

**LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
May 3, 2023**

**Voting Members Present:** Dr. Dwayne Compton, Dr. Patricia Bautista-Cervera, Margaret Handmaker, Karyn Hascal, Heidi Margulis, Emerald Echols, Paula Grisanti, Craig Greenberg, Ed Miller, Tony Zipple

**Advisory Board Members Present:** Craig Blakely, Nicole George, Lewis Hargett, Jeffrey Howard, Bart Irwin, Ashley Shoemaker

**Others Present:** Taylor Ingram, Arlana Glenn, Stephanie Lokits, Catalina Cordova, Kathy Turner, Natalie Johnson, Paul Kern, Nick Hart

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. The meeting was held virtually.

**Approval of Minutes**

The April 12, 2023 minutes were approved

**Board Discussion and Vote**

The Board voted and approved: The Board of Health will meet with OSHN and LMPD on a regular basis in partnership to review gun violence reduction.

**Perspectives Session:** *Perspectives on Gun Violence*

**Paul Callanan**, Director – Metro Office of Safe & Healthy Neighborhoods (OSHN); prior leadership experience in national gun violence intervention efforts in other affected cities; plus, OSHN Community Partner

**Pastor Nathan Horton**, Pastor of the Father, Word, and Holy Ghost Church of God in Christ. Pastor Horton is one of the faith-based liaisons working with OSHN on the Community Sanctuary project. This project provides trauma assistance to those impacted by gun violence

**Paul Kern**, Emergency Community Preparedness Administrator – Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness

**Paul Callanan, Director OSHN** spoke to the Board about gun violence reduction. OSHN is an agency whose mission through partnerships and collaborations is to intervene with those who are directly involved or impacted by gun violence and promote community- and youth- led solutions to foster safer neighborhoods. OSHN's primary focus is on reducing gun violence, with an emphasis on reducing gun violence within a group or gang.

***OSHN is primarily funded through three sources:***

- General Funds
  - Through the City
- American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds
  - The city awarded 23M dollars over the next couple of years
- Federal Grant funds
  - Recently awarded 4M dollars from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA) to continue the Trauma Resilient Communities (TRC) initiative a city-wide program that seeks to promote resilience and equity for Louisville's youth and families disproportionately affected by trauma, race-based trauma, systemic inequities, violence, and civil unrest.

***OSHN addresses gun violence in four areas:***

- Pivot to Peace
  - Provides the opportunity for victims of stabbings and gunshot injuries, to receive assistance from case workers and other community resources, to identify and address the factors in their lives that have put them at risk for violence.

- Partners with University of Louisville Hospital, funding positions at the hospital to assist individuals who present with gunshot wounds They immediately provided direct intervention services through trained staff.
- Has a newly funded program comprised of 6 sites throughout the City that do direct violence interruption.
  - They are on the frontline everyday working to mitigate conflicts between groups or individuals.
- Provides direct service
  - Comprised of 12 outreach workers
  - Provide long term case management services to some of our highest risk youth and young adults in the City that are involved in gun violence
  - This program is based on a proven effective model
    - A recent three-year randomized control trail evaluated whether – “Outreach workers could be effective as a catalyst of change” and revealed:
      - Persons involved with outreach workers were 70 % less likely to be involved in gun violence
      - It is not as effective at pulling people out of gangs, but it does help them navigate through the violence. Meeting the goal of changing behaviors and reducing violence.
- Coordinated case management
  - Helps individuals manage responsibilities, obligating across multiple agencies
- Trauma Resilient Communities
  - Community sanctuary project
- Reimagine network
  - Individual level
    - Ambassador Institute – direct training
  - Capacity building for sustainability
    - Annually they work with 10 to 12 grassroot entities to help them with sustainability
  - Work with six sites in the community that have violence prevention teams
    - Comprised of residents, businesses and non-profits that focus specifically on that neighborhood
    - Each community site comes up with a short-term and long-term plan that is funded by OSHN
- Youth Engagement Services
  - Former office for youth development

### ***Some discovered needs for Louisville***

- Process for Collective Accountability
  - How do we hold the community accountable for projects they are asked or tasked with?
- Level of collaboration
  - Less than two percent of entities actively work together,
  - A city the size of Louisville should at least have 20 % collaboration
- Equitable funding
  - Tiered funding needed so grassroots organizations aren't overlooked
- Need for Leadership
  - Maybe an oversight community

### ***Successful gun violence programs traits:***

- Accountability – a neutral oversight committed
- Transparency – a clearly defined idea of what the problem is and data to back up
- A written Master strategic plan
  - What is the collective plan not just silos
  - We all need to speak the same (common) language
- Sustainability
  - Funding might only be available for a short time how do we keep people invested and engaged
  - Working with other organization

### ***Louisville combatting gun violence***

- Strengths
  - Recognition that Louisville has a problem with gun violence
  - Has plenty of assets to help combat the issues

- Weakness
  - Working in silo's
  - Plenty of assets to help combat the issues
  - Gaps in services
    - Refugee and Spanish speaking communities experiencing increased issues with gun violence
    - Gender specific programs for girls 14 -24 that are engaged in gun violence

**Pastor Nathan Horton, Pastor of the Father, Word, and Holy Ghost Church of God in Christ** added Community Sanctuary Project is a faith-based initiative that is present in the community after acts of gun violence. They have adopted two communities that they assist Russel and Newburg.

Recently after a young man was shot and killed at a bus stop within 24 hours, they were able to bring agencies in, to provide a place for counseling and healing. They also feed the community at this event.

A shooting took place in Chickasaw park that caused the community to fear going to the park. In less than 24 hours Community Sanctuary project rallied the community together and held a BBQ at Chickasaw park. From that one meeting 17 churches came together to combine their resources for change.

Community Sanctuary Project is continuing their efforts to recruit churches all over the community to participate in this program.

**Edward Meiman, Director Louisville Metro Emergency Services** shared their role relating to gun violence is response and preparedness. There was a lot of planning ahead of the need to implement the response plan. Although extremely favorable results came from planning efforts, they constantly train and evaluate what can be done better.

#### **Deputy Mayor Update: Nicole George**

- The Mayor's proposed budget reflected themes they saw and heard around safety and health within the City, with an eye toward investing in the future. The Mayor and Council are hoping for a lot of community engagement. The community investment in public safety and health goes beyond the "Stop the bleed" level of action to addressing or stopping root causes hopefully deterring negative actions or behaviors from starting. She asked the Board to help to paint that comprehensive picture to the community.
- There was also a capital investment for the Marine Hospital that will have a significant impact on operations within Family Health Centers.

#### **Chair's Update: Heidi Margulis**

Chair Margulis wished all a celebratory Derby week. She formally welcomed the newest member of the Department's leadership team Dr. Kristina Bryant, Associate Medical Director for LMPHW.

She also thanked the Greenberg administration for the innovation and giant steps forward they are taking with public health and safety.

Appreciation was given to Dr. Bart Irwin and Ashley Shoemaker for the outstanding work they do to bring together all the organizations involved with Medicaid and public health.

#### **LMPHW Director's Report: Dr. Jeffrey Howard**

- LMPHW has contracted with Norton Healthcare for 15% of Dr. Kris Bryant's time to serve as our Associate Medical Director.
- LMPHW will no longer provide in-person or online testing to certify lifeguards. The service is duplicative of community efforts and is not required of local health departments. We will continue to [inspect public swimming pools](#) to enforce state and local regulations.

#### **Family Health Centers: Dr. Bart Irwin**

- No Report/No Board Action Needed

**JCPS Health: Eva Stone**

- No Report/No Board Action Needed

**GLMS: Dr. Lewis Hargett**

- No Report/No Board Action Needed

**Kentucky Nurses Association: Delanor Manson**

- No Report/No Board Action Needed

**Greater Louisville Inc.: Shelby Somervell**

- No Report/No Board Action Needed

**Committee Reports**

***Immunizations:*** Dr. Emerald Echols/Dr. Patricia Bautista-Cervera

- No Report/No Board Action Needed

***Health Care Coverage & Outreach Coalition:*** Ashley Shoemaker

- The next coalition meeting will be Monday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.

**Board Announcements**

The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. and will be virtual only.

- We will vote on swimming pool related regulations that need to be changed due to state and federal changes
- Perspectives Session - TBD
- The July meeting will be election of officers
- No August Board meeting
- September meeting will be in person
  - **UofL's Clinical Translational Research Building**  
505 S. Hancock Street, lobby floor classroom.
    - Street parking is available just outside the building.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED**

*Heidi Margulis*

June 8, 2023

Heidi Margulis, Chairperson