

**LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**July 1, 2020**

**Voting Members Present:** Dr. Karen Cost, Dr. Kate Probst, Dr. Maria Nota, Dr. Tony Zipple, Dr. Erin Frazier, Dr. Paula Grisanti, Margaret Handmaker, Heidi Margulis

**Advisory Board Members Present:** Dr. Sarah Moyer, Natalie Johnson, Dr. Monalisa Taylor, Bill Wagner, Dr. Craig Blakely

**Others Present:** Karen Handmaker, Bill Altman, Gerald Temes, Matt Rhodes, Paul Kern, Connie Mendel, Amanda Clark

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am. This was a virtual meeting as per an Executive Order for social distancing due to Covid-19. All voting members were visible and audible on WebEx. A quorum was reached.

As per open meetings requirements, the meeting information was posted 24 hours in advance, the public was able to call in or join with video and the meeting was live-streamed to LMPHW's Facebook page.

**Approval of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes**

***MOTION:*** To approve the June 2020 meeting minutes

***MOTION APPROVED***

**Approval of New Board Officers**

***MOTION:*** To approve Heidi Margulis as Board Chair and Tony Zipple as Board Vice Chair

***MOTION APPROVED***

**Approval of FHC Board Members**

***MOTION:*** To approve the appointment of Laura Escobar-Ratliff to the FHC Board, as well as the reappointment of Anthony Walker, Michele Heuglin, Muriel Harris, PhD and Manfred Reid.

***MOTION APPROVED***

**Approval of Draft Board of Health Equity Statement**

***MOTION:*** To approve the Board of Health Equity Statement supporting the Center for Health Equity's FY20 Budget Assessment, committing the Board to participating in the Center for Health Equity's Racial Equity training and calling for an end to systemic racism.

***MOTION APPROVED***

**LMPHW Director's Report Highlights: Dr. Moyer**

Currently, sixty-three regular open full-time positions are in process to hire. Recent hires include a Peer Navigator at MORE, a computer science intern, a clerk at L&N and an Environmental Health Supervisor in food safety.

Our communications team works closely with the Mayor's Office of Communications to provide timely, accurate response to news media questions, to provide daily updated information to the public through social media, the website, news briefings, and public service announcements. Our team also creates educational materials to share including materials in numerous languages. We continue to work closely with the Office of Globalization to get accurate, timely, and culturally competent information on COVID19 to all ESL communities.

The IT division is currently supporting staff who perform telework (as well as those who are on the premises) to ensure accessibility to the Kentucky Gateway Online (KOG) COVID19 contact tracing database. This support includes hardware/software/network accessibility.

The Environmental Health Division has responded to 3,463 COVID-19 complaints. Additionally, staff regularly contribute to the review of re-opening plans and provide onsite assessments for Metro Government facilities including the Mary T. Meagher Aquatic Center, Cyril Allgeier Community Center, Riverside Farnsley Moorman, Zoo and Jefferson Memorial Forest Welcome Center as well as public facilities such as the Science Center, Churchill Downs, Bellarmine, Lynn Family Soccer Stadium, Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory, Kentucky Kingdom and more.

Staff have begun the summer Catch Basin Treatments. All mosquito foggers have been serviced and mounted for use this season as needed. Mosquito borne disease surveillance has begun and mosquito samples will be sent to the LMPHW laboratory for the first round of weekly disease testing beginning June 25. The new pesticide contract bids have been reviewed and forwarded to OMB for finalization.

CLPPP is hiring a temporary computer science intern to complete deliverables associated with the Health in All Policies mini grant through the National Center for Healthy Housing. Program activities remain steady with client and provider interactions remaining mainly telephonic.

The Food Safety Program is transitioning back to normal duties including conducting opening and routine inspections and complaint investigations. Inspectors conducted 195 routine inspections and 10 follow-up inspections in June. The program continues COVID 19 response by conducting complaint investigations of reported non-compliant food service establishments and coordinating with the Communicable Disease Program to address COVID positive workers. Inspectors have distributed approximately 47,000 face masks to local food service establishments.

The Governor allowed pools to reopen for lap swimming on June 1st. There are 25 facilities that opened on that date, meeting the requirements that were provided by the State. On June 29th, additional pools will be allowed to open with restrictions. Each facility must receive an opening inspection before they can operate to ensure the facilities have a COVID-19 plan in place and the aquatic facility is safe for patrons. Pools must be current on permitting fees (as of 6/22, approximately 77% of pools have paid for their 2020 pool permit). The updated pool guidelines allow for aquatic exercise, swim lessons, recreational use and lifeguard training with groups of 50 or fewer students. Social distancing is required.

Governor Beshear allowed tattoo facilities to open on May 25th with restrictions. Staff have received and investigated a few complaints concerning studios not meeting the requirements. Tattoo studios must limit the number of clients present in any given studio to 33% of the occupational capacity of the facility and should not allow additional persons to accompany customers. Tattoo studios should also ensure that

their facilities, including workstations, common areas, breakrooms and restrooms are properly cleaned and ventilated.

Approximately 128 lifeguard applicants have met the certification prerequisites and are preparing to take the final test which is currently administered in person by appointment. The online version of the test should be available by July 1st. An additional 35- 50 lifeguard candidates per week are expected from Kentucky Kingdom for the next few weeks.

Health Education Specialist, Rebecca Coates provided the Metro United Way summer education program directors with a presentation, Thursday 6/11, on how to safely reopen their 60 childcare programs.

Expanded funding to Public Health has enabled the laboratory to hire an additional Laboratory Technologist, allowing us to bring additional testing services to our community. The laboratory continues to provide COVID-19 testing to priority populations 6 days a week.

LMPHW PHP personnel continue in FULL ACTIVATION mode supporting the LMPHW COVID-19 Response. Additionally, PHP will begin focusing on the development of a Mass Vaccination Plan if and when a COVID-19 vaccine is made available. Significant planning exists within the Medical Countermeasures (MCM) Point of Dispensing (POD) Plan already in place under CRI. As the timeline for any vaccine is established and the CDC releases the expected number of doses to be made available in the Louisville Metro jurisdiction PHP will push forward with advanced planning and Closed POD partner recruitment.

PHP continues to disseminate recruiting messages for medical staffing support at LTC facilities. MRC ReadyOp training and full roster updates will be scheduled as COVID-19 tasks permit. LMPHW's Logistics Coordinator is continuing to inventory and clean all LMPHW assets moved to the temporary storage space within the Louisville Underground.

The Policy & Innovation team released the final version of the FY20 Budget Equity Assessment. The recommendations for future budgeting considerations are 1) process improvements to advance equity in budgeting decisions, 2) protect community needs from future budget reductions and 3) develop an economic strategy that prioritizes community ownership.

Councilwoman George (D21) and Councilwoman Dorsey (D3) have reached out to Center for Health Equity to discuss options for Participatory Budgeting within their districts. The Policy & Innovation team will meet with both council offices to identify opportunities for support and share lessons learned.

The Performance and Population Health team developed a prototype public-facing website to report COVID-19 data. Publication is pending connecting it with the new state database to allow for automatic updates. In support of the testing team, they have used data and modelling to identify potential testing locations based on current COVID-19 data, model trends for different groups, i.e. race groups, age groups and gender groups and identify gaps/inequities among groups.

In support of the communicable disease team, two staff are working on improving and operationalizing the essential needs, quarantine housing, and 'lost to follow up/unable to locate' plan. We are identifying

community partners to best reach some of our hard-to-reach populations, such as low-English proficiency populations, and moving away from using LMPD to serve notices. We issued an RFP for a hotel/motel to house COVID positive individuals and some contacts who are unable to safely isolate and quarantine in their own home.

The team is also supporting the Incident Management Team with up-to-date trends for positive cases and mortality data by demographic subgroups within Jefferson County, providing content for hope messaging, risk reduction, education and preventative guidelines/ instructions to stakeholders, research on up-to-date best practices and scientific evidences to inform equitable distribution of resources to all communities. We are also creating tools/policy guidelines to generate safe working environments among employers (meat packaging industries, day cares, etc.) and research briefs for topics such as vaccines in clinical trials and pediatric COVID-19 testing.

To prevent infant mortality related to unsafe sleep practices, such as bed sharing and co-sleeping, Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness receives funding from the Maternal and Child Health Division of the Kentucky Department for Public Health (LMPHW) to purchase GRACO Pack'n Plays from Cribs for Kids® and make them available to Louisville families/caregivers in need. Accordingly, LMPHW works with more than 30 community partners to identify parents and caregivers who are unable to provide a safe sleep environment for their infant, and provide them with a Graco Pack'n Play, instructions for its safe use, and education about safe sleep practices.

Leanne French will represent the Center for Health Equity as a Louisville team member for this 2-year cohort of 21 leaders focused on improving equitable opportunities for school readiness. With support from the leadership team of Louisville Metro Healthy Start, Leanne French will also present "Healthy Start Program: Addressing Social Determinants of Health to Improve Mother and Baby Outcomes" at the 2020 Kentucky Perinatal Association/Maternal and Child Health Conference.

Recently, Louisville SMP assisted a beneficiary who had spent the past year trying to resolve charges for a 2019 surgery that she had been told would be covered by Medicare.

The current MORE center census is 185. The Specialty Clinic saw 216 patients including 38 fast track patients in May. There are 12 Reported Jefferson County TB cases for Calendar Year 2020 and 14 Actively open cases in the previous month.

WIC participation continues to increase from April's numbers of 11,329 to May which is 11,517. Enrollment also increased from 12,056 in April to 12,256 in May. Our newest site, Fairdale, has increased from 228 in April to 251 in May. Healthy Start has 135 Active clients and made 22 new referrals. Activities decreased related to Covid19, but staff are working from home and contacting all clients and referrals. Incentive and safety supplies are being delivered by supervisors and manager

Face-to-face HIV testing was halted temporarily due to COVID-19 but is now up and running again by appointment. Syringe Exchange had 2,428 total visits

#### **Contact Tracing Update: Karen Handmaker**

Contact Tracing went live with Lacuna Health on June 12, 2020. LMPHW's records were integrated into the Lacuna system. Lacuna has trained 50 people as Communicable Disease Investigators, Contact

Tracers and Daily Patient Monitors. The team is diverse and speaks many languages. Over 70% have degrees and backgrounds include many in healthcare or health related fields.

We will be embarking on a very visible public communications effort to demystify contact tracing and share profiles and personal stories of our contact tracers to encourage participation. We are engaged with the Office of Globalization and JCTC to more effectively support communities within our community and our employers who have special concerns and needs. We are also coordinating our efforts with the state so we are all in sync on data, systems and messaging as appropriate.

Please encourage people to answer the phone when they see the Caller ID LOU HEALTH with a 502 area code.

#### **Testing Update: Bill Altman**

Mr. Altman is leading the city's testing effort. He and his team have a three-point plan. One: Increase testing capacity to test every symptomatic person. Two: As we reopen, have the testing capacity to test asymptomatic people focusing on high risk groups such as healthcare workers, unhoused persons, workers in high risk industries such as meat packing and people in geographical areas where the risk of spread is highest. Three: Conduct community insight testing to keep track of trends.

We are focusing on a plan to test the homeless and those in high risk industries such as meat packing. We have developed a "heat map" which is a graphic representation of cases by zip code. Hispanic, African American and immigrant communities have the highest number of cases. We are working with these communities on communication.

Dr. Nota is continuing outreach in the Hispanic community and notes that it is critical to reach out to people where they live and offer testing in their area.

#### **Mass Vaccination Planning: Paul Kern**

LMPHW's Public Health Preparedness team is developing plans for mass vaccination when a vaccine becomes available. We have experience with H1N1 mass-vaccination as well as Hep-A. We have established a Point of Dispensing (POD) Network which includes over twenty sites at JCPS High Schools and multiple Closed POD Partner sites (LMPD, LFD, EMS, LGE, MSD, GE).

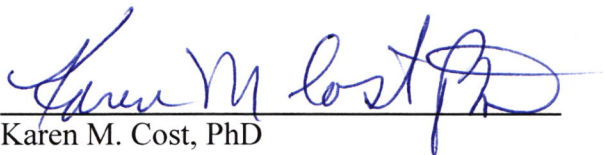
We are also planning for equitable distribution. We are developing messaging using lessons learned from COVID-19 early alerts and messaging built around language & cultural challenges. We are working with the Office of Globalization and CHE. Much will also depend on the CDC guidelines released with the vaccine.

#### **ACA/FHC Update: Bill Wagner**

FHC is seeing 80% of pre-COVID volume of patients, which compares favorably to the national average of 70%. They have reduced the percentage of telehealth visits from 60% to 30% and have only had 1% of staff test positive.

The ACA workgroup met on June 15. Medicaid enrollment is up significantly since December and 228,000 people are now enrolled in Jefferson County which is a third of the population. The temporary emergency enrollment has been extended an additional 90 days, until September 30. The state is still accepting applications.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karen M. Cost", is written over a horizontal line.

Karen M. Cost, PhD  
Chairperson