Approved: February 19, 2015

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH

Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2015
401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland

Members Present:	Mitchell Berger, Ron Bialek, Brenda Brooks, Michelle Hawkins, Graciela Jaschek, Alan Kaplan, Joneigh Khaldun, Rose Marie Martinez, Linda McMillan, Marcia Pruzan, Daniel Russ, Ashraf Sufi, Shari Targum, Ulder J. Tillman, Bridget Ware
Members Absent:	Ilana Cohen, Kathy Ghiladi, Joneigh Khaldun, Wayne Swann, Sheela Modin,
Staff Present:	Mark Hodge, Doreen Kelly, Helen Lettlow

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Ron Bialek called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. upon reaching a quorum.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

Dr. Kaplan made a motion to approve the December 2014 Commission on Health (COH) meeting minutes. Ms. Pruzan seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was passed unanimously by voice consent.

3.0 Report of Officers – Ron Bialek, Chair

3.1 Upcoming Meetings – Mr. Bialek announced that the COH's upcoming meeting on February 19th will be chaired by Vice Chair Dan Russ since Mr. Bialek will be away. The March meeting will be March 19th.

3.2 County Executive's Annual Meeting with HHS Commissions – Mr. Bialek announced that the County Executive will hold his annual meeting with chairs of all the HHS boards and commissions, the evening of Tuesday, February 3rd. Mr. Bialek explained that each chair has only a few minutes to make remarks or recommendations, and he planned to restate the COH current priorities and summarize the work the COH has been doing. He asked if all the members were comfortable with that approach. There was verbal agreement with this approach and no objections.

4.0 PHS Chief's Report – Ulder J. Tillman, M.D., MPH, County Health Officer

Dr. Tillman gave the Chief's Report and announced the written report for December 2014 would be included at the end of the minutes.

Dr. Tillman discussed the following issues from her report:

- There has been progress on the number of Ebola monitoring cases in the County, with fewer travelers for Montgomery County PHS staff to monitor and track from Ebola endemic countries.
- Public Health Services staff provided personal protective equipment training for the County Correctional Facility medical staff.
- Health Care for the Homeless program is requesting an exemption to continue hiring to fill a key community health nurse vacancy.
- Licensing and Regulatory Services is preparing for an in depth DHMH review of its inspections of food facilities.
- The Community Food Rescue Program completed a pilot to match food donor organizations with recipient organizations and transportation.
- 66% of employees /contractors covered under flu vaccinations policy were in compliance with the flu vaccination this year.

5.0 Reports

5.1 County Council Report – Ms. McMillan discussed the following: the current Council HHS Committee includes George Leventhal, Craig Rice and Roger Berliner; an upcoming meeting will be held with DHHS minority health initiatives representatives and the Council HHS Committee at the Council Office Building. The Council will hold a work session on e-Cigarettes January 29th. They are also interested in the Affordable Care Act's impacts on the population in the County's correctional system.

5.2 Staff Report – Ms. Kelly mentioned that the County Executive was holding a series of budget forums in various locations around the County during the rest of January to hear from the public.

6.0 Action Item: E-Cigarette Legislation Support Letter - Vice Chair Dan Russ

Vice Chair Dan Russ summarized the proposed letter from the COH to the Council in support of legislation to restrict certain e-cigarette sales and use in the County, particularly related to minors. Mr. Russ said that the Commission, at its December 2014 meeting, had voted its approval to send the letter, and the COH created an e-Cigarette Task Force to develop a draft letter of support for Bill 56-14 for consideration during the January 15, 2015 COH meeting. COH Vice Chair Dan Russ served as the Task Force Chair and thanked the rest of the task force for volunteering. The e-Cigarette Task Force volunteers included: Dr. Shari Targum; Dr. Alan Kaplan, Dr. Sheela Modin and Ms. Marla Caplon. Rose Marie Martinez and Ron Bialek also suggested edits for the letter. The draft letter was provided for review by the full Commission prior to the January meeting. Dr. Kaplan made a motion to approve the final letter with edits and modifications discussed by the COH. Ms. Graschek seconded the motion. The COH approved the final letter with one abstention, and stated that it should be sent to the Council in time for inclusion in the Council packet for the 1/29/15 work session.

7.0 Accreditation Update and State Legislation Update – Mark Hodge

7.1 Accreditation - Mr. Hodge said the Department is still completing its work on three pre-requisites that need to be in place before submitting an intent to begin the public health accreditation process: the Community Health Needs Assessment (in collaboration with Healthy Montgomery); the Community Health Improvement Plan; and the DHHS Strategic Plan. Therefore, though progress is being made, he stated we are about one year away from submitting our intent to apply to the Public Health Accreditation Board. DHMH staff, who were working toward accreditation at the state level, have been de-funded for that effort at this

time, though one staff person continues to help counties stay coordinated and communicating with each other about accreditation efforts. Five Maryland counties will be accredited by the end of March if all goes well for each of them. Counties in Maryland are sharing certain documents common to all of them.

7.2 State Legislation – Mr. Hodge said that the 2015 Maryland General Assembly has convened and sworn in a large number of brand new legislators in both houses. Two bills to limit or restrict e-Cigarettes were introduced and MACCHO was supporting both bills.

8.0 COH Authorizing Legislation Discussion – Linda McMillan

Ms. McMillan had been asked to speak on the issue of COH authorizing legislation. Ms. McMillan said the COH is welcome to explore advising the County Executive and County Council if it determines there is a need to update or broaden its authorizing legislation. This could be done with new legislation. She distributed a background paper she had compiled, which included the authorizing legislation for the COH and several other DHHS commissions, and guidance provided years ago to the COH by the County Attorney on this issue. She mentioned that certain commissions had requested broader powers and some already have authority to be able to advise the State or certain agencies, as long as they coordinate with the County's Intergovernmental Affairs Office. She said a commission needs to look at this issue from the perspective of which stakeholders they should ideally be able to advise to be most effective, such as State officials, MCPS, DHMH or the public, for example, in addition to what is already in their authorizing legislation. The Council plans to look into this issue for commissions at a future hearing.

Discussion followed. It was suggested that the Commission may want to make this a longer item for discussion at a future meeting.

9.0 Work Group Session – Ron Bialek, Chair

Mr. Bialek asked the work groups to meet for 20 minutes to continue progress on their work plans. The three work groups include: Oral Health; Data Needs; and Accreditation

10.0 Unfinished Business – Clinic Access/ADA assistance for clinics.

Mr. Bialek said that he had been in touch with Nancy Greene, the County ADA Compliance Manager, and she was very responsive regarding several training resources that could be available for clinics. He said he will speak with her further and that she will send more information so that the Commission will be able to respond back to clinics with training resources. He stated that he was happy to report that Dr. Seth Morgan had become the Chair of the Commission on People with Disabilities, and that Dr. Morgan said he may suggest a new liaison to the COH to replace him. No other new or unfinished business.

11.0 Adjournment

Dr. Targum made a motion to adjourn at approximately 8:05 p.m. Ms. Hawkins seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice consent.

Respectfully submitted:
Doreen Kelly, Administrator, Public Health Services

Public Health Services
Chief's Report
December 2014

HOT SPOTS

- In the month of December, 153 travelers from Ebola endemic countries entered Montgomery County; 22 were SOME Risk and 131 were LOW Risk. 110 were monitored by the DHMH Call Center, 24 by US PHS, 9 by another state, 7 by NIH, 2 by DHMH, and 1 by DoD. Disease Control staff conducted 4 "home visits" to verify location and establish communication with DHMH Call Center and 1 "home visit" to directly monitor a SOME Risk traveler. One traveler was tested at Holy Cross Hospital. Disease Control also provided PPE training for Montgomery County Correctional Facility Medical Staff.
- The Health Care for the Homeless program has asked for an exemption to continue the hiring process for a Community Health Nurse. At present, we have a temporary nurse in that position. This individual is also covering the vacant broker position, providing nursing support for the Special Needs Housing HIP housing initiative.
- The DHMH Office of Food Protection has set a tentative date for a review of the Montgomery County Food Program on May 11, 2015. It involves an in depth review of inspections and procedures to ensure standard application of the FDA Model Food Code. The projected length of the review is three to five weeks, depending on the number of food service facilities and Environmental Health Specialists on staff.

UPDATES ON KEY ISSUES

School Health Services

- Many schools noted increased absenteeism beginning the second week of December. Influenza-like-illness and gastrointestinal illness symptoms were reported. SHS partnered with MCPS to remind students, staff and parents about illness prevention strategies, and to revise school building cleaning guidelines, increasing daily cleaning of frequently touched surfaces in the health room.

Community Health Services

- Client Services for Health Choice (Administrative Care Coordination and Dedicated Administrative Care Coordination Programs) - A total of 1,395 Medical Assistance Clients were enrolled in a Managed Care Organization the 2nd Quarter of FY15. Of the number a total of 532 were pregnant women, 20 were pregnant teens. This is a 10% decrease from the last quarter.
- The Child Fatality Review Board received a total of 36 cases from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for review. This is a major increase in referrals since 2013, compared with 17 cases reviewed in 2013.

Licensing & Regulatory

- In November, Community Food Rescue (CFR) completed a pilot test of the food matching system to link food donors, recipient organizations and transportation. During the 6 day test, 8 food matches were completed and 1,065 lbs. of recovered food was redirected to hunger relief organizations. CFR is currently collecting feedback from participants of the pilot test and incorporating findings and observations into recommendations. A Food Safety Guide developed in collaboration with DHHS is on the CFR website (communityfoodrescue.org) as a resource for any food recovery activity.

Cancer Crusade

- Outreach activities:
  Dec. 9th – Community Health and Employment Resource Day –Immanuel's Church of Silver Spring
  Dec. 13th – Native American Pow-Wow – Holy Cross Hospital
- The Colorectal Cancer Screening program completed 23 colonoscopies for December and 25 new patients were seen in December.

HIV/STD

- HIV Medical and Client Services expects approximately 55+ clients to return to care at Dennis avenue health Center (DAHC) in early 2015 due to losing eligibility for health insurance. We will continue to work with these individuals to enroll them in health insurance when possible or provide care to them directly at DAHC if necessary.
- HIV Client Services with the help of navigators from Community Clinic, Inc. enrolled/re-enrolled 36 HIV positive clients in ACA plans in a one day clinic at Dennis Avenue Health Center on December 17, 2014.

Disease Control handled the following during December:

- 22 animal bite investigations of which 5 were children.
- 50 case investigations including a 6-month old infant with Neisseria Meningitides, 7-year old child with Malaria, and a 30-year old male with R/O mumps.
- 8 outbreak investigations including an influenza outbreak at a women's transition shelter and 4 other influenza outbreaks in long-term care facilities.

Immunizations

- The program welcomed Daisy Lukose as Immunization Program Nurse Manager.
- Employee flu vaccination numbers were reported to DHMH. Of the 995 employees/contractors covered under the Mandatory Employee Flu Policy, 468 were vaccinated by OMS, 168 were vaccinated by providers, 79 refused vaccination. 66% of employees/contractors covered under the mandatory policy were vaccinated. The next reporting period ends April 15, 2015.

Health Care for the Homeless

- A flu outbreak was reported at the Wilkins Avenue Women's Assessment Center on December 22nd. In collaboration with CD&E, Health Care for the Homeless staff initiated plans to provide prophylactic doses of Tamiflu to exposed shelter residents and staff. Guidance was prepared for primary care providers, requesting permission to administer Tamiflu to those impacted. As of December 31st, 5 staff and 5 clients exhibited flu symptoms. Two staff and one client accepted treatment with Tamiflu.