>Meeting call to Order and Welcome - <i>Desiree de la Torre</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. • Upcoming meetings are on January 21st and February 18th. These meetings will take place virtually via Microsoft Teams. • The COH Chair welcomed members, engaged members in an ice breaker and provided an update on the overall COH operations and the goals for the meeting. <p><u>A MOTION</u> was made by Lenna Israbian-Jamgochian to approve the November 19, 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded by Alana Aronin. The minutes were unanimously approved by voiced consent.</p>	<p>Finalize November meeting minutes on COH webpage- <i>COH Staff</i></p>
<p>Health Officer’s Report – <i>Dr. Chris Rogers provided an update in lieu of Dr. Travis Gayles</i></p> <p>COVID Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are approximately 40,000 COVID-19 cases around the County. The test positivity rate is at 6.3%. • The County has reached a total of 1,000 deaths. • Places of concern with higher risk of transmission are restaurants (specifically indoor dining) and houses of worship. The County is looking for ways to leverage houses of worship to educate the public. The goal is to establish ambassador programs, focus on peer-to-peer learning and begin registration for onsite service attendance. • Due to an increase in testing positivity, new COVID-19 restrictions have been put in place to reduce the spread. • <i>Testing:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The County continues to test large amounts of people. There are three main testing tracks 1) Employee, 2) Clinical, and 3) Community. 	<p>N/A</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Home-Based Testing Program, where a County representative will go into resident homes to administer testing, is being underutilized by county residents. Dr. Rogers urged members to share the home-base testing program among their networks. ○ Rapid testing will be available in the County in the next few weeks. ○ DHHS’s Director is attempting to integrate human services into testing sites and at the quarantine hotels. Contact tracers are actively promoting the quarantine hotels. ● Vaccinations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The County website has information regarding vaccine planning and distribution. The distribution strategy has been developed according to the priority groups set by the National Academies of Medicine framework. ○ The county has received their first doses of Pfizer vaccines and have begun Phase 1 distribution. A batch of Moderna vaccines can be expected in the county within the next few days. Phase 1 distribution will continue into the spring. ○ The County is working on community conversations regarding vaccine education, vaccine distribution and wearing masks. 	
<p>Liaisons Update</p> <p>African American Health Program (AAHP) - Dr. DeVance Wilson Over the past few weeks the AAHP has been focused on COVID-19 testing efforts and outreach. They have partnered with over 20 churches to coordinate testing events and have started discussions on vaccinations. The group is also trying to work with Black physicians to connect directly with Black patients.</p> <p>Mental Health Advisory Board – Ms. Jessica Kronstadt The Mental Health Advisory Board decided on their priorities for FY21. The priorities remain the same from FY20 and include 1) Mental Health Parity, 2) Increase In Suicide Rates, 3) Crisis Response System, and 4) Environmental Impacts On Mental Health.</p> <p>Montgomery County Medical Society – Dr. Brent Berger The Montgomery County Medical Society was recognized alongside the Montgomery County Council for National Influenza Vaccination Week. The Medical Society has also been seeing trends of patients not coming in for regular vaccinations and some medical practices opting to shut down due to low numbers of patients. The group is working on putting together a speaker’s bureau to partner with houses of worship.</p> <p>Montgomery Cares Advisory Board – Ms. Sarah Emami The Montgomery Cares Advisory Board is working on establishing a governance workgroup to document Montgomery Cares overall operations. The Board is also exploring developing liaison with other groups.</p>	N/A
<p>CHNA Advisory Committee Update - Committee Members Healthy Montgomery staff and CHNA Advisory Committee members provided an update on the CHNA progress.</p> <p>Dr. Rogers will be following up with Dr. Devance-Wilson to discuss PCP providers. Ms. Thompkins will share information on CHNA with commissioner Rosemary Payne.</p>	N/A

<p>Workgroup Group Breakout Session and Report Out The goal of the breakout session was for workgroups to develop long range workplans and goals for the remainder of FY21. In the interest of time, workgroups were asked to meet at least once prior to the January 21, 2021 meeting. The COH Chair shared workgroup guidance and encouraged members to collaborate across workgroups.</p> <p>COH Chairs and staff will meet to discuss plan for workgroups and assign workgroup leads.</p>	<p>Meet with Workgroup Prior to Next COH Meeting- <i>All Members</i></p> <p>Follow up on workgroup plan and assign workgroup leads- <i>COH Chair and Staff</i></p>
<p>Teams Update- <i>Vanessa Kachipande</i></p> <p>COH staff presented updates and new resources added to the shared Teams workspace. The correspondence history and associated documentation will be added to Teams.</p>	<p><i>Create Correspondence folder in Teams- COH Staff</i></p>
<p>Reflections and Aspirations- <i>Chair/Co-Chair</i></p> <p>Ms. de la Torre announced the Chair office hours and talked through workgroup goals for 2021. The opportunity to provide testimony to the State of Maryland is approaching in early 2021. Ms. de la Torre also encouraged members to review the COH Calendar and think about what opportunities the Commission could be engaged in.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Adjournment</p> <p><u>A MOTION</u> was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. The motion to adjourn was passed unanimously by voice consent.</p>	<p>N/A</p>