



Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC)
December 4, 2024 | 3PM Webex
Hybrid/Drumcastle Government Center



MEETS QUARTERLY, FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY (3) MONTHS.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Burrell, Chief of Population Health for the Department of Health, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. The LHIC meets on a quarterly basis with most of the work being done between meetings.

Ms. Leister, Deputy Health Officer, welcomed attendees and new members and introduced our new Health Officer, Dr. Lucy Wilson, who has been briefed on the Coalition's purpose and outreach. Brief updates included the coordination of mobile health units, and two community engagement meetings were held, with another scheduled for January 8th.

II. Guest Presentation

Ms. Eileen McDonald and Ms. Elise Omaki from the **Hopkins Injury Center for Research and Policy**. The Center emphasizes multidisciplinary research with a focus on implementation research. Collaboration with city, county, state, and national partners to achieve goals.

● **Key Research Focus:**

Terminology related to physical damage, classified as fatal/nonfatal, intentionality, nature, and mechanism of injury.

Recommendations for mitigating or preventing injuries (fractures, lacerations, contusions, burns, MVC, falls, fires).

Importance of distinguishing between "injury" and "accident."

● **Injury Pyramid:**

Importance of systematic reviews of child deaths and issuing recommendations to prevent future deaths.

● **Fatality Review and Prevention:**

Fatality review across the US using a 35-item survey with 900 respondents.

Reviews conducted by volunteers (nurses, firefighters) under skilled coordinators.

Recommendations vary by team, with no uniform method.

● **Challenges:**

Addressing barriers to transportation and providing health coverage.

Volunteer work and government worker engagement with legislators.

Difficulties in articulating the impact of review teams.

Suicide prevention legislation as a success, but challenges with time, authority, and funding.

● **EIEIO Project:**

Evidence Informing Equity Interventions and Objectives project.

Mission: Develop tools for communicating epidemiology, equity, and evidence.

III. Hospital Reports - Population Health

Lifebridge Health – Has finished reporting on assessment; working on starting implementation process. Campaign to residents in populations.

MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center- Reminder about the Healthy babies, partnership with library. Support group since 2014.

University of Maryland St. Joseph's Medical Center (SJMC). Finished flu shot clinics. 1400 shots administered. Diabetes Prevention classes. Chronic Disease Teams: Teaching Self-Management. Partnership with "The Y", health equity fair

Greater Baltimore Medical Center (GBMC). Working on implementation

IV. Subcommittee Reports

Chronic Disease- Dr. Baucom- The current program priorities/goals include educating and identifying prevention opportunities related to chronic diseases, integrating the Division of Chronic Disease Prevention programs (Cancer, Tobacco, Chronic Disease), and focusing on cardiovascular disease prevention. Over the past six months, the following progress has been made. A public service campaign for stroke awareness for Baltimore County residents is in development. Healthy Eating Nutrition Education- A partnership with county libraries provides information on nutrition, exercise, and resource triage at Woodlawn, Randallstown, Essex, and Lansdowne. TOPS (Taking off Pounds Sensibly), funded by the Tobacco Diabetes Chronic Disease Prevention Grant, is a weight management program offered at no cost. Participants receive free vouchers for at least one year. There are two active chapters at Morning Star Baptist Church (21207) and a third chapter at Liberty Senior Center (21133) for members aged 60 and older. TOPS Chapters will expand to Essex and Lansdowne. The CDPP's outreach and partnerships have been a focus, with the program attending over 30 events in the last six months. Reminded the group that the Baltimore County Cancer Program offers screening for breast, cervical, colon, and lung cancer for uninsured and underinsured individuals. They also offer navigation to individuals who are insured but may face barriers to accessing screening services. They are able to provide services throughout the state of Maryland. The Cancer Program is always looking for new providers to contract with for screening and treatment services. Any interested providers can contact the cancer program at 410-887-3456. Lung cancer screening is a priority for the cancer program in FY25. This is also an area that has been a challenge for the program in the past. They are asking community partners to share information on lung cancer screening and consider referring individuals who may be eligible.

Opioid Prevention Team -Elise Andrews. Reported that the county is accepting applications for funding projects. The Opioid Prevention Team meets monthly. Promoting naloxone training and using public health vending machines for naloxone and newspaper-like dispensers. Recent meetings have shown trends in overdoses and an update on the Quick Response Team. The Opioid Prevention Team is developing a process to engage OIT members in implementing and monitoring recommendations from Drug Overdose Lethality Review Team (DOLRT) case reviews.

Tobacco Coalition – Nicole Garbarino/Janet Chan. The Department offers one-on-one tobacco cessation sessions. Walk-in hours are on Tuesday evenings from 4-7, alternating between North Point Library and Essex Library. The program has a vacant bilingual human services associate position under the Cigarette Restitution Fund Prevention and Cessation grant, and they are hiring for 3 additional positions. Baltimore County Bill 64-24 passed in August and effective from November, this bill increased penalties for retailers with a third or subsequent violation for sales to underage persons to \$3,000 within 2 years. Photo identification is now required for individuals under 30 (previously 27).

Low Birth Weight-Teresa Messler-The FIMR Community Action Team has been working on the following objectives: Enhance equitable home visiting services for new mothers, including screenings and referrals for healthcare, mental and behavioral health, substance use treatment, and other support services. Two nurses have completed their Childbirth Education instructor training and will schedule classes. Develop a public education campaign about early pregnancy signs and the importance of early and consistent prenatal care. Towson University will collaborate to develop the campaign, with students competing to produce the best media materials. Enhance partnerships with faith-based and community-based organizations to link pregnant women to resources. MCH and Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing hosted a Pregnancy Support Group and baby shower at Owings

Mills Library, providing education and baby supplies.

Food Insecurity – Ashley Wallington-Working with St. Matthew’s Church and Sollers Point Library to conduct prediabetes risk assessments. Continuing the planned ride model to remove barriers for community members using County Ride. Expanding outreach in zip code 21222, including local community schools. Researching outreach opportunities for Spanish-speaking residents in 21222, and connecting them with resources like WIC. Hosting the 4th nutrition/cooking demonstration class with the Early Head Start program at Fleming Senior Center. Researching the possibility of bringing a farmers’ market to Sollers Point Recreation Center. Meeting with DEWD and WIC to discuss local farmers' involvement. Collaborating with the Department of Aging to learn about the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program. Connecting local food partners with the UMD Extension office for educational resources.

Homelessness Continuum of Care- Kieran Ruppert-The CoC has formed a Governance Board and held seven monthly meetings. The Governance Board has created an Ad Hoc Committee to plan the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) in January. These counts will occur on January 24th, with a rain/snow date of January 30th. This annual event captures a snapshot of homelessness in Baltimore County, as required by HUD and to better understand local homelessness trends. Interested volunteers should email Kieran at kruppert@baltimorecountymd.gov for more information. In late September, the DHCD submitted the HUD CoC Annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) grant application to renew up to \$2.8 million in federal CoC funds. These funds support homeless outreach, coordinated entry, short-term rental assistance, and over 100 units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals with disabilities. Results from HUD are expected in the spring. If you are interested in joining our CoC, Please email Kieran at kruppert@baltimorecountymd.gov to join this group to address these issues. Our CoC meets on a quarterly basis and would benefit from representation from this health community, so please join us!

VI. Announcements

- Next Meeting: March 5, 2025 at the Cockeysville Library with a hybrid format.
- For the June 4, 2025 meeting, an hour will be added since the meeting will be expanded to include others in a symposium format.