

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES¹

Wednesday, 12 May 2021

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present: Leslie Iampieri, Andrea Nunez, Jessica Epps, Briana Davis, Mariam Imohi and Maggie Crook.

Members Absent: Dr. Jon Steurnagle.

MEETING SUMMARY:

1. MEETING OPEN

- a. 02:00 pm; Leslie Iampieri, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed committee members to the HTPCC Medical/ Hospital Committee meeting.

2. New Business

- a. Drug Treatment Options in Howard County: Andrea Nunez led discussion acknowledging the lack of detox options available within the county, noting the need to expand services for drug treatment.

Leslie Iampieri explained the hospital is not licensed to provide detox services and can only treat the presenting symptoms that are a result of the substance. She noted there are no detox facilities in Maryland that accept Medicare and one barrier to treatment is documentation.

Jessica Epps echoed that hospitals will treat the patient until they are stable, then will work with a Social Worker to transfer the patient to a more suitable facility for detox treatment. She suggested the committee look at other state's protocols and review the county data to better inform the work. The committee should then present the data to the County Executive to educate about the issue and advocate for a new facility within the county.

- b. Updates on Hospital Trainings: Leslie Iampieri provided an update on training hospital staff. To date nurse leaders have received a series of 2-3 trainings. There are additional trainings scheduled with HopeWorks to be offered for social workers and other hospital staff.

Jessica Epps noted the importance of administering a quality survey to assess participants confidence in utilizing the information and improvements of overall skills. She offered to assist in creating the training surveys.

Leslie Iampieri shared about current efforts to implement a trafficking assessment to be administered in the Emergency Room. She explained implementation would be difficult since this change would have to be a system-wide change to the electronic medical record system.

c. Status of SAFE Exams at Howard County General: Leslie Iampieri stated SAFE exams were still occurring, disputing the misconception held across the county that the exams were no longer being offered at Howard General. She explained that at one point there were fewer nurses and therefore less coverage, which has since been resolved. When there was not coverage she alerted agencies to go elsewhere.

d. Discussion on Non-Hospital Settings: Andrea Nunez shared about a discussion with Sophie Aron regarding a long-term plan for training urgent care and other non-hospital settings.

Jessica Epps noted Patient First establishments and University Clinics, such as the Health Center at Howard County Community College, should also receive the trainings. She also suggested reviewing facilities that are accredited by the National Urgent Care Center Accreditation (NUCCA) program.

3. Announcements and Events of Importance

a. May 20: Human Trafficking Prevention Coordination Council Meeting, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm.

4. Additional Items for Discussion

a. Committee members agreed to schedule meetings quarterly moving forward. Leslie Iampieri noted that meetings could be held at the hospital once the committee is able to resume in-person meetings.

5. Next Coordination Council Meeting Date(s)

a. The next meeting of the HTPCC Medical/ Hospital Committee is to be determined. The meeting will be virtual.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

a. 3:15pm; The meeting concluded.

Minutes were drafted by: Briana Davis



Notes:

- 1) The meeting was conducted virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.