Approved: October 15, 2015

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH

Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2015
401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20850

Members Present:	Mitchell Berger, Ron Bialek, Brenda Brooks, Ilana Cohen, Kathy Ghiladi, Michelle Hawkins, Graciela Jaschek, Alan Kaplan, Pierre-Marie Longkeng, Linda McMillan, Sheela Modin, Daniel Russ, Tonya Saffer, Shari Targum, Wayne Swann, Ulder Tillman, Bridget Ware
Members Absent:	Rose Marie Martinez, Marcia Pruzan, Ashraf Sufi
Staff Present:	Doreen Kelly, Ellen Segal

1.0 Call to Order

Upon reaching a quorum, Chair Dan Russ called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

2.0 Report of Officers

- **Approval of Minutes** - Chair Dan Russ asked members if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from the June 18, 2015 meeting of the COH. There were no changes suggested. Tonya Saffer then made a motion to approve the June 2015 Commission on Health meeting minutes. Dr. Hawkins seconded the motion which passed unanimously by voice consent.

- **Next Meetings** - The Chair reminded members there was no August meeting, and the next meeting was September 17, 2015. The annual COH retreat is scheduled for October 15, 2015, 3:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Ingleside at King Farm, Rockville.

- **Membership Committee** - Chair Russ asked if there were other volunteers to join him on the Membership Committee, since Dr. Kaplan might be unavailable during the interviews. Bridget Ware volunteered to serve, and Pierre-Marie Longkeng also volunteered as a backup, if needed.

3.0 Council Update - Linda McMillan

- The Council HHS Committee met today to review the recent FY16 Savings Plan proposed by the County Executive. They did not approve of many of the proposed reductions to HHS programs, including most of the new reductions to Public Health programs and services. This goes to full Council July 28. Following are a few of the decisions mentioned.
  - The Committee did not approve any reductions for the Care for Kids program due to high enrollment.
  - They did not approve certain reductions proposed for Montgomery Cares program.
  - They did not approve most of the reductions proposed for Oral Health services; no reduction was taken for the County's Dental Services.

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

Dr. Tillman's Chief's Report for June 2015 is attached to these minutes. A few highlights she discussed included the following.

- Holy Cross Clinic in Germantown will become a Care for Kids (CFK) provider in FY16.
- Dental Services utilization for FY15 exceeded the level forecasted.
- Communicable Disease and Epidemiology's Immunization Program staff partnered with School Health Services staff to hold immunization clinics at three different middle schools on June 15. This is the beginning of the effort to respond again this year to State mandated Tdap & MCV4 vaccinations for all 7th and 8th graders.
- HUD increased award for FY16 to include housing at least 5 additional families giving the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program the capacity to house at least 50 total families.
- Area Health Centers are collaborating with the Office of Eligibility and Support Services to provide enrollment education to pregnant women accessing the Affordable Care Act which now requires that newborns be enrolled in the Maryland Health Connection.

5.0 Staff Report - Doreen Kelly

- Ms Kelly will alert the COH Membership Committee when she receives the new member applications and can then schedule the interviews. The process has been delayed this year due to staffing challenges in the County Executive's office.
- The COH confirmed that they would like to have a speaker from the HEAL Campaign (Healthy Eating Active Living) for the September meeting of the COH. Ms. Kelly said that she will extend that invitation and also invite a representative from Gaithersburg, which is participating in the campaign.
- She requested chairs of workgroups send her very brief reports for the annual report.

6.0 Retreat Planning

Dr. Russ gave a summary of some of the brainstorming ideas from the Retreat Planning Committee, and asked for additional suggestions from the COH. The following possible topics for the retreat were suggested.

- Alcohol and drug abuse, particularly in minors
- Coordinating with Healthy Montgomery priorities
- COH Enabling legislation
- Health Access gaps; dental coverage, mental health
- Health Literacy, particularly re. insurance terminology and ACA
- Affordability of health care and eligibility for County programs for those with high deductibles under ACA
- Topics and projects done in the recent past, which still hold importance to COH.

The retreat usually establishes a few important issues the COH would like to focus on for the upcoming year, although additional issues often arise. Speakers are usually invited, and the full Commission may break into new workgroups for part of the time. Discussion followed regarding potential speakers and topics. The Retreat Planning Group will discuss and work out potential speakers and the recommended structure of the retreat.

7.0 Liaison Reports –

- Dr. Hawkins gave a brief report about the African American Health Program. The manager has resigned so they are awaiting a new manager and the contract with BETA Associates to manage many services of the program is ending. An RFP is in process to determine the next contractor to help administer the program.

- Mr. Bialek, Liaison to the Health Montgomery Steering Committee, said that the group is moving from quarterly toward meeting six times a year. They are currently involved with the "community conversation" efforts as part of the Community Health Needs Assessment, which is due to be completed in December.

8.0 New Business

Mr. Bialek suggested that the COH send a letter to the Council regarding the changes to the proposed FY16 Savings Plan recommended by the Council HHS Committee. After thorough discussion, a final motion was made by Mr. Bialek and seconded to send a letter thanking the HHS Committee for their restoration of the proposed reductions to many of the public health programs, and also encouraging the full Council to approve those decisions and look for savings from additional sources such as revenue and efficiencies. This motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

Dr. Tillman was asked about BMI data gathering progress with MCPS. She noted that Montgomery County Public Schools will be starting to implement collecting BMI data. However, at this time, it appears that only approximately one-third of kindergartners' parents supply their BMI data to the schools.

9.0 Adjournment – Mr. Bialek motioned to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Hawkins seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Doreen Kelly, Administrator, Public Health Services

Public Health Services
Chief's Report
June 2015

SUCCESSES AND GOOD NEWS

- Holy Cross Clinic in Germantown will become a CFK provider in FY16. This is good news as another provider, Clarksburg Pediatrics, has decided to no longer participate after FY15. Approximately 50 CFK enrollees will be reassigned from Clarksburg Pediatrics to Holy Cross Germantown.
- The Primary Care Coalition, contractor for Care for Kids, is implementing a new process to streamline enrollment and increase efficiency. These steps will eliminate redundancy and expedite enrollment of children into the program once they have been screened for eligibility by OESS.
- Paola Fernan-Zegarra, Dental Services Director, has been elected Vice Chair of the Maryland Oral Health Association.
- As of May 31, 2015, the Dental Services utilization for FY 15 exceeds the level forecast for the entire Fiscal Year. The number of patients is currently at 102% of the forecast, and YTD encounters stand at just over 100% of the level forecast for June 30th.

HOT SPOTS

- HOMELESS HEALTH: CMT has moved to extend the existing Health Care for the Homeless contracts beyond the June 30th end date to allow the time necessary for selection of a new contractor under the current RFP process. Both of the current contractors (CCI and CMR) were asked to extend their contracts for up to six months. CCI signed the extension, but CMR declined the opportunity. Therefore, the CMR contract for services at the Wilkins shelter ended on June 30, 2015. The impact on patient care will be minimal, as CMR will continue to provide primary care to current patients as Montgomery Cares patients rather than under the auspices of the Homeless contract. Nurse case management services will be discontinued for the time-being, but County staff will fill in on an as-needed basis until such time as the new contract is executed.
- The Colesville Road Dental Clinic has been closed since June 15th because of a malfunctioning air conditioning system. Until the AC is repaired, patients will be seen at the Silver Spring Dental Clinic.

UPDATES ON KEY ISSUES

Disease Control

- MC Disease Control nurses conducted 21 animal bite investigations of which 7 were children. The DC program participated in an ongoing investigation of a bat colony at an apartment complex; Disease Control partnered with L&R, Animal Control, HOC and DHMH to remediate and begin to exclude the bats. Disease Control Program nurses conducted 62 case investigations including numerous *campylobacteriosis* and *salmonella* cases. Disease Control nurses conducted 3 outbreak investigations including an assisted living facility with over 12 cases *clostridium difficile*. In June, 217 travelers from *Ebola* endemic countries traveled to Montgomery County, all LOW but not zero Risk and one SOME Risk. Monitoring procedures for travelers from Liberia were updated, allowing self-monitoring. As of June 30th 1,554 travelers from *Ebola* endemic countries have been monitored in Mo Co.

Immunization Program

- The Immunization Program's staff conducted a record surveillance survey for the Perinatal Hepatitis B prevention program at Holy Cross Hospital for the Center for Disease Control. Out of the 9003 births that occurred at HCH in 2014, we randomly selected 116 pairs of maternal/infants records and reviewed 235 (116 maternal records and 119 infants) records with 100% compliance rate of the maternal HBsAg lab results documentation in the records. All the moms we selected were Hepatitis B negative, and 97.4 % of the infants born to theses mothers (HBsAg Negative Mothers) received their first hepatitis B vaccine within 12 hours of birth.
- The Immunization Program's staff partnered with School Health Services staff and provided logistic support, vaccine management, and staffing supplement during the State mandated 7th & 8th Graders (Tdap & MCV4) vaccination efforts held at three different middle schools on June 15, 2015.

HIV/STD

- The number of HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS) families continued to increase in June, with 38 families currently in housing and 4 additional families approved for July move-in. There were 2 families currently on the waiting list. HUD has increased the award for FY2016 to include housing for at least 5 additional families, giving HOPWA the capacity to house at least 50 total families.

TB Control

- A high school contact investigation was conducted on 6/5/15. Meetings with MCPS administration and staff were provided regarding information about TB control, prevention and the contact investigation process at the school site prior to the event. Good collaboration with CD&E clinics, MCPS and SHS!
- TB Council of Governments (COG) representatives were invited to participate in a Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Communicable Disease Planning sub-group. The objective is to provide input for the development of the Health Officer's Committee (HOC) work plan in regards to communicable disease coordination.

Care for Kids

- As of May 2015, the program has served 3,800 children and will likely see 3,900 by the end of FY15. This number is on par with the projection of 4,000 CFK enrollees and is approximately 1,000 more patients than were served in FY 14, largely due to the influx of unaccompanied minors moving to the County.

Maternity Partnership

- Utilization for the Maternity Partnership program exceeded past experience for several months in late 2014 and into the first several months of 2015, and additional funding was required to be added to the program budget. Recently, utilization has leveled off and it appears that the current level of funding will be adequate to meet demand.

Montgomery Cares

- Montgomery Cares continues to experience a rate of utilization below the level anticipated for FY 15. At the end of the first eleven months of the Fiscal Year (5/31/15), utilization was at 74% for the year, rather than the "benchmark" level of 92%.

Community Health

- The Area Health Centers and the ACCU/DACCT staff are collaborating with the Office of Eligibility and Support Services (OESS) to provide enrollment education to pregnant women accessing the new Affordable Care Act process which now requires that all newborns be enrolled in Maryland Health Connection. Presently at birth, a newborn is issued a temporary Medical Assistance number which will not become permanent until the child is enrolled in Maryland Health Connection. The Area Health Centers are seeing an unprecedented number of pregnant women and families in the area health centers' lobby accessing OESS to be enrolled in Maryland Health Connection.