

Partnership for a Healthy Durham Quarterly Meeting
January 27, 2021
12-1 pm via Zoom
Minutes

Facilitated by: **Angel Romero**

Topic	Major discussion points	Action steps and responsible parties
<p>Welcome <i>Angel Romero</i></p>	<p>Angel Romero Ruiz provided an overview of the Partnership for a Healthy Durham and its committees. Information about the Partnership can be found at www.healthydurham.org.</p> <p>The meeting exceeded the 100 person capacity and some who wanted to join were not able.</p>	<p>Marissa Mortiboy will look at increasing the Partnership’s Zoom meeting capacity.</p>
<p>COVID-19 Vaccine Update <i>Rod Jenkins,</i> Durham County Department of Public Health</p>	<p>The Durham County Department of Public Health is doing what it can to vaccinate as many as possible. On January 23, the Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) had COVID testing in its parking lot, COVID surveillance on the third floor and vaccinations on the second floor. To date there have been 182 deaths, five other types of deaths not related to COVID and total of 19,237 cases.</p> <p>The 7-day moving average (7DMA) was highest on record for December 2020. The total was 172 for last week, a decrease from 192 from week before. The 7DMA is lowering in Durham and across the U.S. DCoDPH is doing everything through an equity lens- better results on cases related to Latinx community which is 18.22% of cases and 14% of the Durham County population. About 38% of Durham County cases are for the Black or African American population. Whites are underrepresented at 27% of cases.</p> <p>Approximately 1400 people have made COVID-19 vaccine appointments through the website and call center. Calls overwhelmed the appointment line similar to other county health departments. DCoDPH is working with Information Services & Technology to expand capacity. Optum Serv is gearing up to become a vaccine provider. Rod will meet with them on January 28 to discuss logistics. The potential</p>	

	<p>start date is early March with a potential for 1100-1200 vaccines per day after ramping up. The State of NC and Fidelity are working together to stand up a mega site in Durham. The Fidelity site will be operated through NC Emergency Management, 7 days a week with the potential to vaccinate 17,000+ per week. The Southern High School vaccination site went live on January 19 and is run by Duke Health. Appointments for that site are through 560-HELP (4357). DCoDPH has received additional resources from the NC National Guard and NC Emergency Management. Since the vaccine was made available- 4,100 vaccinations have been done for Durham residents and from other counties. DCoDPH transferred 5,425 doses to community partners as encouraged by North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) such as Southern High School and Lincoln Community Health Center. Future allocations are uncertain. Rod sent an appeal to the NC DHHS not to reduce Durham’s vaccinations allotment for the week. Local health departments will receive lower levels of allocations for the next three weeks.</p> <p>DCoDPH has started having conversations with Durham Housing Authority (DHA) about partnering on vaccination sites. Plans still under construction which is part of Phase 1. DCoDPH has been careful to make sure vaccine appointments available in English and Spanish. The language line is available to help those who come into the building for vaccinations and over the phone. DCoDPH will continue to work with LATIN-19 to increase uptake in the Latinx population and for public service announcements. Durham County chose to do appointments because they didn’t want to do first come first served process so as not to turn people away. Hopefully more vaccines will be available when additional Federal Drug Administration (FDA) emergency use authorizations are approved in February.</p> <p>Vaccine data is available by demographics. The DCoDPH Data team working to add this information to the Durham County Coronavirus Data Hub.</p>	
<p>Duke University Health System COVID-19</p>	<p>Duke University Health System was chosen to administer the NC DHHS COVID-19 Support Service Program for this region. There are 3 other NC DHHS COVID-19 Support Services regions across the state. The award was provided by NC DHHS through CARES Act funding. Counties covered originally in this region include</p>	

<p>Support Services Program <i>Michelle Lyn</i>, Duke Division of Community Health</p>	<p>Durham, Vance and Granville Counties. Wake, Franklin, Nash, Vance and Warren were added later. The plan was originally to go through December 2020. NC DHHS is using Medicaid funds to extend program through March 15, 2021 or until funds run out.</p> <p>Eligibility for the NC DHHS -Duke Health COVID-19 Social Support Program includes individual/family: tested positive, is waiting for test results, exposed to someone who tested positive or is in a high-risk category and isolating as precaution. The individual must attest to need for support services to isolate/quarantine and have no other means to do so. Services include a relief payment, food boxes, prepared meals, COVID-19 supplies, transportation and medication delivery.</p> <p>The support program is closely tied to the NC DHHS Community Health Worker (CHW) program. The focus of the CHW program is to connect people to resources and reach historically marginalized populations. CHWs make referrals, puts together care plans, continues engagement and makes referral through NCCare360 to Duke. Duke's responsibility is to make sure people get the support services requested by sending the referrals to Community-Based Organizations who will deliver the services and be reimbursed for doing so. Duke is the convener and administers the program logistics and payments, but community-based organizations are delivering the services in the communities. Many of the community organizations were doing this work before the NC DHHS COVID Support Services Program so, the funds from NC DHHS invest in community organizations to keep doing this work and build capacity.</p> <p>To date through the social support program in Durham County, 1525 households received payments totaling \$1.2 million, 2419 total food boxes have been distributed with 2210 food boxes going to families and 41,177 meals delivered. There have only been two referrals for medication delivery. COVID supplies have been provided to 3,177. The total number of households served is 1,964. The total people served were 5,817 as of January 25.</p>	
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	<p>Duke Health is collecting data as much as possible to evaluate the program and ensure program goals are met. Eighty percent of individuals served identify as African America and 16% as Hispanic/Latinx. Duke is mapping zip codes to make sure they are reaching areas with higher prevalence of COVID-19 and historically marginalized communities. They are adjusting outreach and services as needed. Partners and CBOs are at the heart, of making this program work.</p> <p>Q&A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the program be extended? That is a question that only NC DHHS can answer. • If a person tested positive for COVID-19 in the past and that caused a loss of employment that they haven't been able to resolve (but do not currently have a need to quarantine) - would they still be eligible for this program? No, individuals/families have to be in quarantine or isolating to be eligible for the program – it provides for a 14-day window of services. • Making CHWs sustainable?- NC already looking at this and looking at existing organizations doing this work- has been discussed in State Transformation efforts. There is also a Statewide Committee and Durham has a local committee regarding CHWs and Durham Tech offers a CHW training course. • Will Duke hire more CHWs? In the NC DHHS initiatives talked about today, the CHWs are employees of community-based organizations. Duke has employed CHWs since 1998 and CHWs continue to be key team members in a number of programs. Overall, the key takeaway is the importance of investing in community-based organizations and building capacity with communities to address social drivers of health to improve health. 	
<p>Partnership for a Healthy Durham Updates <i>Pam Diggs</i></p>	<p>Pam Diggs shared about the priorities for the Partnership for a Healthy Durham in 2021. We are shifting to an advocacy approach. The Steering committee is going to participate in a training on advocacy early in the year. The Partnership will address topics such as how to make CHWs sustainable. Further discussion will take place within the Partnership to address our role to center those most impacted in the community. We will also look at how we operationalize our racial equity principles with the community not just engaged but at the forefront.</p>	

	<p>The Communications committee is planning to establish a member directory. This is the result of needs assessments with each committee and identified as a need. Communications committee co-chairs Heather Mountz and Tara Ilsley will email the Partnership membership within a couple of weeks to collect information. Partnership members shared they would like to have a directory to be able to better reach other members, network and collaborate.</p> <p>The NCCare360 Advisory Board is active and started meeting in July 2020. If you are interested in attending quarterly meetings or joining the advisory council, contact Melissa Black at mblack@dconc.gov.</p> <p>Marissa is transitioning to new role within DCoDPH as the Population Health Division Director. She is working on the 2020 Community Health Assessment (CHA) which is due March 1 to the North Carolina Division of Public Health.</p> <p>Dr. Tekeela Green is now working with the Partnership as a contractor. She will help with CHA listening sessions, support NCCare360 advisory council and work on strategies for sharing the CHA information.</p>	
Announcements	Medicaid Transformation is taking place this year and Medicaid regions have changed.	
Next meeting	April 21, 2021- noon to 1:00 pm	