



Local Health Improvement Coalition Minutes
Baltimore County Department of Health
6401 York Road, Third Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21212



September 7, 2022 | 3PM WEBEX

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Leister welcomed new members Chelsea Alderman from THRIVE, Jen Dawson from Maryland Physicians Care, Richard Chilton, Health Equity Director for the Department of Health and Human Services and Dr. Sharon Baucom-Myers, Department of Health Chronic Disease Program

ANNUAL DATA REVIEW

The annual data review compiled by Maisha Toussaint, epidemiologist, was presented by Jim Gilbert from the Office of Quality Improvement.

Low Birth Weight/Infant Mortality

Data statistics from the Maryland Department of Health from 2014-2020 showed an increase in low birth weight for Baltimore County. Infant mortality increased in Baltimore County in 2019 for children less than one year of age. There was a decrease in black infant mortality from 2014-2020.

E Cigarettes and Vaping

Data from the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, revealed that half of all 12th grade students have used an electronic cigarette. The percentage for both males and females were equal.

Opioid Overdoses

Report from the Maryland Department of Health was presented which compiled the number of opioid-related death from 2007-2020 across five jurisdictions (Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Anne Arundel County, Montgomery County and Prince George's County). The report shows an increase in opioid-related deaths across all jurisdictions, with Baltimore County having the second highest number of deaths.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

The American Community Survey 2019 results chart showed Spanish as the most frequently used language. Nine other languages were present in the survey in Baltimore County.

Chronic Disease/Diabetes

According to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, the State and County were equal in the percentage of the population in 2019 with Diabetes and Prediabetes.

Homelessness in Baltimore County

The Annual Report for Homelessness in 2019 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development ranks Baltimore County second with 11% of the homeless population for the State.

Dayna Brown, Deputy Director for the Department of Aging inquired if data presented was available by age. Information should be available on the sheltered population from their data system. Coalition members who wish to have more detailed information regarding any of the data present can contact Mr. Gilbert at jgilbart@baltimorecountymd.gov.

State Partnerships Improving Nutrition and Equity (SPINE) Grant Review

Ashley Wallington gave a brief update and background on the mission and goals for the SPINE grant. Baltimore County's Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) was awarded \$20,000 to create a Food Security Subcommittee. The subcommittee's goal is to develop strategies and initiatives centered on access to healthy food to communities with a high prevalence of chronic disease. Goals were presented to the Coalition members for approval to add to the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

1. Identify and expand existing food resources
2. Partner with local health systems to develop a chronic disease referral process

New members are welcome to join the Food Security Subcommittee. Please contact Ashley Wallington at awallington@baltimorecountymd.gov if interested.

Ms. Isenock inquired about the goal for partnering with chronic disease programs. Ms. Culbertson responded that Department of Health (DOH) wants to partner with what hospitals are already doing in population health. The Health Department's new chronic disease program will fit into the continuum of care.

Ms. Selby mentioned that the population health initiatives of the University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center include meeting regularly with other hospital systems. Most recently the student support network's executive director joined the meeting to give an overview on the statistics of homelessness and poverty in Baltimore County public schools and how they could receive support from hospitals. UM SJMC supported them through the pandemic by purchasing produce boxes from Hungry Harvest for food distribution events at schools. It would be beneficial to have someone from the Department of Health join the next hospital group meeting to discuss how we can collaborate to make sure all are aware of the chronic disease programs and food security efforts within the County. Dr. Baucom-Myers and Ms. Wallington will attend.

Ms. Pauley shared that Gilchrist Elder Medical Care has a volunteer program called Pantry to Porch is a resource for food security efforts. Contact is Amy Hewat: ahewat@gilchristcares.org

September 28 is the White House Hunger Conference, Nutrition and Health:
<https://health.gov/our-work/nutrition-physical-activity/white-house-conference-hunger-nutrition-and-health>

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) Analysis Homelessness

Coordinated entry continues to be a strength. Ms. Sheridan, who is the Chief of Homeless Services in the Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development, would like to form a new subcommittee of the existing Continuum of Care (Coc) to take advantage of opportunities to explore grant funding for special at risk populations. High utilizers of the emergency room are sometimes at risk for homelessness. Anyone interested in being on the subcommittee, please send an email to Ms. Sheridan at hsheridan@baltimorecountymd.gov.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Opioid Intervention Team (OIT) – Eric Bromwell

The OIT has expanded and utilized our Overdose to Action (OD2A) grant. A vendor, PIRE, completed a study of the OIT and lethality review team to make recommendations. These two groups have similar goals, perform different duties. PIRE interviewed members of the teams to obtain feedback on how they are working together and how they may be able to do a better job of working efficiently moving forward. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive. For anyone who wishes to participate on the OIT which meets virtually, please contact Mr. Bromwell at ebromwell@baltimorecountymd.gov.

Tobacco Coalition – Vicki Keller

Ms. Keller clarified that the current rate of youth using electronic smoking products is about 24%, as opposed to the 48% in the previous data slide that have tried at least once. Performance measure goals were met for the year. Enforcement started in the fourth quarter of FY22 with a 35% violation rate. A coalition meeting took place June 22 that highlighted the work of four community organizations that conducted tobacco education programs during the year. An invitation was extended to anyone interested in attending the next meeting, September 21, at 4:30 p.m. Quit smoking appointments are available on Thursday from 1:30 to 3:30PM at Liberty Family Resource Center (LFRC).

Juul Labs will pay a settlement of \$438.5M dollars for marketing electronic devices to younger groups. The FDA has proposed that menthol be included in the flavor ban. African Americans use more menthol products and this disparity results in more disease from tobacco.

Low Birth Weight Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Community Action Team (CAT) – Teresa Messler

The CAT met with a consultant, Analytic Insights, in June to begin our final plan to improve care coordination across physical, mental and other health care services. The first objective under that will be enhancing partnerships with faith-based and community-based organizations to have their support staff and volunteers help link pregnant women to needed resources. In August, the FIMR CAT met and discussed the recommendations and started their planning to decide exactly how to implement the recommendations.

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Update – Laura Culbertson

Referrals for chronic disease, behavioral health and substance use disorder services, and health disparities were reviewed. There were many referrals from the health department to resources noted, as that is tracked in the Electronic Health Record. Referrals to Primary Care, Diabetes Prevention programs and case management from the LHIC partners were noted. The way data systems are linked with population health prevents quarterly data from being shared easily.

Focus Groups Community Health Workers (CHWs)- Laura Culbertson

Focus group interviews about barriers to obtaining resources were summarized.

Hospital Reports

Ms. Isenock reported Connect Fest will be held this year on October 14. It will be a smaller program this year, connecting people to services that they need. Medstar is planning the next Community Health Needs Assessment.

LHIC Survey Results- Laura Culbertson

The results of LHIC survey from the website were summarized by Ms. Culbertson. A contact list of all LHIC members will be shared, as that was a suggestion. Members can still complete the survey at:

[Local Health Improvement Coalition Board - Baltimore County \(baltimorecountymd.gov\)](https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov)

COVID/Monkeypox Update – Della Leister

Ms. Leister reviewed the latest on COVID and Monkeypox. The Health Department monitors cases, works with contacts and educates the public. The registry to obtain a vaccine for Monkeypox is on the Health Department website. All are encouraged to direct people to complete the screening on the registry for at risk populations. The Monkeypox vaccine clinics are by appointment for those that screen as high risk. We also provide Monkeypox testing at several locations. The Collaboration Continuum was reviewed with the group- we are coordinating and collaborating.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:13PM

NEXT MEETING

The next virtual meeting date of the LHIC is December 7.