

**LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**March 2, 2022**

**Voting Members Present:** Dr. Tony Zipple, Heidi Margulis, Margaret Handmaker, Dr. Maria Fernanda Nota, Dr. Emerald Echols, Dr. Edward Miller, Dr. Dwayne Compton

**Advisory Board Members Present:** Dr. Craig Blakely, Dr. Sarah Moyer, Natalie Johnson, Bart Irwin, Ashley Shoemaker, Angela Hayes, Shelby Williams, Delanor Manson

**Others Present:** Cassie Chambers-Armstrong, Adria Johnson, Ashley Brandt, SarahBeth Hartlage, Kellie Kane, Leanne French, Kathy Turner, Dr. Stephanie Lokits, Paul Kern, Amanda Clark,

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am. This was a hybrid meeting. All voting members were visible and audible on WebEx or present in person.

**Approval of Minutes**

*The February minutes were accepted as distributed.*

**Perspectives: Childcare Discussion with Metro Councilwoman Cassie Chambers-Armstrong and Adria Johnson, President and CEO of Metro United Way (MUW)**

Prior to COVID-19, Kentucky had lost 45% of its child care capacity since 2013. Family Child Care Homes decreased from 1,200 to 250. Changes in the Louisville Land Development Code closed pathways for up to 100 new childcare programs to seek operation approval. Only 30% of Louisville child care providers were considered high quality.

During COVID-19, Louisville has lost an additional 9% of its childcare providers since March 2020. Louisville childcare programs have experienced 1,998 positive cases of COVID-19 and were adversely affected by the impact of full or partial closures. A survey of 108 Jefferson County providers found the need for 613 additional employees to unlock 6,562 licensed spots for children. 40% of working-age Kentuckians cited caregiving responsibilities as reasons for not working in 2021. Nearly 100,000 Kentucky women have left the workforce during the pandemic due to childcare issues and school closures.

The workforce participation rate for women in Kentucky in 2000 was 57.9% and fell to 51.4% by 2020. Childcare directors, educators and staff are predominately women. In a survey of 145 Louisville providers, 51% of programs were minority or women-owned; 71% were minority or women- directed. Louisville childcare workers earn a median hourly wage of \$10.26. Louisville childcare staff experienced 710 cases of COVID-19, often without the protections of paid time off or health insurance benefits.

In response, MUW is advocating for Jefferson County child care land development code reform which would allow the potential for family child care homes to serve more children in alignment with state capacity regulations when receiving a conditional use permit (CUP). This would also allow childcare centers in residential zones--where they are currently prohibited--when they meet detailed standards or receive a CUP. Updating the regulations to allow for child care programs in industrial areas of employment when programs meet special standards or receive a conditional use permit. This would increase the availability of childcare options for working mothers and other individuals.

MUW is also supporting local ARPA Investment in Ready for K Alliance (R4KA) Priorities. It helped develop R4KA response to Metro Government's childcare and early learning initiatives RFI. It is also

continuing to advocate for early childhood strategies; localizing a national WAGES Program to retain childcare educators, incentivizing field entry, and increased credentialing through equitable compensation structures; subsidizing childcare for early childhood educators; investing in program quality standards and built environment improvements; and enhancing and expanding child healthy development and family engagement programming for children not in formal childcare settings.

Metro Council is considering zoning changes to allow expansion of childcare locations; advocating to invest ARP dollars in early learning opportunities (increased developmental screens, access to programs, infrastructure investments, increased outdoor learning spaces, adding a director of early learning); and looking for other early learning opportunities (lead abatement ordinance, family housing instability project, systemic early learning changes).

MUW and CW Chambers-Armstrong asked the Board to write a letter supporting Land Development Code reform as well as supporting state House Bill 499, the Employee Child Care Assistance Partnership.

**Motion to approve sending letters to Metro Council supporting Land Development Code Reform and to Louisville state legislators supporting HB499.**

*Margaret Handmaker abstained.*

*The motion was approved.*

**Chair's Update: Heidi Margulis**

The Chair has shared information on Big Cities Health Coalition and asked the members to review it. The April meeting is being moved to March 30 to accommodate JCPS Spring Break.

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

The Director has distributed the Director's Report and asked members to review it. The department is reviewing over 70 recommendations in the "Covid Insights-to-Action report and will share more information in the next meeting. The department continues to transition staff to pre-Covid work but stands ready to respond should cases begin to rise again.

**JCPS Health Update: Angela Hayes**

JCPS now has Covid clinics in all schools which can administer vaccines and boosters to staff and students.

**GLMS Update:**

GLMS continues to work on their strategic plan.

**Kentuciana Nurses Association: Delanor Manson**

There are 89,000 nurses in KNA. In collaboration with LMPHW, KNA has distributed 16,000 vaccines and tests in Jefferson County.

**Greater Louisville Inc Update**

No report.

**Committee Reports:**

Immunization: Dr. Emerald Echols

The committee is working with JCPS to reach families which for which English is not their first language. They continue advocacy with the Kentucky Immunization Registry.

Behavioral Health: Dr. Tony Zipple

New member Karyn Hascal will join. The committee continues to recruit partners for the ACES project. The deflection project will start on March 21<sup>st</sup> with the first mobile team. UofL School of Public Health and Information Sciences will evaluate and report to Metro Council in April.

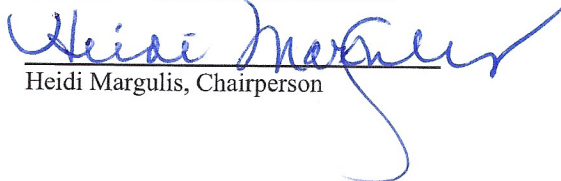
Coverage & Outreach Coalition: Ashley Shoemaker

New member Karyn Hascal will join. The committee met on February 14. Medicaid enrollment is at a record high. When the public health emergency ends, they expect 80,000 Kentuckians to lose coverage and 200,000 will have to recertify. The next meeting is April 11.

**Board Discussion**

The next Board meeting will be March 30 at 8am and will be virtual-only. The Perspectives presentation will focus on violence prevention.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heidi Margulis", written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

Heidi Margulis, Chairperson