

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

June 20, 2023 - 6:00p.m.
1235 RAMSEY STREET, BOARDROOM
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kent Dean, Veterinarian, Chair
Dr. Sam Fleishman, Vice Chair, Physician
Mr. Joseph Fiser, General Public Representative
Dr. Cynthia Mc-Arthur-Kearney, Registered Nurse
Dr. Jennifer Brayboy-Locklear, Public Representative
Dr. Kingsley Momodu, Dentist
Dr. Olusola Ojo, Pharmacist
Mr. John Larch III, Professional Engineer

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Dr. Jeannette Council, County Commissioner
Dr. Hakkam Alsaidi, Optometrist

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Jennifer Green, Health Director
Mrs. Candi York, Business Officer
Dr. Krystle Vinson, Director of Nursing
Dr. Lori Haigler, Medical Director
Ms. Tamra Morris, Local Public Health Administrator
Ms. Alba Natale, Nursing Supervisor I
Mrs. Kelly Smith, Administrative Assistant to the Health Director

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dr. Kent Dean welcomed all guests and called the meeting to order.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Mr. John Larch moved to approve the Board of Health (BOH) Meeting Agenda

SECOND: Dr. Jennifer Brayboy-Locklear

VOTE: Unanimous: (8-0)

B. Approval of meeting minutes from May 16, 2023

MOTION: Mr. Joseph Fiser moved to approve the meeting minutes from the May 16, 2023, BOH meeting

SECOND: Dr. Olusola Ojo

VOTE: Unanimous (8-0)

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Public Comment:

Dr. Dean opened the floor for public comments at 6:10pm, being none, the floor was closed at 6:11pm.

B. Financial Reports:

Mrs. Candi York presented the financial reports ending May 31, 2023. Our expenditures exceeded by \$1,152,274.41. Expenditures were broken down by program as of May 31, 2023, showing budgeted, as of date, balance and percentage used. The revenue by source report was shared to include grants, Medicaid, fees and fund balance and county funds allocated all as of May 31, 2023. Total revenue earned was at 67.90%. The accounts receivables were shared for the month ending May 31, 2023, as well as the aging report for private pay. Mrs. York was available for questions about the monthly financial reports.

C. Board of Health Applicants -

The Board heard from 2 candidates. Mr. Dakota Wright and Mr. Rashad McEntire. Each candidate had 3 minutes to discuss their background and why they were interested in joining the Board of Health. Afterwards, the Board asked questions and had a question/answer session. Both candidates were thanked for coming and will be briefed after the August meeting when the Board votes on the candidates heard.

D. Annual Communicable Disease Report

Activity 2.4 under Accreditation states the local health department shall analyze and note reportable events occurring within the community and shall report atypical incidence, if any, to the Division and the local board of health. Ms. Alba Natale was present to present the annual communicable disease report. The numbers represent 2020-2022 data. In addition to presenting the material, a handout was given to the Board Members and guests to follow along with. Ms. Natale started with a chart of most common STI which were chlamydia, gonorrhea and NGU. The numbers show a pattern of decrease from 2020 to 2022. In regards to Syphilis, numbers have risen from 2020 to 2022. Ms. Natale stressed the importance of patients getting tested as soon as they see the first symptom to get control of the STI. Ms. Natale briefly spoke on HIV/Aids. In 2022, Cumberland County was 4th in NC for newly diagnosed HIV cases and 6th for newly diagnosed Stage 3/AIDS cases. Most newly diagnosed cases were among MSM at 69%. Most newly diagnosed cases among women are through heterosexual exposure at 54%. In 2022, there were 1494 cases of chlamydia in men, 2,398 in women, 881 cases of gonorrhea in men and 708 cases in women, and 80 cases of Early Syphilis in men and 28 cases in women. Ms. Natale also touched on Hepatitis B and C for 2020 - 2022. Graphs were shown for Hepatitis B - Acute, Hepatitis B - Chronic Carrier, Hepatitis C - Acute and Hepatitis C - Chronic. Ms. Natale graphed a NCDSS Communicable Disease Report to show numbers in Salmonella, Legionellosis, Campylobacter, HFLU, Malaria, CRE, Strep-A. Notable Diseases were the West Nile Virus which had 2 confirmed cases, both resulting in death. Neisseria Meningitis with 1 confirmed case. Mpox had 22 confirmed cases with high prevalence in MSM population and high incidence with coinfections (HIV, Syphilis). Tripledemic - high rates of Flu, RSV, and COVID. TB highlights had 1 Ocular TB case - the first in Cumberland County. There were 6 cases of Pulmonary TB - of the 6, one of the cases had spinal TB. Ms. Natale reported that our Health Violator is currently completing treatment at the NC Correctional Institute for Women. One of NC's rarest TB cases from Cumberland County (4 relapses) succumbed to advanced disease in May 2022. Ms. Natale added that the barriers to quality patient care include the Bicillin shortage as of 4/17/2023. Prioritization of syphilis cases (pregnant women, women of reproductive age, symptomatic patients), Novel Coronavirus Pandemic, staffing shortages, funding for local health department and access to care. Taking a look back, there was increased patient visits in STI clinic by 7.3% in 2022. The Hepatitis C Program had increased screening, and referrals to partnering agencies for treatment. We now have a HCV Bridge Counselor. Ms. Natale reports that we effectively used Communicable Disease funding to hire 2 new temp nurses for STI Clinic. We also purchased a Cepheid GeneXpert lab machine which decreases the result waiting times anywhere from 3 days to 2 weeks to 24 hours or less. This increases our testing capabilities. STI also has had increased opportunities for outreach events and increased funding for educational materials, equipment and prophylaxis. Moving forward, the STI clinic is participating in a PrEP Study, increasing outreach efforts for NCHRC and Fayetteville Comprehensive Treatment Center/ Goshen. We are also partnering with internal and external departments/agencies. Collaboration with Wake STI/HIV Coalition is underway along with improving public perception through increased media campaigns and advertisements. Currently our Strategic Plan External Priority #5 is to reduce the STI/STD incidence rates in Cumberland County.

E. Director's Report

Strategic Plan Updates - Internal Priority 1 is to Increase staff recruitment and retention and improve moral. The County is working on implementation of Classification and Compensation Study. Recommendations will be presented to the County Commissioners in August and a 4% COLA was already approved for July. We will have 6 interns to begin this Fall Semester in the HBCU/MSI Internship program. Training for management team members will take place in July 2023 on succession planning training. There will be a management and supervision training in Fall of 2023. The Health Department is utilizing ARPA fundings for staff training opportunities. Internal Priority 3: Normalizing COVID-19 Response. We are cross training staff in immunizations. We are also doing an ongoing distribution of COVID-19 at home test kits. Planning ahead, we will soon be overing COVID-19 and flu vaccine clinics to patients. External Priority 2 - Expand mental health and substance abuse services. Currently we are receiving Triple P referrals from the Court systems. We are doing more radio adds for Triple P. We are also providing recovery housing for individuals in treatment for OUD. We helped 45 individuals get housing with Oxford House. Projects in development at this time include SMART Recovery Training and Medication Assisted Treatment at the Detention Center.

External Priority 3 - Improve External Communications - In March, staff completed training for media training. We have paid social media campaigns for 988 suicide and crisis lifeline, opioid awareness for adults and teens and upcoming we have maternal health and back to school immunizations. We have 2 regional PIO on staff. External Priority 4 - Expanding Community to Access to HD Services. We are still providing transportation through Uber through our Transportation Project. The WIC office launched in March at Ft. Liberty. the WIC CIAO Grant will fund a Community Outreach Worker. We will also have a community event called Fun in the Sun on September 16, 2023, here at the HD. External Priority 5 - Reduction of the STI/STD Incidence Rate. We are receiving MPOX Funding from NC DHHS to increase vaccine rates. We are participating in the PrEP training at UNC. We have done some outreach events to include the Homeless Standdown and Pride Fest.

Legislature Updates -

There are no big updates with Legislature at this time. With Medicaid expansion, will need training for staff.

Jail Health Updates -

Southern Health Partners is the current Jail Health Provider. June 5th - County Commissioners approved the bid proposal for Well-path to provide Jail Health Services. When Southern Health Partners contract expires on June 30th, the Health Department will provide jail health services beginning July 1st until a contract with Well-path can be negotiated and executed. We are in beginning contract discussions with Well-Path. Contract presentation will go to the County Commissioners at the first meeting in August.

As a reminder, the next regular meeting is Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 6pm and will be held in person at the Health Department.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dr. Sam Fleishman

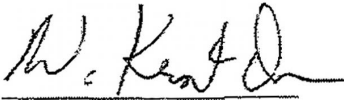
SECOND : Dr. Cynthia McArthur-Kearney

VOTE: Unanimous (8-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm


Dr. Jennifer Green, Health Director


Date


Dr. Kent Dean, Chair


Date