

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
October 23, 2017 6:30 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: The regular monthly meeting of the Brunswick County Health and Human Services Advisory Board was called to order by Dr. Flint King at 6:30 p.m. in the Health Services Board Room (Building A).

A. PUBLIC COMMENT: Dr. King asked for public comments. There were none.

B. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Dr. King asked if there were any special presentations. Mr. Harrelson announced Barbara Jackson as Health Services' Employee of the Quarter. This was Mrs. Jackson's first day in her new position as Management Support Director after several years as Clinic Management Support Supervisor. Mr. Harrelson read the nomination which was signed by all of her staff. Staff praised her for always lending a hand and thinking of new ways to make their work easier and services better for the clients.

II. REGULARLY OCCURRING ITEMS:

A. ATTENDANCE:

1. The following members were present:

Dr. Flint King, Chairman
Dr. J. Michael Howard
Ms. Lisa Narron
Mr. Haywood Miller
Mrs. Pat Sykes
Dr. Kathryn Lawler

2. Members absent:

Mr. Gene Ward
Dr. Jerry Smith
Mr. Michael Norton
Dr. Allen Williams

3. Staff members present:

David Stanley, Health & Human Services Director
Cris Harrelson, Health Services Director
Cathy Lytch, Social Services Director
Danny Thornton, Environmental Health Director
Cherie Browning, Deputy Director of Nursing
Scott Milligan, Personnel Director
Marjorie Rayl, Quality Assurance Specialist
Barbara Jackson, Management Support Director

4. Guests present:

Brunswick County Community Wellness Coalition:
Dr. Scott Starks, Chairman
Lindsay Maher, Executive Director

- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes for the monthly meeting held on **September 25, 2017** were reviewed. Dr. King asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. **There were no corrections. Dr. Howard moved to approve the minutes as written. Dr. Lawler seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous. (Closed)**
- C. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:** Dr. King asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. **Mr. Stanley asked that the following items be added under New Business: Item C as “Dosher Hospital Grant”, Item D as “Child Care Policy”, and Item E as “Calendar”. Mrs. Sykes moved to approve the agenda with the aforementioned changes. Dr. Howard seconded the motion. The vote to approve the agenda was unanimous. (Closed)**
- D. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- 1. CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION TEAMS:** Ms. Browning reported that the Child Fatality Prevention Team will meet next on December 12th. **(Info)**
 - 2. HEALTH SERVICES:** Mr. Harrelson reported that flu clinic is going well. So far 2,812 vaccinations have been given. Last year 3,132 flu shots were given in the month of October. Demand usually increases when temperatures go down and people start hearing about flu cases in the news. Mr. Harrelson announced the transition to eWIC cards was a smooth process. Brunswick County is one of seven counties chosen to participate in the pilot. Clients are happy with the changes. The state consultants were impressed with our staff. Mr. Harrelson reported that, while the rates of acute Hepatitis C are rising across the state, Brunswick County has seen a significant increase in the past several years. Rates are six times higher since 2012 and have doubled between 2015 and 2016. The people at highest risk are baby boomers, users of illicit drugs, and those with HIV. Health Services has begun testing for Hepatitis C via the NC State Lab. This testing is offered free of charge for those who meet the criteria which include baby boomers, users of illicit drugs and those with HIV. Staff is working to identify providers in our area who can be part of the linkage to care network. Mr. Harrelson noted that November is National Diabetes Awareness Month as well as No-Shave November for Cancer Awareness. **(Info)**
 - 3. HHS CUSTOMER SERVICE IMPROVEMENT REPORT:** Ms. Browning reported that staff continues to make minor changes with staffing, as needed, to move forward with practice management. October brought tremendous amounts of outreach and Health Services is not yet fully staffed. Patient Satisfaction Surveys are ongoing. In looking at the October surveys for Child Health, 100% were pleased with services. Positive compliments were written in. Negative notations included comments about not having toys and the color of the walls. Ms. Browning added that toys are not provided because they would have to be cleaned after each use and wall color is determined by the county operations department. Individual use crayons and coloring sheets are provided. **(Info)**

4. **VETERANS SERVICES:** Mr. Stanley noted that, on July 20, 2015, the President signed into law the Veterans Identification Card Act of 2015, which would allow veterans not eligible for VA medical care to purchase a veteran's ID card from the VA. This was to become available in November. When the VA Medical Center in Fayetteville was asked two weeks ago about their implementation of these ID cards they had not heard anything about it yet. Mrs. Hartsell will give an update once official word from the VA is received. The VA has announced they will be making changes to their appeals model framework by creating three levels: Higher-Level Review Lane; Supplemental Claim Lane; and, an Appeal Lane for BVA Review. Mr. Stanley explained this is similar to triage, deciding when claims can be deferred to other levels and what can be dealt with quickly. It will be about 18 months before these changes are implemented. Veteran's Day is Saturday, November 11th. If anyone would like to attend a Veterans Day ceremony, the area Veterans Posts will hold their ceremonies on November 11th at 11:00 a.m. and the Town of Sunset Beach will hold their ceremony at the Town Park Veterans Memorial at 1 p.m. on the 11th. Mrs. Sykes added that Wilmington is having a N.C. Veteran's Parade this year. **(Info)**

5. **PUBLIC HOUSING SERVICES:** Mrs. Lytch reported that Brunswick County continues to be a high performer by scoring 96 in the Section 8 Management Assessment Program Certification. The HUD-VASH (Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing) program combines HUD Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the VA at its medical centers and community-based outpatient clinics. The housing is managed the same as Section 8, partnering with the VA for case management. The VA facility refers all eligible HUD-VASH families to the PHA. The 2017 Appropriations Act provides \$40 million in HUD-VASH funding that will support approximately 5,500 new vouchers. **(Info)**

6. **SOCIAL SERVICES:** Mrs. Lytch discussed the Medicaid Report Card and processing scores. All DSS offices must meet the processing score of 90% timeliness (Family & Children's Medicaid within 45 days/Adult Medicaid within 90 days). When a county falls below 90% three months in a row the State will take over that local office by putting a team in place to process applications until the timeliness reaches 90%. Mrs. Lytch announced changes within the Food Stamp program. A household must be informed two times about required and missing verifications at the time of initial application. Staff currently only sent out a notice once after the 30-day time period has ended that they can deny the case. Now a second notice is to be sent on the 11th day. The caseworker must include the date that the case will be denied should the information not be received in the agency. **(Info)**

7. **HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** Mr. Milligan announced that Social Services currently has one vacancy which is for a Social Work Supervisor in Foster Care. The Social Worker III position was recently filled. In Health Services, the Health Educator position was filled and she will start on Monday. Still open are two Lead Public Health Nurse positions, one for Child Health and one for Women's Health. Also open are an LPN in Immunizations and the Lab Manager position. The WIC MOA and Nutritionist II positions have been filled. Because the Nutritionist II position was filled with existing staff, interviews are now being done for a Nutritionist I position. The Environmental Health Program Specialist position was filled today which created an opening for a Specialist. All positions are advertised. **(Info)**

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **NC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:** Mr. Stanley plans to give an update on the Medicaid Transformation Plan and asked to hold discussion to next month. **(Info)**
- B. **OPIOID/STEPPING UP INITIATIVES:** Mr. Stanley reported that the Opioid Task Force presented a plan to the County Commissioners for several different needs. Proposed initiatives are being reviewed by staff. **(Open)**
- C. **RABIES EXPOSURE PLANNING:** Mr. Stanley recalled that staff has been working through a memorandum on non-bite exposures to send out to local animal control. Health Services has worked with Dr. King and the Brunswick County Sheriff's office on what should be recommended in statute or local ordinance. Non-bite exposures are a very low risk but a procedure is recommended for guidance including when to get the State involved. This document will be shared with Animal Control officers and other entities besides the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Stanley thanked Mr. Harrelson, Tommy Tolley, Racheal Baldwin, and the State for working together on this. **(Closed)**
- D. **PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY:** Mr. Stanley reported that a new initiative has been started regarding evaluation of GenX and potential exposures. The N.C. Science Panel will be meeting soon to come up with ideas of what should happen next. UNCW has reached out to affected counties, keeping all up to date with studies on nine additional wells with GenX levels above the health goal. The wells are located in Bladen and Cumberland counties, generally north of the plant. Chemours is supplying those affected with bottled water. **(Open)**

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **NC SEWAGE RULES UPDATE:** Mr. Stanley remarked the public comment period will end October 31 for the new proposed rules. One of the changes will require existing system checks to be completed. Brunswick County is already performing existing system checks however based on the proposed rule the procedure may need to be tweaked. **(Info)**

- B. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH UPDATE:** Mr. Stanley distributed the Environmental Health Briefing Packet and referenced the chart on the bottom of page 5. Yearly on-site application totals from 2011 through 2017 show the steady increase in on-site applications received. Staff is currently eight weeks behind with a goal of two weeks. Mr. Stanley noted that leadership is committed to getting the resources needed. Staff is working on short-term solutions such as shifting duties, moving funding around to bring in contract staff and overtime for staff. In other business, the recent attempt at permit extension (SB16, Section 19) was vetoed but the veto was then overridden. Permits issued since January of 2000 will be valid on paper until January of 2020 unless there are changes on the property that would not allow the system to be permitted. Health Services staff would likely not go out to a site until the home is built and a final is requested. At that time, staff could find that required setbacks do not pass and there may be no room to fix the issue. Mr. Stanley gave an update on nighttime public pool regulations, which include duplexes. Many pools are located within subdivisions where residents like to swim at night. State regulations require a certain foot candle in pool areas that wish to allow night swimming. Legislation has been changed to say “sufficient lighting” and staff is working with the State to determine what it means. Items that need to be visible are drains, depth markers, emergency phones and posted signs. This also requires staff to complete inspections at night. **(Info)**
- C. DOSHER HOSPITAL GRANT:** Mr. Stanley introduced Dr. Scott Starks and Lindsay Maher with the Brunswick County Community Wellness Coalition. Dr. Starks noted that the coalition was put in place due to a Duke Endowment grant. The grant offers them \$150,000 a year for three years and watches very closely what activities are used to achieve goals. The coalition is teaming up with the YMCA, Brunswick County Health Services, New Hope Clinic and Doshier Hospital to treat and prevent chronic illness using nutrition and activity. They are currently in the building mode. Ms. Maher stated that she wants the group to align efforts to build a culture of wellness. She intends to find pockets in the county that need housing, transportation, or areas that are a food desert. She also discussed access to services, diabetes education and building walking trails. Ms. Maher is planning to speak to local senior centers as well as the local interfaith group. Mr. Stanley added that the coalition is a true benefit to be able to share ideas as well as data that is collected and used for items such as the Community Health Assessment. Ms. Maher asked what the team saw as a need. Ideas discussed were walking groups, indoor swimming, and opportunities for children as well as ways to keep children and their families engaged. Another concern was evening and Saturday hours for medical needs such as annual physicals so that the working public does not have to take time away from work for wellness. **(Info)**
- D. CHILD CARE POLICY:** Mr. Stanley distributed a proposed Social Services policy. Its purpose is to create local rules including a waiting list regarding those with special needs as well as the homeless. The policy was revamped and submitted to the State who approved. The next step is to forward to the County Commissioners as governing board to approve. **Dr. King made a motion to recommend the Local Child Care Policy be forwarded to the Brunswick County Commissioners for approval. Dr. Lawler seconded the motion. The vote to recommend the approval of the Local Child Care Policy was unanimous. (Closed)**

E. CALENDAR: Mr. Stanley distributed a draft of the 2018 Health & Human Services Advisory Board monthly meeting dates. Mr. Milligan noted that May 28th is Memorial Day and the meeting date should be corrected to May 21st. **Dr. Howard moved to accept the 2018 Health & Human Services Advisory Board Meeting Calendar with the aforementioned change. Dr. King seconded the motion and vote to approve was unanimous. (Closed)**

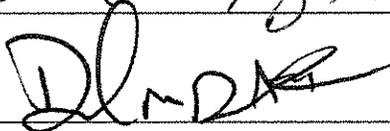
V. BOARD INPUTS: Dr. King asked if there were any additional Board inputs and there were none. (Info)

VI: ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, **the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. with a motion by Dr. Howard. Dr. King seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

The next BCHHS Advisory Board meeting will be held on **November 27, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.**



Chairperson



Secretary

Brunswick County Health and Human Services

Advisory Board Attendance Roster 2017-2018

NAME	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
King	X	X	X	X								
Miller	X	X		X								
Williams		X	X									
Smith	X	X	X									
Ward	X	X										
Norton		X	X									
Howard	X		X	X								
Sykes				X								
Lawler		X	X	X								
Narron	X	X	X	X								

A = Month Appointed/Installed

C = Conflict with CC's Meeting

O = Off Board

X = In Attendance

AA = Approved Absence

Blank Space = Absent

Quorum equals six members present.

^ = Specially Called Meeting

*** = No Meeting**