Montgomery Cares Advisory Board

October 23, 2019 Meeting Notes

**MCAB Members Present:** Julia Doherty, Dr. Travis Gayles (phone), Sybil Greenhut, Sharron Holquin, Yuchi Huang, Peter Lowet, D. Maria Rice (phone), Langston Smith, Wayne Swann

**MCAB Members Absent:** Betsy Ballard, Lynda Honberg, Marie Mann, T.J. Senker

**DHHS Staff:** Magda Brown, Tara Clemons, Robert Morrow

**County Council Staff:** Linda McMillan

**Primary Care Coalition:** Rose Botchway, Leslie Graham, Marisol Ortiz, Hillery Tsumba

**Guest:** Diana Saladani *on behalf of T.J. Senker*, Crystal Townsend (Healthcare Initiative Foundation)

The Chair, Wayne Swann, called the meeting to order at 6:24 pm

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Person Assigned</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Approval of Minutes – September 25, 2019</td>
<td>Wayne Swann</td>
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<td>General Consensus - minutes approval moved to December 2019 meeting due to lack of quorum.</td>
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<td>2. Chair Report</td>
<td>Wayne Swann</td>
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<td>Wayne highlighted the agenda items and mentioned that due to lack of quorum the approval of minutes will occur at the December meeting. Wayne also noted that the Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic 10th Anniversary Celebration is occurring November 2, 2019 and encourage all to attend. It will be held at Temple Beth Ami from 6p – 11pm.</td>
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<td>3. Health Care for the Uninsured Report</td>
<td>Tara Clemons</td>
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<td>See Report and handout</td>
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<td>Monthly Status Report</td>
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<td>Tara reviewed the data for the Health Care for the Uninsured programs:</td>
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<td>- Montgomery Cares has served 11,283 patients through September with a total of 17,210 patient visits at</td>
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the ten participating clinics. The clinics expended 23% of the FY20 budgeted amount for encounters, the benchmark for September is 24%.

- **Care for Kids** had a 189% increased enrollment of new children through September 2019 compared with last year. Total program enrollment is 4,691 which is a 17% increase over last year, however, we have seen a -41% decline in renewals (FY19 - 594 pts, FY20 - 351 pts).

- **The Maternity Partnership Program**'s enrollment through Sept was 431 teens and women, a 24% increase in enrollment compared with FY19. The 1st quarter enrollment aligns with FY17 1st quarter utilization (439), we served 1,749 people in FY17. The program is funded to serve 1,652 for FY20.

- **Dental Services** stats through August 2019 reflect an 25% increase in encounters in comparison to FY19. Only the number of encounters were available at the time of the report.
  - The Council HHS Committee is holding a work session to discuss County Dental Services. The meeting will occur Monday, Oct 28th at 9:30a. Its televised live via the County website and is viewable after airing.

- The **Homeless Health** program has had a total of 33 patient visits through Sept, a -32% decrease compared to FY19. As of September 30th, there are currently 9 chronically homeless people remaining to be housed. 109 homeless (chronically and vulnerable) individuals have moved to permanent housing since Jan 1, 2019.
  - The Nadim Khan Memorial Homeless Resource Day will be held November 21, 2019 from 9a -2 pm. It is a one-day, one-stop opportunity for individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness to access services, resources and information. Volunteers are needed to help, please contact LaSonya if you are interested.

**Discussion**

- Tara mentioned that the open enrollment for QHP was to take place November 1st - November 15th
- The grant process was discussed as well as the HHS’ recommendation to merge both grants processes. The MCAB’s advisory and recommendation role may change. The County grants office is looking at adding core grants to the base budget and focusing more on outcomes.
- Linda McMillan asked for additional data affecting MPP’s poverty level to be made available.
- Yuchi wanted to know if a breakdown between teen and women could be provided.
- Dr. Smith questioned if the dental data presented in this report included all dental clinics. Tara explained that it was only for the 5 County Dental locations.
- Tara reminded board members that the men shelter at Gude Dr. is still closed and there is no date as to when this will be repaired. The shelter at 6 Taft Ct. will open from November 1st – March 31st it is anticipated. The shelter at Crabbs Branch will become the overflow shelter. The County is still waiting on a report to determine what will happen to the Gude Dr. shelter location.
### 4. MCAB Charter Review

**Tara Clemons**

See handout

- Tara reminded Board members that the MCAB’s mission was revised in 2015 with the updated Charter. She also stated that the charter of the board is unique because the authority the board has is different from other boards.
- Tara also reminded all members that the Board follows the open meetings act. Tara stated that if anyone has any questions, they could contact her directly.

**Discussion**

- Sybil wanted a listing of the current vacancies. Tara went over current vacancies and mentioned that the County BCC vacancy system is still being updated. Vacancies have been pending since July and hopefully the system will be updated soon.
- Julia mentioned that when her and Lynda talked about this topic, they wanted to know what each board member could or would want to achieve or what their roles would be. Julia would like to explore this issue at a future meeting.
- Wayne agreed to further discuss this at the January meeting and expand on how to educate/advocate/advise and overall how to generate more participation.

### 5. Special Committee: Eligibility

**Julia Doherty**

Julia highlighted that there were some outstanding concerns and that a letter was sent to Dr. Crowel. The Special Committee is seeking a separate meeting after the September retreat to build the relationship.

The concerns are:

1. Overall goal of eligibility process - Improve access in order determine if new policy is worthwhile.
2. Eligibility status – OESS has information that is not available to the clinics. Additionally, once a clinic submits the documents, the clinics are unable to follow the status of the request. How can clinics gain access to this information? The concern is that people may become scared and end up dropping out of the program.
3. Financial viability of the safety net. How do we make sure that the clinics survive?

**Discussion**

- DHHS staff submitted a meeting request to Dr. Crowel. Julia would like for this meeting to take place before the next special committee meeting. Tara explained that Dr. Crowel wanted a clear idea of why a second meeting was needed. Currently waiting to hear back from the Director’s office. Linda M. suggested that it may be helpful to send a specific request as to what they would like to discuss.
- Hillery suggested the creation of a working group that can advocate for quality framework. The team would a comprehensive quality framework. She would like to have representatives from each of the 3 organizations that participate in the TROIKA. Hillery will provide the support.
- Tara discussed the affordability concerns and mentioned that there is a workgroup making
recommendations to DHHS. This information will be discussed with the County Executive
- Clarification was made regarding the 12/31 date not being a kick out date. A letter will be sent to eligible
  clients during the early part of next week. After open enrollment closes, a letter will be sent out to let the
  client know that eligibility has been extended.

6. **FY20 Strategic Planning/FY21 Advocacy**  
--- **Committee Breakouts**

The program committees were given time to meet.

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7. **Committee Report Out**  
--- **Prioritization discussion**

The suggested amounts for advocacy are:

**Montgomery Cares**
- Quality Assurance Review $70,000
- Nexus Montgomery Grant replacement $135,000
- Encounter rate increase $360,000 ($5 increase from 76.50 to $81.50)
- Behavioral health $50-100k
  $665,000

**Care for Kids**
- Direct Services for increase # of kids $200,000
- Staff -CSS & Care Coordinator $120-150k
- Increase Provider Reimbursement rate $150,000
  $470,000

**Maternity Partnership**
- Direct services – Volume Increase $100,000
- Breastfeeding Support increase $120,000(Lactation Consultant)
- LARC Pilot Family Planning $50,000
  $270,000

**County Dental Services**
Assessment is needed before advocacy
- Equipment replacement $100,000
- Partnering with Muslim center and Colesville $TBD

**Health Care for the Homeless**
- Rental Assistance Program (RAP) $TBD
- Home Health Aide $50,000 (housing preference for homeless clients)
|   | Change maximum amount from $200 to $400 monthly
|---|---|
| 8. | **Next Steps**               Wayne Swann  
|    | The next meeting will be January 22, 2020.  
| 9. | **Meeting Adjourned at 8:45pm**  
|    | *Motion to adjourn:* Peter Lowet  
|    | *Seconded:* Yuchi Huang  
|    | *Unanimously approved*  

Respectfully submitted,

Tara O. Clemons  
Montgomery Cares Advisory Board