



Healthy Montgomery Steering Committee Meeting
Virtual Meeting via MS Teams
Monday, January 11, 2021
6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Members and Alternates Present: Amy Lindsey, Andrea Mocca, Beatrice Miller, Cristina Sasaki, Denise Isreal, Gina Maxham, Jackie DeCarlo, Jade-Ann Rennie, Kate McGrail, Kathy McCallum, Kimberley McBride, Leslie Graham, Monica Escalante, Monika Clark Driver, Monique Sanfuentes, Nguyen Nguyen, Stephanie McKay

Healthy Montgomery Staff: Brittany Foushee, Chris Rogers, Diana Tato-Niktash, Karen Thompkins, Rita Deng, Vanessa Kachipande

Guests: Anna Shao, Chunfu Liu, Gabe Albornoz, James Bridgers, Jessica Laigle, Karen Gutierrez, Linda McMillan, Lynn Mejia, Meghan Sontag, Patricia Reed, Raymond Crowel, Rya Griffis

Topic/Presenter	Key Points	Action Item/ Responsible Person
Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>Ms. Jackie DeCarlo</i>	The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. Ms. Jackie DeCarlo welcomed members and Councilmember Gabe Albornoz to the meeting.	N/A
Approval of Minutes <i>Ms. Jackie DeCarlo</i>	The November meeting minutes were approved by unanimous voiced consent with no edits.	Finalize the November meeting minutes. <i>HM Staff</i>
MCDHHS Health Officer's Comments <i>Dr. James Bridgers</i>	Dr. James Bridgers shared the following COVID-19 updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHHS and Healthy Montgomery are planning community conversations to help build trust in the COVID-19 vaccine. Healthy Montgomery staff will contact members of the HMSC to serve as guest speakers or facilitators for the event. Community Transmission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of COVID-19 community transmission are high and increased after the holiday season. Four out of six hospitals are in the red zone regarding capacity and one hospital is in the yellow zone. The highest single day of new cases was on Saturday, January 3rd. • Current turn-around time for COVID-19 County testing sites is 2-3 days. Dr. Bridgers thanked LHI and AAHP for their help with community testing. Vaccine Capacity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderna and Pfizer vaccines have been approved. Montgomery County received its first doses of the Moderna vaccine 4 weeks ago. • Hospitals, long term care facilities, developmental facilities, and congregate living spaces have received Pfizer vaccine 	N/A



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	<p>doses through a partnership the Maryland Department of Health has with CVS and Walgreens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County remains in phase 1A of vaccine distribution and has administered 12,900 doses to date. • Fire and Rescue is helping vaccinate public safety staff like law enforcement officers and prison workers. • DC and Northern VA have moved toward vaccinating their older communities, however, they received about 4 times the amount of vaccine doses than Montgomery County. • Vaccine strategy relies on the number of doses the County has been allotted, which has delayed movement out of phase 1A. The County should move into phase 1B by early February. • By scale, the County is outpacing neighboring jurisdictions with testing and vaccination. The team continues to test more, and the goal is to vaccinate more. <p>Additional health updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final report for the <i>Ending the HIV Epidemic</i> has been completed and submitted to CDC. Dr. Bridgers thanked everyone who joined the series of listening sessions. • Dr. Bridgers reminded everyone to continue wearing face masks, washing hands, and remaining physically distanced from others. 	
<p>Healthy Montgomery Charter Discussion <i>Ms. Jackie DeCarlo</i></p>	<p>Ms. DeCarlo opened the discussion regarding the Healthy Montgomery Charter. Please refer to the updated charter for details and comments.</p> <p><i>Note: The charter discussion covered the first two pages of the charter. The charter discussion will continue at a future date to be determined.</i></p>	<p>Continue to review the HM Charter and <i>HMSC Members</i></p>
<p>Minority Health Initiatives & Programs Updates</p>	<p><i>African American Health Program (AAHP) – Ms. Beatrice Miller</i> The AAHP partnered with community organizations and churches to conduct COVID-19 testing across the County. Over 4,000 people were tested over a period of 6-7 weeks. Food and COVID-19 kits were also distributed at select locations. Plans for future community testing events will include indoor testing locations. Visit the AAHP COVID-19 website for additional details on their COVID-19 prevention efforts.</p> <p><i>Latino Health Initiative (LHI) – Ms. Monica Escalante</i> The LHI continues to implement their COVID-19 community health initiatives. The LHI tested over 2,000 people for COVID-19 within two weeks. The communications campaign, <i>Salud y Bienestar</i>, introduced new videos and graphics to continue informing the community about COVID-19 prevention. Additional details can be found on their website. The communications campaign is utilizing platforms such as</p>	<p>N/A</p>



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	<p>television networks like Univision and Telemundo, and social media like Facebook and Instagram to share COVID-19 information. They also continue to reach the community via radio stations and newspaper print ads. The LHI mental health workers completed a trauma informed self-care workshop.</p> <p><i>Asian American Health Initiative (AAHI) – Dr. Nguyen Nguyen</i> The AAHI continues to connect families to County resources like food access, COVID-19 testing locations, mental health resources, emergency health care services, and resources for small businesses. They also continue to focus on the diversity of languages in the Asian American community and work with interpreters to accurately deliver COVID-19 information. The program published a new photo novel, Mental Health Stress of Caring. The AAHI will host a virtual Mental Health First Aid training in February and March – register here. The AAHI continues to work toward addressing stigma and hesitancy around the COVID-19 vaccine by understanding community needs and providing effective education.</p>	
<p>Hospital Workgroup Update <i>Gina Maxham</i></p>	<p>The hospitals will meet Thursday, 1/14, to discuss ways of improving collaboration and better utilizing resources for the CHNA report. The hospital groups are focused on getting all staff vaccinated and continue to meet with county officials, other hospital systems and providers to discuss vaccination efforts.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>CHNA Advisory Committee Update <i>Dr. Rogers</i></p>	<p>The CHNA Advisory Committee continues to meet monthly and convened on Monday, December 7, 2020. The committee reviewed and provided feedback to the Healthy Montgomery CHNA qualitative methods and process, focus group demographic survey, focus group interview questions, and key informant interview questions. The committee also identified the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subgroups that will be targeted for focus group interviews. • Committee members to lead recruitment for focus group participants. • Stakeholders/organizations for the key informant interviews. • Committee members to lead recruitment for key informants. 	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Announcements</p>	<p>Dr. Crowel noted that a lot of work still needs to be done to combat COVID-19 and the underlying health disparities that became apparent during the pandemic. He is looking forward to meeting in person again and reminds everyone to stay safe while they wait for vaccines.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Wrap-Up/Adjourn</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m. The next Healthy Montgomery Steering Committee meeting will be on March 1, 2021.</p>	<p>N/A</p>