

Worcester County Health Department  
Worcester County Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC)  
Thursday, August 19, 2021  
Virtual 8:30 AM

Teresa Tyndall, Wor-Wic Community College, Travis Brown, Worcester County Health Department (WCHD), Juli Krenzer, Johns Hopkins HealthCare LLC, Crystal Bell, WCHD, Audrey Wahl, Community Member, Kat Rodgers, TidalHealth, Mimi Dean, WCHD, Derek Jarmon, Worcester County Rec and Parks, Jennifer LaMade, WCHD, Crystal Heiser, Home Instead, Jackie Ward, WCHD, Josh Davis, Ocean Pines Marketing, Beverly Wallerius, WCHD, Abbie Bridges, University of Maryland School of Public Health, Allie O’Leary, TidalHealth, Ellen Willingham, Priority Partners, Jack Orris, WCHD, Jennifer Ranck, Worcester County Libraries, Jessica Sexauer, WCHD, Lillian Wilkinson, DSS, Mary Beth Waide, Deers Head Hospital, Michael Trader, WCHD, Ron Fisher, Community Member, Tina Simmons, Atlantic General Hospital and Dr. Darlene Jackson-Bowen, Mosaic Community Services

Minutes by - Beverly Wallerius

Discussion	Action
<p><b>Welcome</b>  Teresa Tyndall called the meeting to order. Minutes were reviewed from the June 17, 2021 meeting. Ron Fisher made a motion to approve the minutes and Josh Davis seconded the motion.</p>	
<p><b>Promote Healthy Lifestyles and Prevent Chronic Diseases</b>  <u>COVID-19-19 Updates – Jennifer LaMade as of August 18, 2021</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positivity rate 11.32% for Worcester County</li> <li>• Positivity rate is 4.92% for the State of Maryland</li> <li>• Testing has decreased</li> <li>• Case rate for Worcester County is 31.7 (includes cases from the past which were incorrectly assigned previously); case rate for the State of Maryland is 15.39</li> <li>• Worcester County is seeing approximately 20 cases of COVID-19 per day</li> <li>• Last week in Worcester County there were 5 cases of COVID-19 per day</li> <li>• Testing in Snow Hill at the Health Department on Wednesdays</li> <li>• Majority of new cases are not vaccinated</li> <li>• Nursing staff is using mobile van to target communities that are less vaccinated</li> <li>• 57.13% of total population is fully vaccinated in Worcester County</li> <li>• 29% of youth 12 and older are fully vaccinated in Worcester County</li> <li>• 29.8% of youth 12 and older are fully vaccinated for the State of Maryland</li> <li>• 66% of adults 18 &amp; older are fully vaccinated in Worcester County</li> <li>• 81.3% individuals 65 &amp; older are fully vaccinated in Worcester County</li> <li>• Both Atlantic General Hospital and TidalHealth have back to school clinics</li> <li>• Worcester County Health Department continues contact tracing and isolation/quarantining</li> <li>• Recommended individuals still wear a mask in congested areas</li> <li>• Vaccines are free and readily available</li> </ul>	

## **Program Updates**

### Derek Jarmon – Worcester County Parks and Recreation

- Wrapping up summer programs

### Tina Simmons – Atlantic General Hospital

- Busy with vaccinations, diabetes prevention, and behavioral health
- Vaccination clinics at all three high schools with a second dose clinic scheduled for next week
- These clinics are open to anyone
- Working with Lauren Williams and talking with coaches and athletic directors

Crystal Heiser asked if the COVID-19 tests test for specific variants. Jack Orris responded that the testing has not changed. The rapid test is available in the community, but not at the Worcester County Health Department.

### Julie Krenzer – John Hopkins Healthcare

Emails, texts, and use of social media are ways to convey the fact that there are COVID-19 tests and vaccine availability out there

Town of Berlin has instituted mask mandate in town offices.

## **Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)**

### Community Town Hall Results and Priorities – Jackie Ward

There were 4 Town Halls with 52 participants. The top selected health priorities from the Town Hall participants were:

1. Mental health (depression and suicide) and access to mental health services
2. Adolescent substance use
3. Obesity and physical inactivity
4. Barriers to healthcare access (cost, long wait and limited providers)
5. Healthy aging

Based on the Community Health Assessment data and community input, the three priorities for the CHIP will be:

1. Mental Health
2. Adolescent Substance Use
3. Physical Activity and Obesity

### 2021 CHIP Meeting to discuss priorities & inform the creation of the CHIP objectives and strategies

Thursday, August 26, 2021 at 1pm Meeting ID: [meet.google.com/dww-rowj-wqr](https://meet.google.com/dww-rowj-wqr)

Phone Numbers: [443-501-9430](tel:443-501-9430) PIN: 485 598 781#

Tina to share QR codes  
with Teresa Tyndall

## **Prevention Updates**

### PREP Program – Mini Grant Proposals – Mimi Dean

Request for Proposals was shared.

### Cancer Prevention Update – Mimi Dean

Conducting outreach to health care providers to educate them about the program and increase referrals for colon cancer screening. Guidelines are now to start screening at age 45.

### Retirements

Twila Fykes is a Community Health Nurse Supervisor and has worked 33 years and will be retiring October 1, 2021. Beverly Wallerius is an Office Secretary III and has worked for Jennifer LaMade for 5 years. She will be retiring August 27, 2021. Thank you both for being a part of the LHIC.

### Tobacco Update – Crystal Bell

#### *CRF Tobacco*

In efforts to continue supporting our residents in quitting, Tobacco Cessation classes are currently being offered both online and in-person at the Snow Hill Health Department and Atlantic Club. Those needing (Nicotine Gum, Lozenges or Nicotine patches) are being referred to the Maryland Tobacco Quitline. New fall dates will be released next week. Youth Cessation Services are also available for those ages 14-17 online and in-person. Youth and adult tobacco education will remain to be a focus in FY22. The WCHD will continue to collaborate with the Worcester County Board of Education to offer the Alternative to Suspension Program (ATS) as a result of students caught violating school policy and to coordinate Peer Leadership Trainings for middle and high school students.

#### *Tobacco Enforcement/Education*

The WCHD conducted (141) tobacco education checks. Federal SYNAR and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) checks remain to be on hold at this time. The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Tobacco and Alcohol Recognition Breakfast will be held September 13, 2021 at 10 AM virtually this year to highlight all that passed.

#### *FY22 CRF Tobacco and Enforcement RFA's*

The Worcester County Health Department is pleased to announce the request of mini-grant proposals from community-based organizations, work places, churches, or other interested organizations. Funds are available this year in the area of Tobacco Control as a result of receiving funds from the Cigarette Restitution Fund. Funds will be used to implement youth and/or adult tobacco prevention control activities. Community organizations will be able to request funds in the amount of \$2,000 to support community-based initiatives. This year there is also an opportunity to fund one (1) non-governmental organization in the amount of \$2,000 to provide one-on-one education to forty (40) tobacco retailers. Proposals are due September 13, 2021 by 4:30pm. A pre-proposal orientation meeting is scheduled to take place Aug 26 at 2:00pm via Google Meet for those wishing to apply. If interested, please email [crystal.bell1@maryland.gov](mailto:crystal.bell1@maryland.gov) to receive an application packet.

Chronic Disease Updates

FY22 grant focuses will be to reduce prediabetes, diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, cardiovascular disease, and obesity. Through a Quality Improvement (QI) Grant received through Maryland Department of Health (MDH), the WCHD will be collaborating with Atlantic General Hospital and Chesapeake Healthcare to enhance electronic health record (EHR) systems and to build support for the National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP) and Diabetes Self-Management Education Support Programs. Through a Diabetes Grant also received through the MDH the WCHD will be collaborating with members of the LHIC Diabetes Sub-Committee to develop a campaign that focuses on diabetes self-management. This campaign is set to launch in mid-November in observation of National Diabetes Awareness Month.

*Just Walk/Physical Activity*

In efforts to keep county residents active we have continued to promote, our free just walk physical activity program and promote safe places to walk. The 2021-22 Just Walk Fun Walk Schedule is in the process of being developed.

*Other Prevention and Wellness Programs*

Enrolling now for new fall online Worcester Wellness Weigh cohort set to begin September 20 and the Diabetes Prevention Program set to begin September 21, 2021 in-person at the Pocomoke Library. Classes will also be available online.

**Next Meeting**

Next Worcester County LHIC Meeting will be virtual on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 8:30 A.M.
