

## Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition (HCLHIC)

Community Health Worker Learning Collaborative (CHWLC)

September 18, 2025

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Howard County Health Department (HCHD)

Heroes Room A

### Minutes

#### Co-Chairs Present:

Amanda Toohey, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center

Maria José Candanoza, Howard County Health Department

#### Members Present:

Francisco Abate, Community Action Council

Miriam Anderson, Howard County Health Department

Yekait Bezooayehu, Howard County Health Department

Samantha Cribbs, Howard County Health Department

Carla Gates, Reclaiming HEALTH Learning Lab

Rem Iang, Family Options Group

Chrystelle Jean, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center

Rosemarie Jimenez-Rosales, Howard County Health Department

Mike Kittrell, Community Ecology Institute

Nancy Moreno, Howard County Health Department

Kenia Quintanilla, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center

Reena Rambharat, Howard County Health Department

Kirk Rookwood, The Healthy Church

Sandy Roschli, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center

Nicki Sanders, Howard Community College

Lauren Soummers, Howard County Health Department

Stephanie Reid, Howard County Health Department

#### Staff Present:

Maribet Rivera-Brute, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Stephanie Foster, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Ashton Jordan, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	Ashton Jordan, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.	Members are encouraged to review the past minutes available at: <a href="https://www.hclhic.org/home/meeting/2024?catelid=367">https://www.hclhic.org/home/meeting/2024?catelid=367</a>
<b>Announcements</b>	<p>Ashton Jordan provided the following announcements to the workgroup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next HCLHIC Quarterly hybrid meeting is on October 16, 2025, at 9 AM. It will be hybrid, and refreshments will be available for in-person attendees.</li> <li>• Reasonable Accommodations Repairs Grant is open for applications. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Contact Betsy Hein at <a href="mailto:bhein@arinow.org">bhein@arinow.org</a> or call 443.713.3910</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Office on Aging and Independence offers programs and services that support healthy aging, independent living, reduce isolation, and promote dignity, choice, and cultural inclusion.</li> <li>• Dance Fitness Classes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Every Monday at 6:00 PM and Saturday at 9:00 am each month. From April 28th through October 25th, 2025.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Amanda provided the following announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicines for the Greater Good Symposium will be hosted on December 9, 2025, at Johns Hopkins Bayview. CHWs are invited to submit poster presentations.</li> <li>• Reported that the federal grant funding cycle had ended and was not renewed. The program is transitioning back to alternative funding sources, including scholarships and grants. Despite funding challenges, the training program will continue in some capacity.</li> <li>• Lunch and Lean sessions will continue bi-monthly</li> </ul>	<p>Members can register for upcoming HCLHIC meetings here: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2025-hclhic-full-coalition-meetings-tickets-1022732690007?aff=oddttdcreator">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2025-hclhic-full-coalition-meetings-tickets-1022732690007?aff=oddttdcreator</a></p> <p>Members interested in applying for the Reasonable Accommodations Repairs Grant can Contact Betsy Hein at <a href="mailto:bhein@arinow.org">bhein@arinow.org</a> or call 443.713.3910.</p> <p>Members can find more information on aging independently here: <a href="https://www.howardcountymd.gov/aging-independence">https://www.howardcountymd.gov/aging-independence</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Will continue identifying scholarship/grant funding opportunities to sustain CHW training.</li></ul> <p>Maria José provided the following announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Highlighted the National Association of Counties (NACo) Health Award received by the CHW program</li><li>Announced that the CHW program will be receiving the American Public Health Association (APHA) CHW Team of the Year Award this November 3<sup>rd</sup> in Washington D.C.</li></ul>	
<b>Photovocie Project Presentation and Group Activity</b>	<p>Maria José presented on the Photovoice Project in Elkridge (Census Tract 6011.07).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Photovoice combines photography and storytelling to highlight community strengths, challenges, and lived experiences.</li><li>Project goals: facilitate community discussions, document assets and needs, and inform decision-makers.</li><li>Methods included safety/ethical protocols, use of the SHOWED (See, Happening, Our, Why, Educate, Do) methodology, and categorizing assets (healthcare, schools, food access, green space, transportation, etc.).</li><li>Over 600 images were captured and narrowed for analysis.</li><li>Public exhibition scheduled for <b>November 3, 2025</b>, at the Elkridge Library. Because of the award schedule for the same date, the new date will be announced. Members will receive a “Save the Date” invitation.</li></ul> <p>Maria José iterated that the Photovoice Project was conducted as part of the larger Community Asset Profile (CAP) Project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Used Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) to identify six priority census tracts.</li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assets are categorized into six domains: emergency services, social/cultural organizations, government, education, healthcare, and neighborhood resources.</li> <li>Asset mapping activities included direct engagement (door-to-door outreach, conversations with community members).</li> <li>Future updates will connect asset mapping to advocacy efforts.</li> </ul> <p>Maria José then led the collaborative through a group activity analyzing images with the SHOWED Method.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members engaged in small-group exercises analyzing selected community images using SHOWED prompts (“What do you see here?”, “What is really happening?”, “How does this relate to our lives?”, “Why does this problem/strength exist?”, “What can we do about it?”).</li> <li>Some of the findings discussed included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Farmers Market: highlighted food access, affordability, and partnership opportunities.</li> <li>Playground with broken glass: identified safety hazards and lack of maintenance; suggested advocacy, community clean-ups, and improved infrastructure.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Feedback from activity will be informed of final selections for the November exhibition.</li> </ul>	
<b>Continued Education for CHWs</b>	<p>During the June CHW LC meeting members expressed interest in a singular access point for CHW training options, Ashton shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maryland Department of Health (MDH) hosts a statewide CHW training list via their website</li> <li>HCLHIC staff are working on getting Howard County-specific training included on the MDH list.</li> </ul>	<p>Members interested in viewing the MDH CHW training list can visit here:</p> <p><a href="https://health.maryland.gov/pohealth/Community-Health-Workers/Pages/Home.aspx">https://health.maryland.gov/pohealth/Community-Health-Workers/Pages/Home.aspx</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Noted trainings: health literacy webinars (Horowitz Center), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) application training, CPR/First Aid, maternal and infant health, climate ambassador training.</li></ul>	
<b>Future Topics Discussion</b>	<p>CHWLC members mentioned the following for future topics for the CHWLC to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Home visits and client engagement (trust building, safety considerations, policy limitations).</li><li>Barriers in serving clients who are fearful of leaving home.</li><li>Need for presentations on local resources (e.g., Mobile Integrated Community Health Program, Fire &amp; Rescue partnerships, fall prevention programs).</li><li>Co-chairs to explore future agenda items on home visits and cross-agency partnerships to expand CHW utilization.</li></ul>	
<b>Next Steps &amp; Wrap-up</b>	<p>The next CHW LC meeting is December 11<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM in Room A of the HCHD.</p> <p>Ashton Jordan adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.</p>	

Respectfully submitted by:

Ashton Jordan, MSPH

Community Engagement Coordinator

Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition