

# Montgomery Cares Advisory Board

## February 22, 2023 Meeting Notes

**MCAB Members Present:** Melanie Bunting, Dr. Kisha Davis, Mark Foraker, Melinda Hite, Sharron Holquin, Yuchi Huang, Denise Kishel, Peter Lowet, Helaine Resnick, Diana Saladini, Dr. Langston Smith, Wayne Swann

**MCAB Members Absent:** Betsy Ballard, Ashok Kapur

**DHHS Staff:** Dr. Tricia Boyce, Magda Brown, Sean Gibson, LaSonya Kelly, Robert Morrow, Dr. Christopher Rogers, Becky Smith

**County Council Staff:** Tara Clemons Johnson

**Primary Care Coalition:** Leslie Graham, Marisol Ortiz, Aisha Robinson, Hillery Tsumba

**Guest:** Susan Emery, Dr. Sonya Bruton, Crystal Townsend

Wayne Swann, called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm. Meeting held via video/teleconference

Item		Action Follow-up	Person Assigned	Due Date
1.	<p><b>Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2023</b> <b>Wayne Swann</b></p> <p><i>Moved by Diana Saladini</i> <i>Seconded by Mark Foraker</i></p> <p><i>The motion was passed unanimously.</i></p>			
2.	<p><b>Montgomery Cares Advisory Board Chair Report</b> <b>Wayne Swann</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Chair, Wayne Swann highlighted the agenda and welcomed the new health officer Dr. Kisha Davis</li><li>• Wayne reported that there are a few items that must be followed as part of the boards and commissions responsibilities. He noted that most relate to the operational responsibilities of the board and include the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Conflict of interest – A member appointed must publicly disclose to the board the nature and circumstances of any conflict before voting on any board recommendations</li><li>○ Communications with other boards and commissions that do not have a County Executive appointed liaison should be first discussed with the Chair and Dr. Rogers. Dr. Rogers explained that MCAB charter does not have official committees and noted that subcommittee procedures apply to all subcommittees (formal or ad hoc)</li></ul></li></ul>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Subcommittees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Staff should initiate and be present at subcommittee meetings whether virtual or in-person.</li> <li>▪ Members should not initiate virtual meetings through personal accounts.</li> <li>▪ Only subcommittee created in a BCC's enabling documentation or bylaws are subject to the Open Meetings Act.</li> <li>▪ If subcommittees are doing substantive work, a BCC should consider posting the meetings and taking minutes.</li> <li>▪ The attendance policy does not apply to subcommittee meetings.</li> <li>▪ Draft documents created at subcommittee meetings are works in progress.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ BCC confirmed liaisons must provide a monthly report back to their home BCC</li> <li>○ Attendance policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Automatic removal members for missing three meetings in a year. An automatic removal takes effect 30 days after the presiding officer notifies the appointing authority.</li> <li>▪ The appointing authority, on request of the affected member, may waive the removal for illness, emergency, or other good cause.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
<b>3.</b>	<b>County Health Officer Update</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Davis provided an update on COVID-19 followed by a Q&amp;A session</li> <li>• Dr. Davis noted that Covid has consistently been on low for community transmission. Overall, there is less Covid-19, less flu, and less RSV. However, the individuals that are having to go to the hospital with Covid-19 are getting very sick and are having extended stays</li> <li>• She announced that the Federal Government would officially end the Public Health Emergency on May 11.</li> <li>• Dr. David explained that one of her priorities is to figure out how to expand the safety net for uninsured and underinsured to make certain people don't fall through the gaps, and using those resources to close disparities</li> <li>• Dr. Davis highlighted the hot issue of opioids and fentanyl. She noted that while there has been a decrease in opioid overdose fatalities in the County, there has been an increase usage in youth. She noted the upcoming forum at Norwood HS to talk about opioid and fentanyl in youth and all the available resources. She added that Narcan training would be provided</li> <li>• She is working with the Behavioral Health and Public Health team to figure out how to better integrate behavioral health and primary care</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Kisha Davis</b>		
<b>4.</b>	<b>Health Care for the Uninsured Report</b> <b>See Report</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Rogers presented an overview of the program updates followed by a Q&amp;A session</li> <li>• Dr. Rogers explained that moving forward, he would like for the report time to be used as an opportunity for members to ask staff questions</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Christopher Rogers</b>		

5.	<b>Dental Services Update</b> <b>See Presentation</b> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Dr. Tricia Boyce</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Boyce presented an updated on the dental services program followed by a Q&amp;A session</li> <li>• Dr. Boyce provided an overview of the dental program’s mission, guiding principles, and values as well as the Monthly Stats by population for FY23 through January as well as Q1 and Q2 for FY18 to FY23</li> <li>• Dr. Boyce explained the program’s infrastructure and discussed some of the challenges the program has faced as well as their action plan</li> <li>• Dr. Boyce announced that January 1st, 2023, the state of Maryland expanded dental benefits for all adult Marylanders who were full recipients of Medicaid. She also added that beginning July 2023, the Maryland Healthy Baby Equity Act will go into effect which expands Medicaid benefits to cover prenatal and postpartum care to pregnant people regardless of immigration status, which will include dental benefits</li> <li>• She announced that FY23 the DHHS dental program has become a credentialed Medicaid dental provider</li> </ul>	Email presentation to MCAB members	DHHS Staff	ASAP
6.	<b>Board Development (questionnaire results)</b> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Diana Saladini</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diana shared the results of the questionnaire</li> <li>• She asked if anyone had anything they wanted added to the results of the survey. Diana explained that she wants to make sure that all areas of concern are addressed</li> <li>• Diana asked if the survey could be re-opened to collect additional responses as only 5 members had completed it</li> <li>• Dr. Roger reminded the board members of the communication data request form for ad hoc data requests. He added that requests for data outside of what is already presented monthly should be sent to directly to him. Dr. Rogers will work with the appropriate party to determine if the request can be fulfilled and if so, how often the data can be provided.</li> </ul>	Re-open survey	Magda Brown	ASAP
7.	<b>FY24 Program and Advocacy Priorities</b> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>MCAB Committees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wayne discussed the draft letter to the County Executive and the FY24 MCAB advocacy chart that had been shared with the meeting reminder</li> <li>• Wayne explained that there are two options to finalize and come to a consensus on the advocacy letter for County Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Option 1: Final draft by March 3<sup>rd</sup> and vote by March 6th</li> <li>○ Option 2: Final draft by March 15<sup>th</sup> and vote by March 22<sup>nd</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Wayne explained that at the time the Troika letter was submitted to the CE, the data advocacy requests for County Dental and Maternity Partnership were not ready and therefore not included</li> <li>• Members agreed on the second option and will vote at the next board meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup></li> <li>• Hillery wanted an update regarding the Maternity Partnership priorities. She explained that the last communication to the Troika had been that there were anticipated savings with the Maryland Healthy Baby Equity Act and that the requests were going to be around initiatives to augment the Maternity Partnership program with those savings. She wanted to clarify if the items listed were considered new funds or a re-</li> </ul>			

	<p>deployment of existing funds. Dr. Rogers explained that the department is budgeting as if they would need the entire 1.2 Mil for FY24 to serve all the MPP clients. He advised for the MCAB to advocate for the full funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additionally, Hillery wanted to clarify the information on the last item listed under the CFK advocacy document. She explained that the request is to continue 2.0 FTE Community Health Workers for the Point of Entry Project (PEP) that links newcomer families to health care and wrap around services. She explained that in the past 2 weeks PCC has received communications from DHHS indicating that there may be a need to move it to a different contract under CYF. Dr. Rogers explained that the department did not have any input into the CFK advocacy priorities outside of the behavioral health co-pay subsidy. He noted that there has not been an opportunity for a meeting with the CFK committee to discuss it. Hillery will follow up with Wayne before the next Troika meeting for additional clarification</li> </ul>			
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>March 22, 2023 Agenda and Next Steps</b></p> <p>Next meeting is on Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be held virtually.</p>	<b>Wayne Swann</b>		
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Meeting Adjournment</b></p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM</p>			

Respectfully submitted,  
*Christopher Rogers*  
 Dr. Christopher Rogers  
 Montgomery Cares Advisory Board