



## Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Health Literacy Advisory Committee

November 03, 2023

11:00am to 12:00pm

Virtual via Zoom

### Minutes

#### Members Present:

Erin Ashinghurst, Accessible Resource for Independence  
 Matt Castner, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center  
 Lisa M. DeHernandez, Howard County Health Department  
 Lindsay Hall, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition  
 Ruochu Hu, Community Member  
 Kelly Kryspin, Howard County Autism Society  
 Nicole LeBlanc, Autism Society of Maryland  
 Kristine Nellenbach, Kennedy Krieger Institute  
 Latrice Price, Infinite Legacy  
 Leah Richey, University of Maryland Horowitz Center for Health Literacy  
 Nikki Savoy, Accessible Resource for Independence  
 Matt Wilson, Howard County Health Department

#### Staff Present:

Lindsay Hall, Public Health Intern of Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition  
 Sonya Lloyd, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition  
 Reena Rambharat, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition  
 Chynáe Vicks, Howard County Health Department

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action / Follow-up
<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	Chynáe Vicks, Howard County Health Department, called the meeting to order at 11:03am.  Ms. Vicks gave a welcome to the workgroup members.	LHIC website: <a href="https://www.hclhic.org/">https://www.hclhic.org/</a>
<b>Announcements</b>	Ms. Vicks shared the following announcements with the workgroup members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The West African International Collaborative Conference on Psychology will be held on November 8-9 virtually through Zoom.</li> <li>The Department of Community Resources and Services has opened registration for their 2023 Thanksgiving Holiday Food Support Distribution Event happening on November 20<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm.</li> <li>Mental Health America has made their Culture, Community, and Connection: BIPOC Mental Health Toolkit available on their website</li> </ul>	Members interested in joining or getting more information about the other LHIC workgroups please contact HCLHIC: <a href="mailto:lhic@howardcountymd.gov">lhic@howardcountymd.gov</a>  Members were directed to register for the Full LHIC meeting here: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-hclhic-full-coalition-meetings-tickets-433126562207">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-hclhic-full-coalition-meetings-tickets-433126562207</a>  Members were directed to register

	<p>The following announcements were made by partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Kristine Nellenbach, Kennedy Krieger Institute, announced that the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities is looking to hire an Administrative Services Coordinator.</li> </ul>	<p>for the West African International Collaborative Conference on Psychology here:  <a href="https://waiccp.unizik.edu.ng/">https://waiccp.unizik.edu.ng/</a></p> <p>Members were urged to promote the Department of Community Resources and Services Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway. Registration link:  <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-dcrs-thanksgiving-food-basket-giveaway-tickets-748531567067?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-dcrs-thanksgiving-food-basket-giveaway-tickets-748531567067?aff=oddtcreator</a></p> <p>Members were urged to utilize and promote Mental Health America’s Culture, Community, and Connection: BIPOC Mental Health Toolkit located here:  <a href="https://mhanational.org/sites/default/files/BIPOC/MHM-2023/Full-Toolkit-Images-Separate.pdf">https://mhanational.org/sites/default/files/BIPOC/MHM-2023/Full-Toolkit-Images-Separate.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Disability Inclusion Grant Project Presentation &amp; Discussion</b></p>	<p>Ms. Vicks gave a quick recap of the September Healthy Literacy Advisory Committee (HLAC) workgroup meeting. She then introduced Erin Ashinghurst, Accessible Resources for Independence, to present on the Disability Inclusion Grant project.</p> <p>Ms. Erin Ashinghurst overviewed the grant project description, purpose, and objectives. The three (3) project objectives were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewing Community Data</li> <li>Host “Living Well in the Community” (LWC) Program</li> <li>Incorporate disability focus in the HLAC</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Ashinghurst briefly shared Howard County Disability Demographic Data as well as focus group feedback from focus groups held during COVID-19 pandemic with individuals with disabilities. She iterated that health disparities exist between people with and without disabilities in Howard County but most everyone can help promote the health and well-being of people with disabilities.</p> <p>Continuing, Ms. Ashinghurst overviewed the Living Well in the Community (LWC) evidence-based program. She then shared the successes and challenges of hosting the LWC program for individuals with disabilities in Howard County. Further she highlighted LWC participant feedback which showed participants responding positively to the program.</p> <p>Ms. Ashinghurst then described how disability focused action items were incorporated in the HLAC by creating a</p>	<p>For more information on Disability Inclusion Grant project contact Erin Ashinghurst:  <a href="mailto:eashinghurst@arinow.org">eashinghurst@arinow.org</a></p> <p>For more information on the Consumer Health Information Hub visit here:  <a href="https://sph.umd.edu/research-impact/research-centers/horowitz-center-health-literacy/consumer-health-information-hub">https://sph.umd.edu/research-impact/research-centers/horowitz-center-health-literacy/consumer-health-information-hub</a></p> <p>Members were urged to register for the Safer, Higher Quality Healthcare through Health Literacy Tools Webinar through this link:  <a href="https://umd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJltcOqqpzovG9Gk1KgH-5B8gVri8quXKLKB">https://umd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJltcOqqpzovG9Gk1KgH-5B8gVri8quXKLKB</a></p>

	<p>disability focused subcommittee. Some of the goals created by the subcommittee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase availability of disability and health data</li> <li>• Develop a policy statement for public accommodations of people with disabilities</li> <li>• Develop and implement a health and independent living needs survey</li> <li>• Implement at least one inclusion solution within Howard County</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Nicole LeBlanc, Autism Society of Maryland, briefly shared information on the Vaccine Education Initiative. Ms. Ashinghurst shared that the VEI does have resources and materials for people with disabilities to address fear of needles.</p> <p>Ms. Ruochu Hu, Howard County community member, provided anecdotal input on barriers faced by individuals living with disabilities. Ms. Hu mentioned in-person opportunities having lower turn out because the transportation system isn't as accessible or disability conscious as they could be which is a deterrent for people with disabilities. Furthermore, she shared that she did not learn about LWC program or other disability resources until she spoke with Erin individually. Strengthening promotion of accessibility resources and initiatives can be conducive to increasing turn out.</p> <p>Ms. Leah Richey, Horowitz Center for Health Literacy, described the 2023 Consumer Health Information Hub Convening that took place in October. Ms. Richey mentioned the convening gave state and local organizations the opportunity to network, utilize the Maryland plain language checklist, and learn about several Maryland social service initiatives. Further she shared that the Consumer Health Information Hub is hosting a webinar in December on Safer, Higher Quality Healthcare through Health Literacy Tools.</p>	
<p><b>Next Steps &amp; Wrap-up</b></p>	<p>Ms. Vicks adjourned the meeting at 11:46 AM</p>	<p>Members interested in tabling at one of our future health department events please contact: <a href="mailto:ajordan@howardcountymd.gov">ajordan@howardcountymd.gov</a></p> <p>Members interested in the LHIC promoting their upcoming event(s) please contact: <a href="mailto:ajordan@howardcountymd.gov">ajordan@howardcountymd.gov</a></p>

Respectfully submitted by  
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Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Website: <http://www.hclhic.org> Social Media: @hclhic