

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
Access to Care Action Team
July 9, 2019 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Health Connections, MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Nick Williams – intern at St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD), Brian Devitt – intern at SMCHD, Simram Kaur – intern at SMCHD, Alex Marconi – intern at SMCHD, Karina Campbell – intern at SMCHD, Valerie Gregorio – intern at SMCHD, Alyssa Salud-Benipayo – intern at SMCHD, Donovan Weekley – intern at SMCHD, Nat Scroggins – Minority Outreach Coalition (MOC), Stephanie Gutridge-Snode – SMCHD, Stephanie Clark – Seedco, Cindy Lohman – Calvert County Health Department (CCHD), Mike Shaw – SMCHD, Stephanie Scharmen – SMCHD, Jacque Fournier – Transportation, Jean Mills - Fresenius Kidney Care, Aimee Hayes – Fresenius Kidney Care, Rachel Solomon – Pathways, Libby Blair – SMCHD, Jacquie Heaney – SMCHD, Lori Werrell – MedStar St. Mary's Hospital (MSMH)

- 2. Spanish Speaking Resource Guide**
 - a. Rachel took the draft into the community with Kerrie Hortch for feedback. Overall there was good reception by the Hispanic community. Some suggested edits: rephrase the Healthy Families to say prenatal education so it isn't confused for medical care and to include Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence. Jacquie will take these edits as well as those from previous meetings back and have the graphic designer work on a final draft.

- 3. Parental Education on Dental Care for Children**
 - a. Libby gave a brief history on previous campaigns. A few years ago the state Medicaid system pushed the initiative for pediatrician offices to provide fluoride varnish to children 9 months – 3 years. The pediatricians took an online course to get certified. This has now expanded to include other pediatrician office staff now. There was also previously a “Life the Lip” campaign to encourage pediatricians to look for baby bottle decay. Libby also discussed dental buses – they would do x-rays and sealants and provide a report card to parents with suggested next steps at the dentist. The issue arose that they billed for these services which meant the dentist office couldn't and due to liability the dentist couldn't treat without their own exam. The team continued to discuss common obstacles, including: not being able to go to appointments during regular office hours (Dr. Wambelt and Tidewater Dental offer hours outside of normal business hours), community members being unaware of fluoride levels in their water



supply, and the issue of the number of appointments needed for treatment once there is an issue.

- b. While brainstorming interventions the team decided to see if a list of fluoride levels in community wells exists. The team is also interested in advocating to both Pediatricians and Primary Care Physicians to check for baby bottle decay, promote fluoride varnish, and provide connection to local dentists. Another access point for education is through OB offices and Healthy Families to include information on preventative dental care in prenatal counseling.
- c. **Action Item:** Team members will research campaigns that already exist to promote to parents that infections/decay in baby teeth effect adult teeth.

4. Cultivating Cultural/Bilingual Speakers for Chronic Disease

- a. We know from the Needs Assessment completed last year that hypertension and diabetes are an issue of concern in the Hispanic community. Lori will bring this topic up to the Prevention Link Planning Group which oversees the 4 county CDC grant to see if they have funding to sponsor training individuals to teach CDC-approved Chronic Disease Prevention Programs. There is also the opportunity within this grant in the next few years to have these classes included in referral forms at doctor's offices.

5. Partner Updates

- a. The Wheels to Wellness pilot is still operating and is funded through the end of July. They are currently in a grant writing phase trying to find funding to continue the project. They are looking for a data source to determine pre- and post-intervention utilization rates.
- b. East Run Primary Care is not a part of MedStar Medical Group. There are new providers coming on in the near future.
- c. The East Run Dental Clinic is now projecting an August 1 opening.
- d. Stephanie is starting a new Steering Committee for the Adverse Childhood Experiences initiative in St. Mary's. She will be reaching out to stakeholders to set up a meeting in the near future.
- e. St. Mary's county Transportation is planning route expansions, including: and express route and a Sunday route from Great Mills to Leonardtown. They are also looking at ways to accommodate Spanish-speaking residents.
- f. Calvert County Health Department and Calvert health are offering a [CME/CEU event](#) on addressing and managing pediatric mental health in primary care on October 12.
- g. Pathways has a new therapist coming on that will see children.
- h. The Women's Group that Rachel has been trying to start within the Hispanic community will be relaunching in September with new grant funding from the Rotary Club.



- i. SMCHD is hiring a full time [Nurse Practitioner](#) for the clinic. There is also a part-time [contract Nurse Practitioner](#) position posted.
- j. HSMP and MedStar St. Mary's were recognized on June 28 by the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities for commitment to the citizens of St. Mary's and to our Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance Partner, Minority Outreach Coalition.
- k. [Registration](#) is now open for the 2019 HSMP Annual Meeting.
- l. The NAACP's [2019 Back to School Fair](#) will be held on August 10 from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. at Lexington Park Elementary. They will be holding an additional event on August 29 at St. Mary's Caring.
- m. The St. Mary's County Government Grounds are going smoke-free! All county parks will be smoke-free effective September 1 and all other government grounds will be smoke-free effective January 1, 2020.

6. 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 stmaryspartnerhip@gmail.com

7. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. **Access to Care Team:** Tuesday, August 13, 2019 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Health Connections, MedStar St. Mary's Hospital.
- b. **Healthy St. Mary's Partnership Annual Meeting:** Thursday, September 19, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center

