



Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Health Literacy Advisory Committee

January 12, 2024

10:00am to 11:00pm

Virtual via Zoom

Minutes

Members Present:

- Erin Ashinghurst, Accessible Resource for Independence
- Lisa M. DeHernandez, Howard County Health Department
- Ruochu Hu, Community Member
- Kelly Kryspin, Maryland Autism Society
- Kristine Nellenbach, Kennedy Krieger Institute
- Latrice Price, Infinite Legacy
- Leah Richey, University of Maryland Horowitz Center for Health Literacy
- Marcus Smith, Maryland Relay
- Cris Oviedo, La Alianza Latina
- Matt Wilson, Howard County Health Department
- Michelle Clark, Howard County Health Department

Staff Present:

- Reena Rambharat, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition
- Ashton Jordan, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition
- Chynáe Vicks, Howard County Health Department

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action / Follow-up
Welcome and Introductions	<p>Mr. Ashton Jordan, Howard County Health Department, called the meeting to order at 11:02am.</p> <p>Mr. Jordan gave a welcome to the workgroup members.</p>	<p>LHIC website: https://www.hclhic.org/</p>
Announcements	<p>Mr. Jordan shared the following announcements with the workgroup members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Public Health Workforce at Maryland Centers for Independent Living is starting the I AM Series January 29 from 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm. Registration Link • Employed Individuals with Disabilities (EID) Program Webinar on February 13, 2024 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm; Virtual through Zoom; Registration Link; accommodations may be provided if requested • The Arc is offering free presentations to schools on the topic of disability and inclusion. Teachers can request the presentation for just their class or grade level. More Information: http://www.thearcmd.org/programs/twb/presentations/ 	<p>Members interested in joining or getting more information about the other LHIC workgroups please contact HCLHIC: lhic@howardcountymd.gov</p> <p>Members were directed to register for the Full LHIC meeting here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-hclhic-full-coalition-meetings-tickets-433126562207</p> <p>Members were directed to register for The Public Health Workforce at Maryland Centers for Independent</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The US Census Bureau is considering changes to how it report data on individuals with disabilities. Feedback will be requested in the Spring with final approval from the White House expected on June 1, 2024 for changes to take effect in 2025. NPR article and Plain Language Comments on Census Changes <p>The following announcements were made by partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Kristine Nellenbach, Kennedy Krieger Institute, announced that the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities is looking to hire an Administrative Services Coordinator. Ms. Cris Oviedo, La Alianza Latina, announced they elected new leadership for upcoming year and will focus on partnership. Welcomed partners to connect with new leadership and offered to assist in facilitating connection. Asked members to post any information, events, job opportunities (for those documented and undocumented) to La Alianza Latina Facebook group that she leads. Ms. Latrice Price, Infinite Legacy, looking for partnership events in 21044 and 21045, through their Decision Project. 	<p>Living I AM Series: Registration Link</p> <p>Members were encouraged to register for Employed Individuals with Disabilities (EID) Program Webinar February 13, 2024 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm; Virtual through Zoom; Registration Link</p> <p>Members were asked to register and help promote The Arc’s free presentations to school teachers on the topic of disability and inclusion. More information can be found here: http://www.thearcmd.org/programs/twb/presentations/</p>
<p>Maryland Relay Presentation & Discussion</p>	<p>Mr. Jordan provided a quick recap of the November Healthy Literacy Advisory Committee (HLAC) workgroup meeting. He then introduced Marcus Smith, Maryland Relay to present on the organization.</p> <p>Mr. Smith provided an overview of Telecommunications Access of Maryland, Maryland Relay, and the services provided to ensure all Marylanders have access and are connected by phone.</p> <p>Highlighted Points include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maryland Relay (7-1-1) Calling Options and Operators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified who qualifies and calling options available Spanish-to Spanish, Spanish-to-English Relay call by bilingual operators are also available The Maryland Accessible Telecommunication (MAT) Program which provides assistive telecommunications devices to qualified Marylanders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Described who qualifies and benefits from MAT, as well as required documentation Maryland Relay resources are available on CAREAPP <p>Mr. Jordan opened the floor for discussion, posing to the group about ways to connect and ensure we are connecting with individuals in most need of these resources and to share upcoming events in 2024 for each organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Marcus Smith- Frederick School for the Deaf- 	<p>Members interested in getting more information about Telecommunications Access of Maryland (TAM) please visit here: https://doit.maryland.gov/mdrelay/Pages/TAM.aspx</p> <p>Members interested in getting more information about the Maryland Accessible Telecommunications (MAT) Program please visit here: https://doit.maryland.gov/mdrelay/Pages/Equipment.aspx</p>

Clerc Classes XXII occurred in January- great opportunity to reach this particular demographic; Digital Maryland Deaf Library in February where content, videos, and books/e-books are made available online for those who are deaf and hard of hearing (HoH).

- Ms. Erin Ashinghurst, ARI, states there are often challenges breaking down barriers across cultures within different disability communities. Looking for opportunity to hire people who represent different disability communities and to host events that include different languages and reach broader audience; Wants to bring Living Well in the Community Program to Howard County residents and looking into plans to do so while providing transportation and language solutions
- Ms. Leah Richey, Horowitz Center for Health Literacy, was especially interested in hearing about MD Relay's Remote Conference Counseling (RCC) because Horowitz is offering training sessions to CHWs on health literacy/communication best practices; Believes the RCC program would be instrumental in helping them reach CHWs who are deaf/HoH
- Ms. Richey also mentioned the Marylanders Online Digital Access Program (run by UM Extension) which provides internet access, including low cost devices and service plans, and believes in will be great to connect with Mr. Smith as it pertains to the Video Library for Deaf/HoH.
- Ms. Latrice Price, Infinite Legacy, wants to host an event in Howard County similar to Summers in the 7th Block Party (often done in 7th District of Baltimore City). She is also hoping to connect with schools for organ donation to be discussed in Health Ed and Drivers Ed classes. Infinite Legacy would like to have an Open house where students (particularly those on a nursing track) can interact with their Simulation Lab and learn about the organization.
- Ms. Kelly Kryspin, Howard County Autism Society, shared that the organization changed their name to Maryland Autism Society due to expansion to Montgomery and Anne Arundel counties. Resource Coordinators looking to host Open Houses for people to learn about resources offered, will share once dates confirmed.
- Ms. Kryspin also shared an indoor pool party event in Anne Arundel County at North Laurel Aquatic Center for families in Anne Arundel county to meet and learn about services.
- Ms. Kryspin shared that they provide sensory-friendly vaccine bags to help individuals receiving vaccines.
- Ms. Kryspin further shared an event in Montgomery County where Spirit Club will host

	<p>group fitness classes in Kensington, Maryland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She lastly shared that the Autism Hiring Program has expanded into both Anne Arundel and Montgomery counties to assist individuals who have an autism diagnosis and looking for employment, and who aren't currently receiving assistance from other employment agencies. • Ms. Kristine Nellenbach, Kennedy Krieger Institute, with MD Center for Disabilities, stated that her organization is required to serve all of Maryland. Main goal of organization this year is to target lower Eastern Shore because resources are very limited in that area. A Townhall State Hearing is being hosted in Salisbury to try to bring people in person to see the needs of the Eastern Shore. The goal for Resource Finder this year is to target areas where lowest number of inquiries were received. In 2023, Resource Finder received 71 inquiries from Howard County. <p>Mr. Jordan would like to create an HLAC Member event schedule so that members can continue to support one another and collaborate where possible.</p> <p>Next HLAC Meeting is March 8, 2024 at 10:00AM.</p>	
<p>Next Steps & Wrap-up</p>	<p>Mr. Jordan adjourned the meeting at 11:46 AM</p>	<p>Members interested in tabling at one of our future health department events please contact: ajordan@howardcountymd.gov</p> <p>Members interested in the LHIC promoting their upcoming event(s) please contact: ajordan@howardcountymd.gov</p>

Respectfully submitted by
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Howard County Health Department

Website: <http://www.hclhic.org> Social Media: [@hclhic](https://twitter.com/hclhic)