

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
Tobacco Free Living Action Team
January 3, 2019 from 10:45 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.
East Run Medical Center

Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Laura Hale – American Heart Association, Nat Scroggins – Minority Outreach Coalition (MOC), Angela Cochran – St. Mary's County health Department (SMCHD), Shannon Bingham – SMCHD, Caitlin Kirkpatrick – SMCHD, Cathy Ertter – SMCHD, Khalia Brittingham – MedStar St. Mary's Hospital (MSMH), Brenda Wolcott – MSMH, Masada Johnson – Deep Launching, Roy Maddox – Walden/The Cove, Lawrence Carter – Maryland Department of Health (MDH), Jacquie Heaney – SMCHD
- 2. Tobacco 21**
 - a.** Laura Hale attended the meeting to brief the team on the efforts of the [Tobacco 21 Coalition](#). The bill sponsors are Delegate Dereck Davis of PG County in the House and Senator Delores Kelley of Baltimore County in the Senate. The Legislative Black Caucus has announced their support of Tobacco 21 for this legislative session. Delegate Brian Crosby is on the House Economic Matters Committee, which will be holding hearings about Tobacco 21.
 - b.** Important facts about the proposed legislation: the legislation would include all tobacco products (including e-cigarettes), it does not currently include a religious exemption, the bill focuses on sale and youth use – youth possession would not be punished but the person who sold them the product would be punished, and the bill increases the tobacco-licensing fee.
 - c.** Advocacy
 - i.** 3 key groups that the Tobacco 21 Coalition is trying to gain the support of is veterans, students, and healthcare providers.
 - ii.** The Tobacco 21 Coalition is encouraging individuals to:
 - 1.** Call your local lawmakers to state your support
 - 2.** Write a letter of support to be read or given to your local representative/senator at the hearing
 - 3.** Veterans can sign the [veteran's support letter](#)
 - 4.** Sign the [petition](#)
 - 5.** [Share your story](#)
 - 6.** Organizations can fill out the [organizational support form](#)
 - d.** Key Dates:
 - i.** Legislative Session begins January 9 and continues through April 8
 - ii.** The Legislative Black Caucus is hosting a press conference on January 9 at 10:30 am in room 170 of the House of Delegates in Annapolis to formally announce their support.



- iii. Hearings will be held in February in Annapolis – the House and Senate hearings will be on separate days. The Tobacco 21 Coalition is hoping to pack the room with supporters. The dates will most likely be announced a couple weeks ahead of time.
- iv. The Tobacco 21 Coalition is hosting an Advocacy Day on February 11 from 6 – 8 p.m. A sign-up link will be coming out soon.

3. Updates: Policy/Advocacy Initiatives

- a. Goal: Increasing the number of tobacco free environments
 - i. Smoke Free Holy Grounds
 - 1. Lawrence Carter gave a brief overview of the history of Smoke Free Holy Grounds. After meeting with Bishop Thomas in December, it was decided that a more effective method to promote this initiative in St. Mary's is to host an information session where Bishop Thomas will speak. Bishop Thomas will provide churches who choose to sign the covenant at this meeting with materials and will continue to follow up with them. The hope is that if you get a few churches to sign up then they will promote it to other local churches. The tentative date for this information session is March 29 at 1:00 p.m. at the Lexington Park Library.

4. Cancer Screenings Program Update

- a. Rates for breast and cervical cancer screenings are up, in thanks partly to the new translator at SMCHD. Rates for colorectal screenings are down - this is across Maryland. Cathy asks that everyone promote the program to the community. She is working with Nat and Mike to organize an event in partnership with the Unified Committee for Afro-American Contributions.

5. GMHS Youth Engagement Project

- a. The students are working to develop a club logo using their slogan “Grape Juice, Not Vape Juice.” They will be putting this on different promotional items. They are also working on developing a script for a video. The meeting for today was canceled, but Caitlin and Jacquie are hoping to meet with them on January 10 as a make-up. At this meeting, we will be providing them with some of the advocacy tools that Laura provided for Tobacco 21.

6. Partner Updates

- a. Masada has had positive feedback from her presentations at the middle and high schools on the health risks of e-cigarettes.
- b. Deep Launching is offering [Advanced Directives Workshops](#). Contact [Masada](#) to schedule one for your organization.



- c. Jacquie is working to update the HSMP Membership list. Please fill out the short, online [membership form](#) if you would like to become a member or update your membership information.
- d. Save the Date for the [2019 HSMP Annual Meeting](#) on September 19, 2019.
- e. Caitlin is now accepting walk-in smoking cessation clients.
- f. A new round of Cessation Classes begins on January 8. View the schedule [here](#).

7. Communications

- a. Share events and news with HSMP partners through the HSMP Newsletter, calendar & social media outlets! Submit information at:
<http://healthystmarys.com/newsletter/> or email stmaryspartnership@gmail.com

8. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. **TFL Team:** Thursday, February 7, 2019 from 10:45 – 12:35 at East Run Medical Center.

