

LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 7, 2022

Voting Members Present: Dr. Patricia Bautista-Cervera, Dr. Emerald Echols, Dr. Paula Grisanti, Margaret Handmaker, Heidi Margulis, Dr. Ed Miller, Dr. Tony Zipple

Advisory Board Members Present: Craig Blakely, Dr. Jeffrey Howard, Bart Irwin, Delanor Manson, Ashley Shoemaker, Valerie Briones-Pryor, Eva Stone

Others Present: Rebecca Hollenbach, Taylor Ingram, Arlana Glenn, Catalina Cordova, Connie Mendel, T. Gonzalez, Karen Handmaker, Kathy Turner, Nicholas Hart, Natalie Johnson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. This was an In-person meeting with a virtual option.

Approval of Minutes

The August 3, 2022 were approved as distributed.

Board Action:

The recommendation that the Board approve an “exemption-with-restrictions” for a sewer-related appeal will be tabled until the October meeting.

The recommendation to amend the city’s current rental registry and create a lead-safe housing registry will be tabled for revision until the October meeting.

A motion to transfer three properties from the Board of Health was approved

- The conveyance of the real estate at 2215 Portland Avenue to Family Health Centers who maintained the site from the outset.
- The conveyance of the building at 400 E. Gray St which houses the Health Department and the undeveloped parcel of land in south Jefferson County (parcel ID: 104800160000) to Metro Government

Perspectives Session: Affordable Housing: Focus on Access/Barriers/Policy Need - Christie McCravy, Executive Director, Affordable Housing Trust Fund (LAHTF); George Eklund, Director Education/Advocacy, Coalition for the Homeless; Moderated by Rebecca Hollenbach

Improvements in housing stability, affordability, quality and safety can all have a positive impact on health. Some benefits seen from these improvements are increased cardiovascular, asthmatic and mental health.

Christie McCravy shared that the LAHTF is a private, non-profit entity that was created by Metro Council as a way for Louisville to invest additional local public funds to address the affordable housing shortage. They primarily assist households whose income is less than or equal to 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Half of all their public funds must be used on households with incomes at or below 50% of AMI.

Some of the issues and concerns they are faced with

- 4,915 students were houseless in the 2019-2020 school year
- 40 Million of ARP funds – 17 households applied for the funding that equaled a \$98 Million need
- Fair market value for renting a 2 - bedroom is \$960. In Louisville the average 2 - bedroom is renting for \$1200 - \$1400.
- 72,000 households are Cost burdened (more than 30% of their income goes toward rent and utilities)
- They can only house 46% of households that have incomes at 30% AMI

- Need and affordability gap is significant between races
- Households in market areas in the northwest of the county are more likely to be cost burdened
 - Residents in the eastern part of the county tend to have better access to key resources
- Nearly 2,200 single family homes have visible exterior issues
 - Housing conditions are worse in areas where housing instability is common.

The strategy or solution that she would like to focus on is to utilize the Health Impact Assessments to evaluate Louisville Metro Government's policies, regulations, and incentives for creation and preservation of housing units.

George Eklund of the Coalition of for the Homeless shared their January Point In Time (PIT) count for the area. The PIT count reflects sheltered and street specific homeless people. The results showed 1,080 homeless of which 245 were street specific. Their Consensus count which reflects those who interact within the homeless services ecosystem was 10,640. Over the last four years, the Louisville area has seen a 41% increase in homelessness and an over 4000% increase of people who are seeking other services. These things are setting people back from generating generational wealth.

Three **key** things that need to happen to start addressing the level of street homelessness

- Increase affordable housing
 - There are people who have housing vouchers that can't find affordable places to live
- Improving shelter
 - Make less congregant and add value to the opportunity to sleep in a shelter vs on the street
- Figure out how to address supplying medical assistance to those who are homeless
 - Nursing care 30-60, 90 day and more programs like Family Health Center Respite to Resident program with Waysides Hotel Louisville.

Home renting evictions should also be viewed seriously.

- Before the COVID pandemic evictions in Louisville was twice the national average
- Typically, 17,000 evictions are filed against each year
- Evictions are disproportionately African American due to 80 years of bad housing practices. If you are an African American in Kentucky, you are two times more likely to appear in Eviction court
- During COVID there has been a 39% decrease in evictions (due to moratoriums and rental assistance) and Judgements went from 50% to 27%
- To help turn around some of the issues of evictions the coalition would like to see more mediation and programs to expunge judgements from people's record

Lack of affordable housing and homelessness continue to be an issue that we must continue to work together to find solutions for. These solutions should reflect stability, quality, affordability and safety for our citizens.

Chair's Update: Heidi Margulis

We discussed affordable housing as part of our perspective's session. Chair Margulis wanted to ensure she conveyed information from Tony Curtis, Executive Director, Metro Housing Coalition. Mr. Curtis was invited to attend but unfortunately had a conflict. Some resources he shared are below:

- The annually published State of Metropolitan Housing Report.
 - The 2022 report may be accessed online at metropolitanhousing.org.
- 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing; https://metropolitanhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/FINAL_2020-AI_MHC_May-11-2020.pdf
- Louisville Metro Demographic and Economic Projections 2010-2040 <https://louisvilleky.gov/planning-design/document/compplan2040projectionsfullreportpdf>
- LMG Advancing Equity <https://louisvilleky.gov/planning-design/document/pdsadvancingequity072220pdf>
- 2013 Vacant & Abandoned Properties Neighborhood Revitalization Study (RKG for LMG): <https://louisvilleky.gov/mayor-greg-fischer/document/louisvillevapstudy2013pdf>

She also wanted to acknowledge Vice Chair Tony Zipple, who also leads the Behavioral Health Committee and Dean

Craig Blakely for their work on a Crisis Call Diversion Program designed to reduce the number of police responses related to non-violent behavioral crises. A link to this work has been provided for your review.

<https://louisvilleky.gov/news/report-crisis-call-diversion-program-benefitting-community-needs-long-term-commitment-and>

LMPHW Director's Report: Dr. Jeffrey Howard

LMPHW participated in the Overdose Awareness Day! We were able to highlight the work of our Harm Reduction Team and M.O.R.E. center.

We achieved national reaccreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) for the next five years

COVID

- Remains in the red driven by increase of hospitalization remaining high

Monkeypox

- We are approaching 20 cases.
- We continue distribute vaccines. We need our community partners to make sure they are being very diligent in getting vaccines into individuals in the community
- Some of our partners and LMPHW continue to have community events
 - Events are costly in finances and staffing.
 - We do not have the same resources for funding as COVID for monkeypox and the same staff is working on COVID and Monkeypox and "regular" health department duties.

Lead

- Continues to be in the forefront of our concerns.
- We are tying this in with some of our larger health concerns.
- One of the issues with combating this issue has been obtaining related data from systems.
 - We are hoping that by forging forward with obtaining new data analytic platforms this will allow information like this to be more fluid in obtaining.

JCPS Health Update: Eva Stone

COVID related

- JCPS has had 392 students and 100 employees who have tested positive with COVID.
- JCPS is still following CDC guidelines with masking required indoors.
- The range of double vaccinated students in some schools is less than 4% up to 84%.
 - The high poverty schools are where students are not double vaccinated.
- JCPS held a COVID vaccine Clinic at ESL Newcomer Academy.
 - 81 vaccines were given which was the highest number given at an in-school vaccination clinic.
 - Through a grant from the Kentucky Association of Health Plans participants received a \$20 gift card.
 - There is a second vaccine clinic scheduled for this location and then they will move to the next school with the lowest vaccination rate.

Flu Immunizations

- JCPS has a memorandum of agreement with Value Market and was able to hold the first of several staff flu clinics.
- 90 vaccines were given at the Vanhose and Lam buildings.

GLMS Update: Dr. Val Briones-Prvor

GLMS worked the last month with the Kentucky Medical Association annual meeting.

Dr. Mona Lisa Taylor was just elected the President of the Kentucky Medical Association

Kentucky Nurses Association: Delanor Manson

- Continue COVID testing. 991 test administered with a 1% positivity rate since starting back up testing
 - They are working on a manuscript to document the success of testing and vaccination.
- Continued supporting Eastern Kentucky flood areas by paying for licenses, nursing shoes, water and supplies
- Participating with Baptist Health on a mass vaccination effort for monkeypox

Greater Louisville Inc Update: Shelby Williams

No Report

Committee Reports:

Immunization: Dr. Emerald Echols

- Continue to work with JCPS on immunization
 - Aide with the VFC program
 - Working on partnerships with community members for getting vaccinations for JCPS employees and family members vaccinated
- Continue to work with the KYIR committee and making more wide-spread use of the system throughout the community.
- The Immunization Committee would appreciate if any practicing adult medicine, internal medicine or family medicine practitioners would be willing to give their insight and expertise to the committee.

Behavioral Health: Dr. Tony Zipple

- The report to Metro Council on the Police deflection project was released and is available
 - The Pilot will continue into next year

Coverage & Outreach Coalition: Ashley Shoemaker

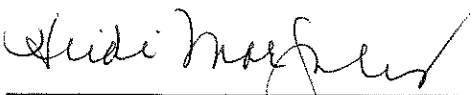
- The public health emergency has been extended through January.
 - There is still a pause on Medicaid renewals
 - There are record high numbers of Medicaid enrollment
- Open enrollments coming up for:
 - Medicaid is October 17th - December 2nd
 - Medicare is October 15th - December 7th
 - Qualified Health Plans on kynect is November 1st - January 15th
- Congress passed the Inflation Reduction Act that extended tax subsidy to 2025
- The team has been to outreach events and back to school fairs to gear up for open enrollment
- The next meeting is Monday October 10th @ 4:00 p.m.

Board Discussion

Please submit future Perspective ideas to Chair Marquis.

The next Board meeting will be October 5 at 8:00 am and will be in person meeting with a virtual option. The Perspectives Session is to be determined.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED


Heidi Margulis, Chairperson