



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
April 15, 2021
Meeting Minutes

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

Members Absent: Linda McMillan, Jelani Murrain, and Alana Aronin

Staff Present: Vanessa Kachipande, and Karen Thompkins

Guests: Brittany Foushee

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. The COH Chair welcomed members and provided an update on the goals for the meeting. • Upcoming meetings are on May 20th and June 17th. These meetings will take place virtually via Zoom. <p><u>A MOTION</u> was made by Amy Gyau-Moyer to approve the March 18, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Brent Berger. The minutes were unanimously approved by voiced consent.</p>	<p>Finalize March meeting minutes on COH webpage- <i>COH Staff</i></p>
<p>Health Officer’s Report –<i>Dr. Travis Gayles</i></p> <p>COVID Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations continue to rise across the state. There has been a small increase in ICU cases. The UK strain is the predominant strain in MD. • Case rates in the County remain lower as the County’s case rate is 21st out of 24 counties statewide. About 20 percent of county residents are fully vaccinated and approximately 40 percent who have received their first dose. • The halting of the Johnson and Johnson vaccines have reduced availability at the mass vaccinations sites and individuals are being covered with Pfizer doses until further guidance is received from the federal government. <p>Other Efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County continues to focus on doing work to end the HIV epidemic. There will be a webinar on April 25th for adolescents and young adults. COH staff shared more details on this webinar via the meeting chat and will also share via a meeting follow-up email. • Montgomery Cares clinics are prioritizing HIV screenings and HIV clinics. The County is looking into ways to improve access and reduce barriers for area where 	<p>Share HIV epidemic youth webinar information with members- <i>COH Staff</i></p>

<p>individuals can be screened. Dr Orlando Santiago Regina Morales can provide the COH with insights on this initiative and related planning.</p>	
<p>NPHW- DHHS Thank You Letter - Chair</p> <p>Members took the opportunity to review the NPHW Thank You letter drafted by the COH Chair as part of the Commission on Health’s recognition of National Public Health Week. The letter was created to recognize the hard work and dedication of MCDHHS. The letter was discussed during the meeting prior to initiating a motion for approval.</p> <p>A MOTION approving the letter to be sent was made by Sarah Emami. Amy Gyau-Moyer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voiced consent</p> <p>Ms. Foushee also noted that during NPHW the Healthy Montgomery Twitter Account earned 7.1K impressions (user views) over the seven-day period. The NPHW tweets that the COH submitted received an average of 70 impressions.</p>	<p>Finalize and send letter to DHHS Director- <i>COH Staff</i></p>
<p>Liaisons Update</p> <p>African American Health Program (AAHP) - Dr. DeVance Wilson The AAHP is working on scheduling their annual community day. Vaccine hunters attended a coalition meeting and more strategic planning will be ongoing to support vaccination efforts.</p> <p>Montgomery County Medical Society – Dr. Brent Berger The medical society is planning a weeklong program on physician renewal in place of an annual forum. They also submitted a letter to the County Executives office to show continued support to the County’s response to COVID-19 and current restrictions.</p> <p>Mental Health Advisory Council- Jessica Krondstadt The Mental Health Advisory Council will be holding a meeting in conjunction with the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council. This public event, <i>Mental Health/Alcohol and Other Drugs Spring Forum</i> is co-sponsored by these two BCCs and a link to the meeting registration was shared with members via the meeting chat.</p> <p>Montgomery Cares Advisory Board (MCAB) – Ms. Sarah Emami MCAB is working on revising their charter and are prioritizing for the budget. Telehealth has been a main point of discussion in recent meetings. They also had a presentation on healthcare for the homeless.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>CHNA Advisory Committee Update - Committee Members</p> <p>Healthy Montgomery staff and CHNA Advisory Committee members provided an update on the CHNA progress. The qualitative assessment is underway. There is expanded capacity for the focus groups. COH members can support recruitment efforts by participating in the upcoming community discussions or by sharing information on upcoming discussions within their networks. COH staff will circulate the recruitment flyers amongst members.</p>	<p>Share CHNA recruitment flyers with members- <i>COH Staff</i></p>
<p>Workgroup Group Updates</p> <p>Communicable Disease Workgroup- Brent Berger</p>	<p>Meet with Workgroup Prior to Next COH Meeting- <i>All Members</i></p>

<p>The COVID-19 Letter of Support was sent to the County Executive and County Council. The Communicable Diseases work group will be collaborating with the public health data work group to schedule a speaker regarding the County HIV Plan.</p> <p>School Health Workgroup- <i>Crystal DeVance Wilson</i> The School Health workgroup discussed the mental health impact of COVID-19 on the youth. They plan to draft a letter for the upcoming commission meeting.</p> <p>Racial Equity Workgroup- <i>Brittne Jackson</i> The Racial Equity workgroup discussed school reopening and mental health in schools. They also would like to engage guest speakers to the COH.</p> <p>Public Health Data and Modernization workgroup- <i>Jessica Kronstadt, Terri McGuire</i> The Public Health Data and Modernization workgroup will be connecting with Dr. Rogers and Dr. Liu on data modernization effort in the County and understand the plan for bolstering evaluation capacity. Terri McGuire will share information on this meeting with members interested in joining.</p> <p>Governance Workgroup- <i>Desiree de la Torre, Jessica Kronstadt</i> The Governance group has been meeting with members individually to see how they can strengthen member relationships and build partnerships within the COH. They plan to share some of their findings with members during the May COH meeting.</p>	
<p>Nominating Committee Formation- <i>Chair, Desiree de la Torre</i> The Chairs solicited member interest for joining the nominating committee. COH member, Ms. Campoli, expressed interest in joining. Other members interested in the nominating committee can reach out to Vanessa Kachipande, Chris Burt, and Desiree de la Torre prior to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Reach out to COH Chairs and staff to share interest in joining nominating committee - <i>COH Members</i></p>
<p>Adjournment</p> <p>A <u>MOTION</u> was made by Chris Burt to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. The motion was seconded by Sarah Emami. The motion to adjourn was passed unanimously by voice consent.</p>	<p>N/A</p>