

SCHD Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 15, 2023

Attendance: Board Members- Linda Peterson, Yire Hernandez, Cynthia Davis, Daniel Cumbo, Russell Devane, Dr. Shane Sundlie, Cassie Faircloth, Lethia Lee
Health Department and Administration Staff- Wanda Robinson, Cherish Allen, Tamra Jones, Kelly Parrish, Kory Hair, Luke Smith, Jason Royal, Joel Starling, Edwin Causey.

- I. **Call to Order:** Linda Peterson
- II. **Invocation:** Lethia Lee
- III. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - a) March 20, 2023, SCHD Health Advisory Committee minutes: Motion to approve with corrections made by Cassie Faircloth; 2nd by Yire Hernandez. All in favor.
- IV. **2022 SOTCH Report:** Luke Smith, Health Educator, reviewed the 2022 SOTCH report (see full report attached). The State of the County Health report provides information for health priorities identified in our 2021 Community Health Assessment (obesity, substance use, teen pregnancy), as well as covers Progress on Community Health Improvement Plans. It an update of action to address these priorities and the ongoing need to address them through our Community Health Improvement Plans, Morbidity and Mortality changes, Emerging Issues, and new/paused/discontinued initiatives since our last Community Health Assessment. Report will go the Board of Health for review.
- V. **2023 Child Health Report Card:** Luke Smith, Health Educator, reviewed the 2023 Child Health Report Card (see full report attached). This is a biannual report that reviews 15 key indicators of children's health. Most of the data reported represents conditions facing children and families in 2021. The report provides an illustration of how the covid pandemic exacerbated several troubling trends facing our children, particularly in areas of mental health, education outcomes and school-based health. NC earned failing grades in several key areas, including mental health, school health, housing and economic security, and birth outcomes. However, the state is making progress in other areas, including preconception health and maternal health support, and substance abuse. Report will go to the Board of Health for review. According to report the State is making progress and trends are staying consistent. Luke reported that the County report will come out in 2024.

VI. Environmental Health Update:

- a) CDP presentation: Jason Royal, Environmental Health Specialist, presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the new CDP software (see attached slides for details). Jason reported that Sampson County is the 68th County to use this software. Training was streamlined as Pamela Lindsay, Environmental Health Specialist, was familiar with this software. The department summarized the benefits and of this software and stated, "Foodservice inspections in NC have become more comprehensive and technical since the adaption of the FDA Food Code in 2012. Currently there are 323 establishments regulated by Sampson County Environmental Health Food & Lodging section. Depending on the type of facility, inspections are performed 1-4 times per fiscal year which means to reach 100% inspection compliance a total of 816 inspections must be performed annually. While BETS was simply a digital filing cabinet, CDP has the additional tools and functions that will both speed up and increase the quality of inspections performed. Staff are continuing to learn and becoming more proficient with it each day and once the first round or two of inspection data is entered into CDP, we will begin to see more benefits of the program. From the initial assessment we believed this new software system could save the county over \$20,000/yr in worker efficiency and help achieve 100% inspection compliance with the State." However, shortly after CDP went live, there was unforeseen staffing shortage that has hampered results. The department does feel once staffing is back to 100% these initial assessments will be achieved.

VIII. Clinical-Flex Schedule Presentation: Kelly presented a PowerPoint (see attached slides for details). Kelly explained that these flex schedules would not affect patient appointments. All recommendations from the Committee will be considered as the Health Department continues to discuss a flex schedule.

IX. Financial

- a) Monthly Update: Tamra reviewed the monthly update (see attached). No questions.
- b) FY 23-24 Budget: Tamra reviewed the final budget. (Budget letter and budget attached). Committee had already seen and reviewed preliminary budget. County Contributions stayed the same. Motion to approve budget as presented made by Cassie Faircloth; 2nd by Russel Devane. All in favor.
- c) Fee Schedule: Changes presented to the Committee (see attached fee schedule for details). Motion to approve pending Commissioners approval made by Cassie Faircloth; 2nd by Lethia Lee. All in favor.
- d) CPT Code Update: CPT Code for Gardasil 9 vaccine has been updated. No change in cost. Motion to approve changes made by Cassie Faircloth; 2nd by Yire Hernandez. All in favor.

- X. COVID Update:** The Public Health Emergency (PHE) ended May 11th, 2023. While the public health emergency has ended, COVID-19 vaccines, testing and treatment will remain free in North Carolina, regardless of insurance or immigration status, while supplies last. When supplies of federally purchased vaccines run out, they will be available like flu shots and other routine vaccinations, covered by Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, or out-of-pocket costs for the uninsured.
- **The CDC simplified COVID-19 vaccine recommendations:**
 - Everyone older than six months will now only receive the updated (bivalent) COVID-19 vaccine that protects against more variants of the virus.
 - Monovalent (original) COVID-19 mRNA vaccines are no longer recommended for use in the United States.
 - **Changes to reporting:**
 - Effective May 12th, 2023, COVID-19 will no longer be required to be reported for cases or deaths.
 - NC DHHS encourages physicians, other clinicians, and facilities to continue to report outbreaks or unusual cases that might require public health investigation or intervention, similar to reporting of outbreaks of other non-reportable conditions such as influenza.
 - Since it is no longer a reportable disease, COVID-19 vaccines will not be allowed to be administered under North Carolina's minors' consent law.
 - **Commercialization of the COVID-19 Vaccine:**
 - All vaccines purchased by the US government will continue to be distributed and available for free.
 - Commercialization may occur in early fall of 2023, concurrent with the potential release of an updated booster.
 - **Healthcare Infection Prevention Guidance-**
 - What has NOT changed:
 - Adhere to standard and transmission-based precautions.
 - Quarantine/Isolation guidance.
 - Testing guidance and source control for symptomatic and exposed individuals.
 - Outbreak testing guidance.
 - What HAS changed:
 - Admission testing in nursing homes is at the discretion of the facility.
 - Facilities have greater flexibility for implementing broader use of masking.

- No single replacement metric for Community Transmission levels to guide masking recommendations.

X. **Test and Go Quote:** Currently the Health Department has a COVID testing Kiosk outside. This machine has been at no cost and has offered free and confidential COVID testing for the community. Being the PHE ended on May 11th, there will now be a charge to continue to use the machine. Wanda would like to pay monthly for the machine so that the Health Department can continue to offer COVID tests. She would also like to add Narcan to the machine, as this need has increased in the community. At this time, the Health Department has plenty of COVID tests to use in the machine. Once the supply has been exhausted, additional COVID tests will need to be purchased. Wanda reviewed prices to keep the machine and prices of tests when needed (see handout for full price list). COVID-19 funding may be used to pay for the machine. Motion to approve the continuation of the Kiosk, outside the Health Department, made by Lethia Lee; 2nd by Cassie Faircloth. All in favor.

XI. **Health Directors Comment:** Health Department vacancies were reviewed. Still have PHN positions and Fiscal positions open.


XII. **Public Comment:** None.

XIII. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Cassie Faircloth 2nd by Yire Hernandez. All in favor.

Next meeting July 17th, 2023.

 7/24/23

Jeffrey Bell Date
Advisory Committee Chair

 9/20/23

Wanda Robinson Date
Secretary