

**Wake County Human Services Board
Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2017**

Board Members Present:

Angie Welsh
Dr. Betsy Van Benthuysen
Mayor Frank Eagles
Dr. James Smith, III
Commissioner James West
John Myhre
Dr. John Perry
Margaret Raynor
Ronda Bean
Stephanie Treadway
Seth Wexler

Staff Members Present:

David Ellis
Dr. Caroline Loop
Antonia Pedroza
Regina Petteway
Dr. Sue Lynn Ledford
Dr. Theresa Flynn
Ginny Satterfield
Debra Baker
Caroline Harper
Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey
Ken Murphy
Jim Hartmann

Guests Present:

None

Call to Order

Chair Dr. James Smith called the meeting to order at 7:35am.

Reflections

Dr. Seth Wexler spoke about a book called Waking up White. The book was based in 1995 and was based on the life difficulties of the main character who was a young woman that died after being hit by a car. The book focused on the circumstances of the young lady that led her to be hit by the vehicle. At the surface level it is just another death from an accident. As the story goes on the book goes into the two hour bus ride she took each day to reach her job at the mall and crossing a busy street that had no infrastructure. The book talked about how the mall had been placed on the other side of town in systemic racism. Dr. Wexler's reflections were for all to look for the deeper answers, ask the deeper questions to understand more of the story than what you see up front.

Chairs Privilege

Chair Dr. Smith reminded the Board members that the November and December meetings had moved up a week due to the Holidays. Chair Dr. Smith then spoke about the pleasure of working with retiring Wake County Manager Jim Hartmann. Ms. Petteway asked for the Board members and staff in attendance to come to the front of the room to thank Mr. Hartmann and to present a gift and take a group photo.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Dr. Smith asked for a motion to approve the September 28, 2017 meeting minutes. Mr. John Myhre motioned and it was seconded by Dr. John Perry. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Next Board Meeting – November 16, 2017

Board Officer Elections

(Presented by Chair Dr. James Smith)

Mr. Ken Murphy led the elections for Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasure. Dr. James Smith was elected unanimously as the Chair, Ms. Angie Welsh was elected unanimously as the Vice-Chair, and Ms. Margaret Raynor was elected unanimously as the Treasurer. Chair Dr. Smith stated that the newly elected officers would be administered the Oath at the November Board meeting.

Chair Dr. Smith then announced that he had to leave the meeting early and made a motion for Mr. John Myhre to step in to lead the meeting. The motion was seconded and the meeting continued with Mr. John Myhre stepping in as the Board Chair to lead the meeting.

Public Health Injury Prevention Quarterly Report [PH Accreditation Benchmark #2.4]

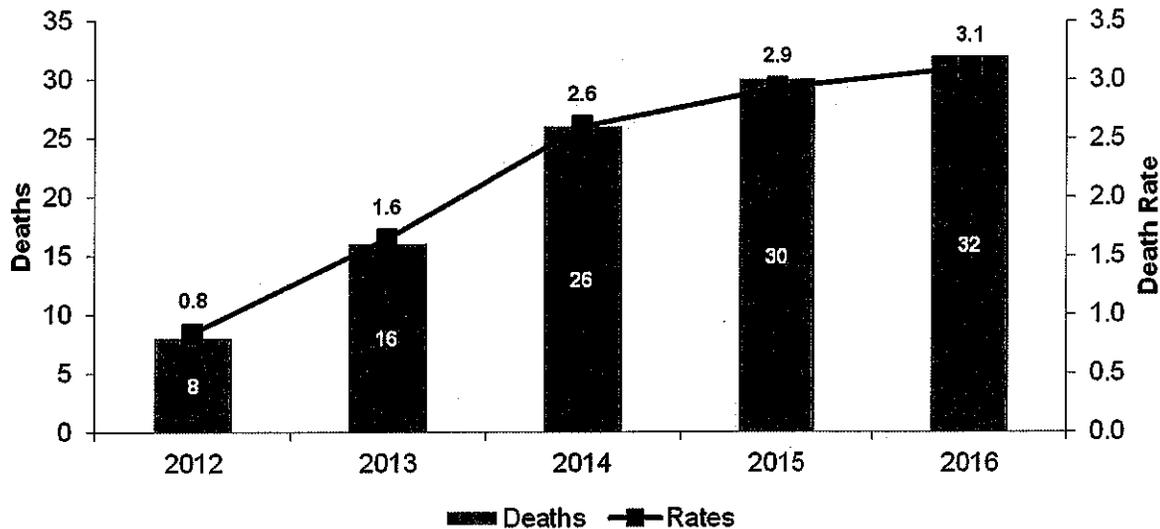
(Presented by Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey)

Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey proceeded to review the information contained in the report beginning with pointing out the top five causes of injury hospitalization and Emergency Department visits in Wake County in 2016:

TOP 5 CAUSES OF INJURY HOSPITALIZATIONS AND ED VISITS WAKE COUNTY, 2016				
RANK	HOSPITALIZATIONS		ED VISITS	
	INJURY	CASES	INJURY	CASES
1	Falls-Unintentional	1,833	MVT-Unspecified - Unintentional	10,111
2	MVT Occupant-Unintentional	319	Fall - Unintentional	7,796
3	Poisoning: Drug-Unintentional	276	Bite and Stings-Nonvenomous - Unintentional	2,082
4	Poisoning: Drug-Self-Harm	234	Other Specified Foreign Body - Unintentional	1,524
5	Unspecified-Unintentional	118	Unspecified - Assault	1,004

Dr. Alfano-Sobsey discussed the opioid deaths in Wake County. She pointed out that the amount has started to level out in Wake County however there was an increase in the North Carolina total.

Wake County Unintentional Heroin Deaths and Rates, 2012 - 2016



Mr. David Ellis asked why opioids did not fall into the drug self-harm category. Dr. Alfano-Sobsey explained that this is because traditionally the people taking opioids are taking them for the high and not to intentionally commit suicide. When these people die from an overdose it is considered unintentional.

Mayor Eagles asked what happens to children that are born with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS). Dr. Sue Lynn Ledford and Ms. Regina Petteway explained that it starts with the hospital which has their own procedures for when they suspect NAS. The hospitals do not have to test when it is suspected they can instead call Child Protective Services directly. There are extensive efforts underway by the North Carolina Justice system as it relates to this issue. In the past it has been clear cut that if the parent had drug involvement the baby was removed and there were some negative outcomes related to this. If the parent is put into recovery they can work out a plan such that there is some visitation and keeping connected with the baby or there will be bonding issues for the child. There is an aggressive effort underway but it is currently not in place.

Dr. Alfano-Sobsey stated that there is a focus on integrated pain meds and not just writing a prescription but finding other ways to manage the pain. Mr. Myhre mentioned that a lot of these things are being dealt with in the STOP Act.

Dr. Perry stated that he is disappointed that the opioid deaths in Wake County are still increasing after all the awareness and work that has been done over the last few years. Dr. Ledford stated that it is being discussed that it may be declared a Public Health emergency.

In wrapping up the presentation Dr. Alfano-Sobsey also spoke briefly about drowning's, animal exposures, and pedestrian and bicycle injuries.

Mr. Myhre stated that the Human Services Board has received and reviewed the report and recommend that it be accepted as written. Ms. Margaret Raynor motioned and Mayor Frank Eagles seconded. The Board voted unanimously to accept the report.

Wake County Human Services Fourth Quarter Data Report

(Presented by Ms. Caroline Harper)

Ms. Harper reviewed the data in the report and presented items of interest from some of the information contained.

Mr. David Ellis asked if it was possible to track the length of time that children are in Foster Care. Ms. Harper stated that it was possible. Mr. Ellis asked that this be a part of the future reports and Ms. Petteway stated that she would ask that it be included.

Ms. Harper pointed out that the data shows that there is a decrease in Syphilis rates. Per the data the rates have stabilized in Wake County. There was some discussion on the national numbers and discussion of Durham County being noted as having one of the highest rates of Syphilis in the U.S.

At Mayor Eagles request Ms. Harper then went over the WIC data and the location trends. Approximately 60% of WIC clients visit Sunnybrook for their services. About 40% of the other client visits are at regional offices. Mayor Eagles asked if information was being made available to callers concerning regional centers providing WIC services. Dr. Ledford stated that information on the regional centers is given out to callers and visitors as much as possible and that they were doing their best to make people aware of the different services offered at the regional centers.

Ms. Harper spoke about the county population continuing to increase. The goal is to find out if we are growing in our services consumption rate as well. She noted that there were positive growths in most of the services presented in this report.

Ms. Harper closed by asking that the Board consider this report and asked for any final questions or requests for additional information.

Mr. Myhre stated that the Human Services Board has received and discussed the report and thanked Ms. Caroline Harper for presenting the information to the Board.

Child Fatality Task Force Annual Report

(Presented by Dr. Theresa Flynn)

Dr. Flynn discussed the task forces purpose and some of the information contained in this report. Wake County's Child Fatality Prevention Team (CFPT) and Community Child Protection Team (CCPT) performs regular confidential reviews of representative deaths of infants and children

age 17 or younger seeking systematic causes or conditions that can be prevented and suggesting public policy and programmatic solutions.

This 2017 report presents infant and child mortality rates for the year 2015. State and county wide data are compiled and reported by the North Carolina Center for Health Statistics a full year after the calendar events. Representative 2015 child deaths were reviewed by the Wake County CFPT/CCPT throughout the 2016 year.

There was an increase in the total number of Wake County Child deaths from 96 (in both 2013 and 2014) to 105 in 2015. Among children aged 1-17, injury accounted for more deaths (18) than illness (14). Violent deaths (suicide and homicide) accounted for nearly half of the injury deaths overall.

The largest category of deaths continued to occur in infancy, before the first birthday. The infant mortality rate in Wake County was 5.7 per 1000 births overall, much better than the statewide rate of 7.3, and below the national rate of 6.0. Although the Black Infant Mortality Rate improved from 12.5 to 11.4, it remained above the national rate of 10.8 and well above the Healthy People 2020 goal of 6.0.

The Centers for Disease Control lists the top five causes of infant mortality as: birth defects, preterm births, maternal complications, SIDS, and injuries. Wake County received a “C” from the March of Dimes for its premature delivery rate, and North Carolina ranks 44th in terms of racial and ethnic disparities in preterm births. The CDC lists several ways to reduce premature delivery and infant mortality, including folic acid supplementation, improving maternal physical and mental health, reducing exposure to tobacco and other substances, assuring access to contraception, and addressing interpersonal violence.

The Wake County CFPT/CCPT is currently involved in a number of initiatives designed to reduce infant mortality:

- Wake County Human Services is developing a practice to integrate screening for social service needs into all Public Health clinic encounters. Specifically, clients will be screened for food and housing insecurity, interpersonal violence, mental health and substance use concerns, and lack of access to healthcare. Clients who report needs in these areas will be connected to appropriate services. This initiative has the potential to reduce mortality in both infants and older children.
- The CFPT/CCPT is working with Wake County hospital Emergency Departments to improve recognition, reporting and protection of children who present with history or physical findings concerning for the possibility of non-accidental trauma (child abuse). Although children of any age can be victims of non-accidental trauma, infants are at highest risk of serious injury and death from this cause.

- The CFPT/CCPT has reached out to homeless and disaster shelters with education and supplies to improve the safety of infant sleep environments. For example they have provided pack and play cribs for infants.

In addition, the CFPT/CCPT is partnering with community non-profits to disseminate injury prevention information to both infants and older children, and with the Wake County Public School System to disseminate violence prevention information that addresses dating violence, human trafficking, and suicide prevention.

Dr. Flynn then went into detail showing that the Wake County infant mortality rates are lower than the state in every category and better than the Healthy People 2020 goals in every category with the exception of black/non-Hispanic deaths category. Mayor Eagles asked how we could target this community. Dr. Flynn stated that this is the question that is consuming the task force and that she would love for this to become the focus of an intervention as something is missing to help with this piece. Dr. Perry mentioned that per the discussion and the data some of this could be contributed to the housing situations and asked if there were areas of Wake County where this was more concentrated. Dr. Flynn stated that yes this was the case and that there are interventions taking place to try to help lower infant mortality. She stated that this is not a problem that has been solved but that racial disparities and infant mortalities do not have a quick and easy fix. Ms. Margaret Raynor spoke about the Summer Food Service Program concentrating on zip code data to concentrate food efforts into the areas that need it and asked if this same system could be used for the child fatality information. Ms. Petteway spoke about hot spotting the vulnerable communities using data and that we may be able to overlay the areas with some of the child fatality information. Ms. Petteway stated that Ms. Harper would look in to this.

Mr. David Ellis questioned the All Other category and asked what was included in this category. Dr. Flynn stated that deaths in this category are truly undetermined. For example infants that die while co-sleeping are the highest number in the All Other category. If an infant died while co-sleeping it is difficult to tell if the child died from accidental suffocation or from natural causes or SIDS. Dr. Flynn mentioned that there is a movement to provide Pack and Plays to parents and to provide them at shelters as well to keep children safely sleeping alone.

Mr. Myhre stated that the Human Services Board has received and reviewed the report and are recommending that it be sent to the Board of Commissioners for their review. Ms. Mayor Frank Eagles motioned and Ms. Margaret Raynor seconded. The Board voted unanimously.

Board Committee Chairs' Reports

- Social Services Committee – Ms. Welsh waived her report as the Committee did not meet in October.
- Public Health Committee – Mr. Myhre asked Dr. Sue Lynn Ledford to give an update. Dr. Ledford updated the group on the work the Committee has accomplished on their work plan and discussed the work that was completed at the October Public Health Committee meeting. Dr. Ledford then stated that Public Health will bring more details to

the Board next month on Public Health and Environmental Health expansion requests. Mr. Myhre then gave a brief update on the subcommittees that the Public Health members are involved in.

Mr. Myhre then stated that Mayor Frank Eagles had asked to provide an update to the group as well. Mayor Eagles stated that the Regional Networks Committee meeting had just taken place and proceeded to report on the Summer Food Service Program accomplishments. Mayor Eagles reported that the Summer Food Service Program fed nearly 56,000 youth in Wake County this summer. He reported that the Regional centers had on-site feeding sites and that the total number of meals served was 10,642. The Western region had eight community sights that served meals and used their community networks to help with the program.

Mayor Eagles then went on to discuss the annual Community Advisory Committee Joint meeting taking place on November 9th at the Wake Community Commons building and that all Board members are invited to attend. Mayor Eagles then went on to speak about a request from the Community Advisory Committee to change their name to Community Advocacy Committee. Mayor Eagles then asked Ms. Regina Petteway if the Board could vote to change the name and Ms. Petteway agreed that it was something that the Board was responsible for. Mayor Eagles then made a motion to change the name from Community Advisory Committee to Community Advocacy Committee and Mr. John Myhre Seconded. Ms. Petteway asked attorney Ken Murphy to advise the Board and he stated that to his knowledge there was nothing in the bylaws that would prohibit this.

Mayor Eagles asked for a motion to change the name of the Community Advisory Committee to the Community Advocacy Committee and Mr. John Myhre seconded. The Board then voted unanimously to change the name to Community Advocacy Committee.

Human Services Directors Report

(Presented by Ms. Petteway)

- Ms. Petteway spoke about the Social and Economic Vitality work in completing the final phase of the Southeast Raleigh Innovation Challenge and how successful the event had been. This was a very successful event and there were four winners that were awarded prizes totaling \$250,000. Once the Crosby building is up and running all of these programs can be connected through the Crosby building as a hub. There will be discussion on if this program should be repeated again. There was outstanding attendance to all events and press coverage as well. Ms. Petteway stated that she would look in to getting the press release for the Board members to read.
- Ms. Petteway then gave the Board members a brief update on the budget expansion process. The Executive Team and Leadership Team have submitted their expansion requests which totals over \$8 million. We are in the process of vetting these requests in several ways: Looking at possible business practice changes than can address any of these requests, looking for any existing funds this year that can be used/repurposed, looking at whether or not these requests can be phased over one or two years (especially for larger requests), and whether or not the business justification is strong enough to take it forward. Ms. Petteway then spoke about another piece of this where a Social

Determinates of Health framework has been set up and that this expansion request will be submitted to the County Managers office on November 8th. Ms. Petteway then went over all of the areas covered in the Social Determinates of Health framework and stated that the Health Prevention and Promotion pieces are where we are not funded well. With Federal and State funding mostly going into Social Services, there is not enough going into other areas such as Housing and Transportation. Ms. Petteway stated that she would bring more expansion information to the Board at the November meeting.

- Dr. Ledford spoke about the success of the Behavioral Health Summit. The Summits focus and energy addressed solutions instead of defining problems. Dr. Ledford spoke about the Wake County District Attorney pointing out to the group that it is very challenging in a county that has a lot of demands on their economic resources but for too long the Human Services elements have been overlooked in favor of what is a very legitimate need, the school system. The growing school system has growing needs but if some of the Human Services elements are dealt with this would address some of the growing needs in the schools.
- Ms. Petteway then spoke about the Population Health Task Force and asked Dr. Perry to update the Board on the status. Dr. Perry stated that there are three sub groups that were formed and that there is a lot of work going on. The groups are Familiar Faces focused on high utilizers of health services, Live Well Wake focused on the foundation of the population in general and how it impacts the entire population and not just those accessing healthcare. The middle tier is Vulnerable Communities. These three groups are working on deriving recommendations to send forward to the County Commissioners. The challenge within the group is trying to find the right data to support their recommendations and to determine what to do with the data. Dr. Ledford stated that the agenda at today's meeting would focus the workgroups on finalizing their scope and the population they intend to focus priorities and intentions and recommendations on.
- Ms. Antonia Pedroza spoke about looking at how children are traumatized by poverty and spoke about putting the pieces of this puzzle together and how it is going to impact human services. She spoke about receiving calls from treatment centers from parents that have lost custody of their children due to substance abuse. Once the child is taken away from the parent the parent loses Medicaid coverage and cannot continue treatment. Ms. Pedroza spoke about trying to get the data to support this so that we can ask for resources to impact how the system is working for children experiencing trauma at early ages.

Environmental Services Director's Report

(Presented by Dr. Caroline Loop)

- Dr. Loop began by giving an update on the State Fair and stated that Environmental Health and Safety completed 156 inspections of food vendors prior to them being able to prep or serve any food. Besides the initial inspection there were also ongoing inspections throughout the fair of all food vendors. Other things that were inspected were water and wastewater connections, food handling and control of temperatures and washing sinks. Water Quality was also involved with wastewater connection inspections.
- Dr. Loop then gave a brief on the Water Partnership, a group formed by the Board of Commissioners. Dr. Ledford stated that the members have become an engaged group

and are involved on two of the Public Health Committee sub-committees with members on both the Off-Site Easement Rules and Well Rules subcommittees and working on creating a Storm Water subcommittee as well as forming their own standing committees.

- Dr. Loop then gave an update on the Integrated Mosquito Management Subcommittee formed last April. This subcommittee has met 6 times and consists of 14 people. They have recently completed their work and presented recommendations to the Public Health Committee who have referred it to the Human Services Board. This presentation will be made at the November Human Services Board meeting.
- Dr. Loop informed the members that Environmental Services is in the business plan meeting stages of presenting initial potential expansion requests to the County Managers Office. Their business plan meeting will be next week and Dr. Loop stated that they would be happy to provide expansion information at the next Public Health and or Human Services Board meeting.

Participation in Community Events:

- Mr. John Myhre spoke about attending the Poe Center luncheon on the opioid epidemic and that there was a large crowd in attendance
- Mr. Myhre also mentioned that he will be attending to the Community Advocacy Committee retreat on November 9th and encouraged all to attend
- Dr. Perry spoke about attending an event at Athens Drive High School which is a magnet health professional high school. The group interested in health care wanted to speak to healthcare professionals that are addressing the opioid epidemic. Specific questions were how the opioid epidemic was affecting their careers. Dr. Perry stated that this was a great opportunity to engage with high school students
- Margaret let the group know that she will be going to the Summer Palooza in Greensboro on November 8th. The focus is how to get the food distributed to where it needs to go and the creative ideas to do so
- Mr. Myhre also mentioned the Drug Overdose Prevention Coalition meeting that he will be attending and recommended that other Board members try to attend as well
- Ms. Raynor asked Ms. Petteway to speak more about the event at St. Augustine's college. Ms. Petteway spoke about the conference taking place and the focus on Disparities and Social Determinates of Health on December 2nd. The college has a public health department and offers a public health degree but they want their students to look more broadly at the disparities of health and solutions and ways to get involved in the community. Besides students attending the want health professionals and anyone that is interested in making a difference with disparities to attend as well. The conference takes place from 9:00am-4:00pm on the college campus

ACTION ITEMS:

- Ms. Petteway stated that more detailed information requested by the Board members would be brought to them in a future meeting. Information was requested on: Statistics on the effects of opioids on Foster Care, heroine vs. opioid demographics, death rate for drowning's, and who pays for rabies shots if a person is unable to pay
- Mr. David Ellis asked if it was possible to track the length of time that children are in Foster Care. Ms. Harper stated that it was possible. Mr. Ellis asked that this be a part of the future reports and Ms. Petteway stated that she would ask that it be included
- Ms. Petteway will look into how Sunnybrook informs and refers clients to regional centers and informs them of services that are provided at these locations
- Ms. Petteway to forward information on a conference being held at St. Augustine's college on December 2, 2018 from 9:00am-4:00pm. The conference focuses on disparities and social determinates of health
- In response to a question by Ms. Raynor Ms. Petteway spoke about hot spotting the vulnerable communities using zip code data and that we may be able to overlay the areas with some of the child fatality information. Ms. Petteway stated that Ms. Harper would look in to this
- Ms. Petteway to forward the press release for the Southeast Raleigh Innovation Challenge to the Board members
- Ms. Petteway stated that she would bring more budget expansion information to the Board at the November meeting
- Dr. Ledford asked that Ms. Debra Baker send out the Population Health Task Force calendar to all Board members
- Ms. Antonia Pedroza to look in to gathering data on parents that have lost custody of their children due to substance abuse and how losing their Medicaid coverage for treatment can also have a negative impact on the children, causing a trauma for the child
- Dr. Ledford stated that the drug overdose coalition will meet on October 31st and that she would have Ms. Debra Baker send out the details for this meeting

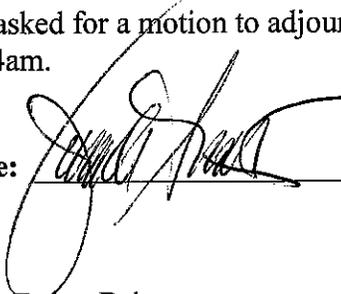
Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Acting Chair Mr. Myhre asked for a motion to adjourn. There was a motion and a second, the meeting adjourned at 9:34am.

Board Chair's Signature:



Date:

11/16/17

Respectfully submitted by Debra Baker