



Howard County Food Security Committee

Hybrid Meeting

In-person: Community Action Council Howard County (9385 Gerwig Lane, Suite J, Columbia, MD 21046)

Virtual: Zoom

April 6, 2023 11:00am to 12:00pm

Minutes

Members Present:

Bernadette Bindewald, HC Health Department
 Tracy Broccolino, Community Action Council
 Erika Chavarria, Columbia Community Care
 Alison Gerber, HC Department of Community Resources
 Laura Henderson, HC Health Department
 Lois Joellenbeck, HC Health Department
 Alice Lee, HC Health Department
 Paloma Leon, Luminus Network

Chimezie Ndukuba, HC Health Department
 Carrie Ross, Community Action Council
 Razan Sahuri, University of Maryland Extension- HC
 Jacqueline Scott, Community Resources and Services
 Weida Stoecker, Maryland Department of Agriculture
 Nette Stokes, Just Living Advocacy
 Theresa Taylor, Community Ecology Institute

Staff Present:

Ashton Jordan, HC Local Health Improvement Coalition
 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, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition (HCLHIC), called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. She provided a welcome to members in attendance, thanked Ms. Carrie Ross, Community Action Council, for hosting the meeting, and had all attendees introduce themselves.</p> <p>Ms. Lloyd reviewed the meeting goal of gathering partners to discuss collaborative efforts to address food and nutrition insecurity in Howard County and gave a brief recap of the previous Food Security meeting.</p>	<p>Members are asked to review previous meeting minutes: https://www.hclhic.org/home/meeting/2022?catId=365.</p>
Announcements	<p>Ms. Lloyd shared information about the next quarterly full LHIC meeting to be held on April 20th at 8:30am.</p> <p>Ms. Lloyd provided an update on HCLHIC's HC Resource Guide for Food Assistance and Nutrition Education programs. The final version is shared with partners and is currently placed on HCLHIC's Healthy Eating webpage.</p> <p>At the previous Food Security meeting, Ms. Courtney Mellberg, CAC, gave a Howard County Food Bank update and the ending of Emergency SNAP benefits on March 1st.</p> <p>We also discussed the Owen Brown Place Container Garden Project on May 20, 2023 and promotion of the food and nutrition resource guide and LHIC's Healthy Eating webpage.</p>	<p>Agenda for full LHIC Meeting: https://www.hclhic.org/home/meeting/2023?catId=1</p> <p>Register for the Full LHIC Meeting: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-hclhic-full-coalition-meetings-tickets-433126562207</p> <p>Access food and nutrition resource guide and LHIC's Healthy Eating webpage</p> <p>Additional announcements email: lhic@howardcountymd.gov</p>

<p>Food Brochures Update</p>	<p>Ms. Lloyd provided an update on the various Howard County food brochures and shared the physical versions with those members present and shared her screen to display the brochure to those attending virtually. The Howard County Food Pantries & Hot Meals brochure includes the entire Howard County area and is being referred to as the <i>all locations</i> brochure. This trifold brochure was created from the the Partner Food & Nutrition Resource Guide.</p> <p>The Howard County Food Pantries and Hot Meals brochure all locations have been translated into four languages: Spanish, French, Mandarin and Korean. The digital version of the brochure can now be found on LHIC’s Healthy Eating webpage (English only). The translated brochures will be placed on LHIC’s Healthy Eating webpage by the end of the month. Print versions will be available to the public soon. All these brochures include a QR code to the Howard County Food Connection Map. The food brochure will be shared with partner pantries later this Spring.</p> <p>Ms. Lloyd shared that three additional bifold area-specific brochures were created for ease of use and accessibility. These brochures are in the last stages of design and will include a digital version on LHIC’s Healthy Eating webpage soon. The three brochures are titled: <i>Food Pantries & Hot Meals Columbia, Food Pantries & Hot Meals Ellicott City and Elkridge, and Food Pantries & Hot Meals Laurel, Jessup, Fulton, Glenelg, Savage, Marriottsville, & Woodbine</i>. These three brochures will be translated into Spanish, French, Mandarin, and Korean and a print version will be shared with partner pantries in late Spring.</p>	<p>Access the All locations brochures (English) on LHIC’s website.</p>
<p>Howard County Food Connection Map</p>	<p>Ms. Reena Rambharat, Director, Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition, provided an update on the new Howard County Food Connection Map. This map is an interactive tool to help people find low-cost, accessible food and nutrition resources in the County. She said the Press Release was sent out on Tuesday and that news outlets have picked up the story.</p> <p>Ms. Rambharat gave a demonstration on how to use the Food Map and said that the following information can be found on it including transit bus routes and stops, Maryland restaurants, Summer food service programs, SNAP food retailers, food assistance programs, nutrition education programs and WIC vendors.</p> <p>Ms. Rambharat said the LHIC was accepting additional feedback to help improve the ease of use and that any user can fill out the survey link with comments and suggestions. She also said you can access the Food Map on your mobile device.</p>	<p>Access the Howard County Food Connection Map on the LHIC website.</p> <p>Share Howard County Food Connection Map feedback by filling out this survey.</p>

<p>Howard County Food Connection Map Promotion</p>	<p>Ms. Rambharat, led a brief discussion on promotion of the Food Connection Map within the Howard County community. Various included creating a poster translated into French, Spanish, Chinese and Korean. Partners indicated that they would hang these posters in their locations to help with promotion. The LHIC will also place these posters at various community locations. Another suggestion was to include the Food Map QR code alongside WIC advertising, possibly on bus stop ads and flyers with the Food Map QR code.</p>	
<p>Owen Brown Place Spring Plans</p>	<p>Ms. Carrie Ross, Food Bank Director, Community Action Council of Howard County, provided an update on the Pop-Up Food Pantry at Owen Brown Place on April 22, 2023 and the Owen Brown Place Container Garden Project also known as the <i>Owen Brown Place Planting Party</i> on May 20, 2023.</p> <p>Ms. Ross said that the Community Action Council in collaboration with LHIC, is hosting a Pop-Up food pantry for residents of Owen Brown Place, a low-income, senior, diverse community in Columbia. Food items such as produce and staple items to make meals along with recipes and additional resources and giveaways will be provided to the residents. Volunteers will assist with taking food and resources to home-bound residents.</p> <p>Ms. Rambharat said the LHIC is hosting a Planting Party to set up container gardens with fruits and vegetables for residents of Owen Brown Place. This is a collaborative initiative with the University of Maryland extension SNAP-Ed and Master Gardeners with the assistance of MRC and other volunteers. The aim is to also serve as a model for other communities to implement container gardens.</p> <p>Ms. Sahuri spoke on University of Maryland Extension Howard County contributions to the Planting Party at Owen Brown including the assistance of the Master Gardeners who will provide training and education. Ms. Sahuri will present a nutrition component that will include providing recipes and a free food tasting on how to use their vegetables. Master Gardener, Kent Phillips, will give a presentation on container gardening.</p>	
<p>Wrap-up and Next Steps</p>	<p>Ms. Lloyd will send out the meeting minutes in the next week. The Food Security Committee will next meet on June 8, 2023 at 11 a.m.</p> <p>Immediately following the meeting, Ms. Carrie Ross will give a tour of the CAC Food Bank to those attendees in person.</p>	<p>Email lhic@howardcountymd.gov with any questions.</p>

Respectfully submitted by,
Ms. Sonya Lloyd, MA
Community Engagement Coordinator,
Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition