



CHIP Steering Committee January Meeting Notes

Tue 1/11/2022 1:00p - 2:30p – Online on Zoom

Members Present – Phoebe Walker/FRCOG, Gina Govoni/HRA, Rachel Stoler/Mass in Motion FRCOG, Cheryl Pascucci/BFMC, Geoff Naunheim/UWFH, Becky Himlin/CAPV, Maureen Mullaney/Transportation Planning FRCOG, Alison Proctor/ OTF, Deb Mclaughlin/OTF (arrived near the end), Judy Raper, Associate Dean of Community Engagement Greenfield Community College, Kat Allen/CTC FRCOG

Regrets: Ron Bryant/BFMC, Allison VanderVelden/CHCFC, Sandi Walters/CSO

Meeting Notes

1. Co-Chair election

Allison VanderVelden volunteered to be nominated as co-chair at our last meeting and Phoebe checked in to see if we could elect her today even though she was not able to attend. Allie said yes and was elected unanimously with representatives from FRCOG, FCHHRA, Baystate, UW-FHR, CAPV, OTF voting.

2. Legislative Priority update

Phoebe shared the updated CHIP Legislative agenda: <https://frcog.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/CHIP-LEGISLATIVE-AGENDA-2021-22-update-12.14.pdf>

Deadline for bills to move out of committee is Feb 2. (More on this in recent CHIP Newsletter, which is: <https://conta.cc/3JQKqlu>). Phoebe will update document again after Feb 2.

Maureen gave an update on the Leyden Road sidewalk project, which had been earmarked for funding in the federal budget thanks to Congressman McGovern, but was left out during reconciliation. There are potential sources for construction funding, but design work is needed first. Greenfield has in-house design capacity, but needs to prioritize this. Conversations are happening. Phoebe reported that the Art Garden's CCART public art project is interested in working with Leyden Woods residents on this issue. Phoebe and Maureen will connect.

3. Discussion of a potential grant application for DPH Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative funding for the two unfunded rural clusters in our area (NQCC was funded for the North Quabbin cluster).

Nobody applied for eastern or western Franklin County clusters in last round, and DPH is going to reopen app window later this month. RFP might change. FRCOG perception was that it was intended for community-based organizations. Kirby Lecy had a conversation with Phoebe encouraging FRCOG to apply when it re-opens because FRCOG is the agency doing the sort of COVID public health information work this is intended to fund, and they are looking for organizations with many connections, like CHIP. HED Working Group final product is about COVID impacts specific to our region, and that could be the basis for a proposal for the post-COVID part.

Phoebe asked Steering Committee "If we were going to be working for a few years w/ \$100,000 or so, what are some COVID-related vulnerabilities we could work on? \$75K/cluster/year for 3 years.

Cheryl – just submitted new proposal for BRIDGE, embedded CHWs w/ experience of SUD at social service sites – shelter, MCSM, Tapestry, housing, West County. Training for them about public health education resources and distribution of materials. Way to begin the rural health network work post- planning grant and pre-implementation grant.

Geoff – legal services for COVID-related eviction. Also, re others' suggestion re digital literacy/tech access, check out Alliance for Digital Equity, which included Franklin County representatives and just made a significant ask for a lot of money

Kat – CHNA process revealed social isolation as a significant risk factor and we have lots of work related to that we could build on

Judy – Social isolation and divisions along political lines, vaxed and unvaxed. GCC hosted some events about how to have conversations in a respectful way.

Learning and credit loss/recovery for high school students – meeting on Thursday, GCC currently serving about 20 students who may graduate b/c of this program.

Digital literacy, including media literacy. Cyberseniors digital mentoring program (youth are volunteer mentors) starting up <https://cyberseniors.org/> Film showing in March, training sessions coming up. Judy will send info. She is also working w/ Kat on project about social media.

Maureen – Amount of money is small for projects in her field. Pandemic impact on transportation was less because message was "don't travel". However, several programs at FRTA have increased hours of service and reach of public transportation – could use funds for outreach and PR for that.

Gina – social isolation, depression and unhealthy behavior. Lack of mental health services. Digital literacy. Supports for Spanish speakers who are not digitally literate. Support for people who are not elderly, not youth, not SUD – help with how to access help/services w/ mental health on the phone/online

Rachel – Access to primary care. PCP as central, essential connection for people to have. Voting rights, voting registration so that everyone has a voice in policy decisions.

Becky – digital access, impacts on education (pre-K-12)

Alison – 2 paths - investment in navigators or in telehealth access // Cheryl gave an example from Springfield where geriatric dept team members went to patients' homes to teach them how to have virtual visits

Jen – use this moment to work on standards, culture of public health nursing. Hands-on, show and tell demos of digital tools for CWs, navigators, etc. Public health nurses connect with social service agencies; two-way learning opportunity.

Upcoming meeting dates:

CHIP Presents meeting with the new family residency program on Friday has been rescheduled to 2/10 at 9 AM.

CHIP Network meeting to launch year 2, Wed., 2/2 3-4:30pm – announcements and invite to come.

Many other workgroup and meeting dates here: <https://conta.cc/3JQKqlu>

CHIP Steering Committee meetings in 2022, which will all be on the second Tuesdays of the month: January 11, March 8, May 10, July 12, October 11, December 13.