



Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Growing Healthy Families Workgroup Meeting

Virtual via Zoom, February 14, 2024

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Minutes

Members Present:

Erin Anderson, HC Health Department
Stephanie Arnouk, HC Health Department
Shannon Blount, HC Public School System
Shakia Colbert, Carefirst BlueCross BlueShield
Dana Couch, NAACP, Howard County Branch
Sam Cribbs, HC Health Department
Marsha Dawson, HC Office of Local Children’s Board
Laura Henderson, HC Health Department
Nayanie Henriquez, HC Health Department
Allysin Houle, HC Health Department

Melissa Melton, HC Community Health Worker
Lisa Pearson, Chase Brexton
Tamisha Ponder, Sankofa Yoga + Wellness Center
Tori Rain, Community Member
Carrie Singley, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center
Lauren Soummers, HC Health Department
Erica Taylor, HC Office of Children and Families
Patrice Tucker, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
Aden Urbaniak, HC Health Department
Amber Wilson, Howard County Library System

Staff Present:

Sonya Lloyd, HC Local Health Improvement Coalition
Reena Rambharat, HC Local Health Improvement Coalition

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
Welcome and Introductions	<p>Ms. Sonya Lloyd, Community Engagement Coordinator, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition (HCLHIC), called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. She provided a welcome to members in attendance, said the meeting will be recorded for note-taking purposes only, and shared the meeting goal of gathering partners to discuss collaborative efforts to improve birth outcomes for people of color in Howard County to advance efforts toward reducing health disparities.</p> <p>Ms. Lloyd asked members to introduce themselves and share what they know about home visiting? If they ever referred anyone to the home visiting program? If not, no worries, Erica Taylor with Office of Children and Families will fill in any gaps.</p>	<p>LHIC’s website: https://www.hclhic.org/</p>

Announcements

Ms. Lloyd shared information about the next quarterly full LHIC meeting on April 18, 2024 at 9am. The meeting will be hybrid. When you attend the full LHIC meeting you can network and share opportunities among members.

Ms. Lloyd shared that the Howard County Health Department's (HCHD) [PEACE Project](#) and [MOMCares](#) will be holding monthly FREE diaper giveaways at the Health Department's back entrance on 8930 Stanford Blvd. from 10:00a - 1:00p (while supplies last) on these dates: February 27, March 26, April 30 and May 28. The PEACE Project team will be on-hand to answer questions and provide resources for other pregnancy needs.

Ms. Lloyd said that the On the Road to Kindergarten Children's class at the new HoCo Family Support Center is Wednesday, March 13 from 10am to 12pm. This event is hosted by HCLS and is for children up to age 5, with parents and caregivers. At this free class, you will help prepare young children for kindergarten.

Ms. Lloyd shared a new opportunity to collaborate with the Dancel Y in Ellicott City. The Y is interested in promoting partner resources, flyers, materials on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 9am to 11am in their main lobby. They will provide free breakfast to their members. They hope to tie it in to monthly health observances i.e., March is Nutrition Month, April is Child Abuse Prevention Month etc. If partners are interested in collaborating either by tabling or just providing resources for the community and have the Y display the materials, please let LHIC know.

Ms. Lloyd shared that the Office of the Local Children's Board is having two trainings this month:

The first training is called *The Power of the Body and Social Identities and the Impact on Health and Wellbeing*. It will be in person at DCRS Patuxent Woods office, rooms 337 & 338 on Friday February 16, 2024, from 9:30am -12:30pm. Lunch will be provided!

The second training titled, *Trauma Informed Care While Working with Very Young Children and Their Families*. The in-person training is Friday, February 23, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at DCRS: 9830 Patuxent Woods Dr. Columbia, MD 21046 Rooms 337/338. Lunch will be provided.

Ms. Lloyd shared that "FirstCall For All" is a new program from Centennial Medical Group/First Call Medical Center Urgent Care. This program allows people who are uninsured to receive urgent care without payment due up front. (Similar to how the ER does it but at about a tenth of the total price of the ER). They hope to reduce ER overcrowding.

Agendas for past full LHIC meetings: <https://www.hclhic.org/home/MeetingYears/1>

Register for next full LHIC meeting: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-hclhic-full-coalition-meetings-tickets-726290964827?aff=oddtcreator>

Details about free diaper giveaway: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/peace-project>

Register for the On the Road to Kindergarten class: <https://howardcounty.librarycalendar.com/event/road-kindergarten-hoco-family-support-center-ork-208540>

Register for the Power of the Body training: <https://bit.ly/HoCoEmbodyLibTraining>

Register for the Trauma Informed Care Training: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054AACAF2FA4FB6-47749396-aces>.

Learn more about FirstCall for All program: www.FirstCallForAll.com or email Deb Poquette dpoquette@centennialmedical.com

If interested in future Doula trainings or events go to www.momcares.org.

Email LHIC with any other announcements or questions: lhic@howardcountymd.gov

For more information about PYTT Training go to: <https://www.sankofayogacenter.com/pyt>

	<p>Ms. Lloyd then asked the members to share any other announcements with the group.</p> <p>Ms. Sam Cribbs, Howard County Health Department (HCHD), shared about the MOMCares Doula Recruitment/Training. Ms. Cribbs said the training application closed on 2/9. She said that they are trying to generate more referrals to MOMCares for doula services as the first cohort of doulas needs to attend a minimum of 3 birth each within a year, to become certified.</p> <p>Ms. Shakia Colbert, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, said the Centering Health Institute is convening a meeting in Canton on April 26, 2024, she will share the flyer / information with Ms. Lloyd when she receives it.</p> <p>Ms. Amber Wilson, Howard County Library System (HCLS), is having a diaper collection drive all February long at all the library branches in Howard County.</p> <p>Dr. Tamisha Ponder, Sankofa Yoga + Wellness Center, said they are leading an 85hr Prenatal Yoga Teacher Training (PYTT) beginning in April through June.</p>	
<p>Previous Meeting Recap</p>	<p>Ms. Lloyd said that the previous meeting minutes can be found on the LHIC webpage's Meeting Portal. At the last meeting in November 2023, we discussed the Growing Healthy Families action plan, which is a living document that outlines the 4 goals and multiple objectives of this workgroup based on HCHD's Strategic Plan of reducing health disparities. This document allows for ongoing review and editing while implementing the goals and objectives.</p> <p>Ms. Lloyd said we also discussed workgroup planning and visioning including member recruitment and short-term initiatives, including Black Maternal Health Week activities in Spring 2024 and Doula Training.</p>	<p>Access previous meeting minutes: https://www.hclhic.org/home/MeetingYears/366</p>
<p>Family Support Center</p>	<p>Ms. Lloyd introduced Ms. Erica Taylor, Home Visiting Program Manager, Howard County Office of Children and Families, Department of Community Resources and Services, and Growing Healthy Families Co-Chair, to discuss their programs and the new Family Support Center.</p> <p>Ms. Taylor gave a brief overview of the two home visiting programs: the healthy families program and parents as teachers program. These programs support people who are pregnant or parenting children birth to age 5. They connect families to resources in the community, support with the bonding and attachment with the caregiver and child, and complete various screenings in the home including depression, domestic violence, substance use. These programs are long-term, voluntary free program. For more information, please email Ms. Erica Taylor.</p>	<p>The Family Support Center website: https://www.howardcountymd.gov/children-families/family-support-center</p> <p>Email: etaylor@howardcountymd.gov</p>

<p>Childbirth and Parent Education Programs</p>	<p>Ms. Lloyd introduced Ms. Carrie Singley, Health Promotion Program Coordinator, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center, to discuss the childbirth and parent education programs that the Howard County hospital offers. There are a variety of classes for caregivers, new parents, or expectant parents and are virtual or in-person based on a rotating basis. The updated flyer will be shared with workgroup members in the minutes email.</p>	<p>New Parent Education webpage is: www.hopkinshoward.org/babyclasses.</p> <p>Contact: HCGH-J2BH@jhmi.edu or 410-740-7601. Email: Carrie at cembrey2@jhmi.edu.</p>
<p>Black Maternal Health Week</p>	<p>Ms. Lloyd introduced, Ms. Sam Cribbs, Nurse Supervisor, Bureau of Family Health Services, HCHD and Growing Healthy Families Co-Chair, to discuss the following black maternal health week from April 11 to 17 initiatives in April. The theme for this year is <i>Our Bodies Still Belong to Us – Reproductive Justice Now</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Cribbs hopes to book the Harriet Tubman Cultural Arts Center for Saturday, April 20, 2024 from 10am to 1pm or 2pm to hold event. Goal would be to book the space by the end of the week if group agrees to day, time, and location. • Agree on sub-theme, build off national theme, for event. Possible send Doodle Poll to group after meeting to vote if multiple ideas. Joyful event. • Ask if members will be able to either table at the event, offer to speak on how their organization promotes black maternal health, advertise the event through their channels, and/or host a breakout session on a focused topic. • Create a vendor form to share with group. • Decide on Black Maternal Health Week (BMHW) sub-workgroup and how often to meet. <p>Workgroup members offered the following suggestions on programming for the BMHW Event:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooking Demonstration in kitchen. • Partner with community church's such as St. John's Baptist Church, Celebration Church, Bridgeway Church. • Offer childcare services at event. • Invite Sharebaby • Offer free food, free stuff, and resources. • Team up with local businesses for gift card raffles or an experience. • Breakout sessions to share birth experiences • ACCU would like to table at the event and share resources. • Prenatal Yoga teachers and educators. • WIC can provide services. • KISS program and safe sleep resources • Raffle items, pack and play giveaways, prenatal yoga free passes. • Children's activities – library involvement, art class. 	<p>Email Sam Cribbs to join BMHW subgroup: scribbs@howardcountymd.gov</p>

Wrap up and Next Steps	Ms. Lloyd said that the next meeting will be Wednesday, May 8, at 2pm to 3pm.	Email hic@howardcountymd.gov with any questions. Minutes will be posted: http://www.hclhic.org/
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Respectfully submitted by,
Ms. Sonya Lloyd, MA
Community Engagement Coordinator
Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition