

Care Coordination - 12/6/2023

Meeting Subject: LHIC Care Coordination Workgroup Meeting - 12/6/2023

Meeting Date: 12/6/2023 9:00 AM

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Baltimore City Local Health Improvement Coalition Care Coordination Workgroup Meeting

NOTES:

- **Health priorities and data analysis**
 - The group discussed how to facilitate participation and share notes in a way that is accessible to everyone.
 - Meeting's purpose: identifying Baltimore City's most pressing health disparities and improving access to healthcare.
 - High-level review of the group's work with Ascendient, including early data from the community health needs assessment.
- **Health priorities in Baltimore**
 - Brian Ackerman introduces himself and his team from Ascendient, explaining their 30-year history of working in healthcare planning and their recent work in Baltimore.
 - Ackerman outlines the agenda for the presentation, including a prioritization exercise and a discussion guide to gather the audience's input on healthcare priorities for the city.
 - Brian and Emily McCallum discussed the community health assessment process, including the collaborative group they've been working with and the data they've collected.
 - Emily presented secondary data analysis, focusing on lagging indicators (health outcomes) and leading indicators (social determinants of health), and highlighted key findings.
 - Overview provided of the metrics they're analyzing, including health conditions, food security, housing, and crime in Baltimore City.
 - Data was stratified into buckets to evaluate length of life and quality of life indicators and looks at leading indicators such as clinical care access, health behaviors, physical environment, and social and economic environment.

- **Health needs in Baltimore City**

- Discussed health outcomes in Baltimore City, highlighting several high-need areas, including physical health, length of life, and mental health.
- Baltimore City ranks 24th out of 24 counties in Maryland for health outcomes, with child mortality, premature deaths, and life expectancy all significantly lower than the state average.
- Mental health indicators also show higher rates of mental distress, poor mental health days, and lower life expectancy in Baltimore City compared to the state.
- Highlighted that in 2021, 1 in 5 Baltimore City residents reported being told they have a depressive disorder, but only 5% of residents visited a mental health provider.
- Neighborhoods in Baltimore City have varying levels of need for mental health services, with some areas utilizing prescription antidepressants and anti-anxiety medications more frequently than others.

- **Baltimore City's health disparities and needs**

- Highlighted that almost 40% of families in Baltimore City are cost burdened, double the rate in the state, impacting their ability to afford basic needs and find high-paying jobs.
- Baltimore City has a higher rate of injury deaths, homicides, and fatalities associated with gun violence compared to the state, with some zip codes having much higher rates of overdoses and shootings.
- Discussed the findings from a needs assessment conducted by the organization, including the importance of social determinants of health, access to healthcare, mental health, and health literacy.
- Availability of similar needs assessments asked from local health and behavioral health authorities, which could provide additional insights into the community's health needs.
- Discussed primary data collection methods, including focus groups and web surveys, and provided statistics on response rates and language availability.

- **Community health needs and resources in Baltimore**

- Community members and key leaders identified similar top health needs: substance use, mental health, and access to healthy food.
- Key leaders also prioritized affordable housing, reducing crime and violence, and access to good jobs.

- Key leaders identified the Black or African American community, individuals living in poverty, young people, children or youth, and individuals experiencing homelessness as high-priority groups in need of additional resources and assistance.
- Almost three-quarters of key leaders believed that community members lack health literacy, which hinders their ability to manage their conditions and live their healthiest lives.
- **Healthcare access and needs in Baltimore**
 - Highlighted the top needs in Baltimore City, including mental health, access to healthcare, and housing stability.
 - Focus groups revealed concerns around substance use disorders, income, family, and social supports, as well as employment and physical health issues like injuries and chronic conditions.
 - Cost of care highlighted as a major concern for individuals, including high health insurance premiums, prescription costs, and difficulty affording basic necessities like food and housing.
 - Many participants express frustration with the medical system, including long wait times, feeling stigmatized or discriminated against, and lack of understanding about how to access resources and navigate the system.
- **Community health challenges in Baltimore**
 - Community members and leaders identified lack of access to healthy food, mental health resources, and affordable transportation as major challenges.
 - Focus group participants expressed frustration with limited mental health resources, affordable housing, and community safety, including gun violence and police concerns.
 - Emily shared data on Baltimore's health disparities, including access to healthcare, mental health, food insecurity, and transportation.
 - Group discussed the poverty rate in Maryland, comparing it to other cities and considering a peer-to-peer analysis.
- **Community health priorities in Baltimore**
 - Rhonda Boglin shares their perspective on the history of Baltimore City and how it relates to social determinants of health, including the concentration of different ethnicities in different areas of the city and the impact of living in an "urban jungle" on mental health.
 - Community perspectives compared on power and priorities with leadership perspectives, noting that while there is some alignment, there are also significant differences, particularly in the areas of education and violence.

- Mentioned that this will not be the last time they look at the data.
- **Prioritizing health initiatives in Baltimore City**
 - Emphasizing the importance of prioritizing key need areas in healthcare, considering both health outcomes and social determinants.
 - The group will use an online poll to gather input on priorities, with a focus on mental health, substance use, and employment.
- **Community priorities in Baltimore City**
 - Mental health, affordable housing, food access, and chronic disease conditions ranked as top priorities based on group polling.
 - Other selected priorities include substance use, overweight/obesity, access to care, violence, employment, and affordable childcare.
 - Community members prioritize mental health, chronic illness, and food insecurity as top issues in Baltimore City.
- **Community health priorities and improvement plan**
 - Highlighted the overlap between mental health and physical health, citing the impact of environment on both.

RECORDING: [Baltimore City LHIC Care Coordination Workgroup Meeting 12-6-2023](#) (YouTube)