

# Morrow County Local Community Advisory Council

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday July 1, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m.

Google Meet

**Participants Present:** Andrea Fletcher, Annie Kimbrel, Catherine Wisniewski, Courtney Valenzuela, Dirk Dirksen, Don Russell, Heidi Zeigler, Ian Murray, Jessica Reker, Karma Ezell, Kathryn Chaney, Kris Jones, Linda Skendzel, Maddison Virgil, Marie Shimer, Sarah Brown, Troy Soenen and Marci McMurphy

**1. Call to Order:** Andrea Fletcher called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**2. Public Comments:** There were no public comments to record.

**3. OHP/EOCCO Member Feedback/Concerns**

**4. Consensus to Approve Meeting Minutes**

Ian moved to approve. Linda seconded. Minutes approved.

**5. EOCCO Updates**

Troy Soenen -

- Both the CAC Demographic Report and the Community Health Plan Update were completed and submitted to OHA by the due date. Thank you to Andrea for all she did to put this together!
- Now the focus needs to be on OHP/EOCCO member recruitment.

Courtney "Val" Valenzuela -

- SHARE Initiative RFA should be coming out on July 2 (tomorrow). Andrea indicated that SHARE Initiative generated interest by local partners.
- There will be a Question-and-Answer session at 1pm. All necessary information will be put in today's chat.
- Looking at realigning CBIR grant application and grant cycle year. Looking at the fiscal year Jan-Mar apply, Jul-Jun operate OR Jul-Sep apply, Jan-Dec operate. Would like input on this.
  - Ian needs time to think about the implications of this.
  - Kris likes the idea of the fiscal year, but would like to think about it as well.
- Ian Murray, Morrow County Health Department - When will we have an EOCCO Incentive Measure County Metrics Report? Would like to see it at least every other month.
- Courtney Valenzuela, EOCCO - New 2021 measures. EOCCO/Moda will share these at our next meeting. Val will provide current info and will review with the group in September and bi-monthly thereafter.

Consumer Engagement -

Andrea Fletcher - need to recruit at least 7 members with a focus on engagement and retainment. If you would like to join the workgroup, please contact Andrea.

**6. Partner Updates, Provider and Community Announcements**

- Annie Kimbrel, CAPECO – Funds available to assist people. Access services through website: [www.capeco-works.org](http://www.capeco-works.org)

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- Catherine Wisniewski, Good Shepherd Health Care System -
  - Last Saturday had a great family event. It was 4 hours long and outside which made conditions very hot, however, they still had a great turnout. It was great to see partners in person again.
  - Foundation grants are currently available.
  - There is transportation available for low-income individuals.
  - They are working with a denture office to provide new, partials, and denture repair to low-income families. If you'd like more information, please reach out to ConneXions.
- Don Russell, County Commissioner -
  - When are we planning on meeting in person? It is much easier to stay engaged throughout the meeting when attending in person. Andrea states September will be the next meeting and it will be held in person. There may be a virtual option.
  - It is disheartening to see the low rate of people receiving vaccinations in Morrow County.
  - County is currently working on a building in Irrigon. They are planning on being in by September. It is possible that they will be able to host the November meeting.
- Ian Murray, M.C. Health Department -
  - The Health Department is giving COVID vaccinations on a walk-in basis. Mondays/Tuesdays in Boardman, Wednesdays in Heppner.
  - There are three variants of COVID at this time and there is a lag time in reporting so numbers aren't in real time: Alpha- 50% of Oregon has had this variant; Gamma- 20% of Oregon has had this variant; Delta- Is 50% more transmissible than other two and numbers are expected to increase.
  - CARE Coordinators are assisting with information on Adolescent Well Care appointments and COVID and other immunizations. CARE Team received funds from the Juvenile Department.
  - Question for Ian- Did the state incentives for getting vaccinated increase the number of people receiving the vaccines? Ian believes this has been the most effective so far. If nothing else, it made the county's data more accurate as people came in to report where they had received their vaccines so that they were sure to be placed into the drawing.
- Heidi Zeigler, DHS - Offices are now open with soft opening right now. Zero co-pay daycare will end on September 30.
- Karma Ezell, Irrigon Medical Clinic -
  - New Director of Irrigon Medical Clinic. She has worked 10 years with the Health District. She is looking to improve care for the community.
  - They are launching an information campaign for Wellcare visits.
  - They are gearing up for the Watermelon Festival where they are providing marketing and promotion materials.
  - Irrigon has the lowest number of people vaccinated.
  - They are recruiting a full-time physician or D.O. in Irrigon, as well as in Boardman, and recruiting for an EMT for the ambulance.
  - Since May, they've had a full-time x-ray and ultrasound technician. Which has been very helpful.

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- Kris Jones, Morrow County Health District -
  - They have a position open- IT Director. IMC is doing well. The clinic director is doing a wonderful job!
  - They have a lot of new providers and they are seeing people coming in for preventive services, so we should see an increase in metric numbers.
  - They will be at the Watermelon Festival and County Fair. They will hold FAQ for members with providers about vaccines. Can EOCCO/GOBHI help to promote what they are doing?
  - For children age 3-13 there is a \$20 Amazon card incentive from EOCCO for getting their well care exam. Family will get the postcard at the time of visit so that staff can assist if needed. These types of incentives work in the clinic setting.
- Katherine Chaney, Domestic Violence Services -
  - They have been busy and have had many challenges due to the heat.
  - They are currently negotiating office space in Boardman.
  - They have funds that can assist households with back rent.
- Linda Skendzel, Veteran's Services -
  - Welcome to Karma!
  - Veterans are happy about not having to come into the office. The majority like virtual appointments/assistance.
  - The VA is not planning to reopen soon. They are all currently working remotely, however, when needed, Linda meets with veterans in person.
  - Thank you to CAPECO for partnering with them.
- Maddison Virgil, CAPECO - New Case Manager.
- Sarah Brown, Community Counseling Solutions -
  - FEMA grant ending August 1...has been extended. The problem is that all employees have sought work elsewhere, so they are very understaffed in Morrow County right now.
  - Please let her know of local events so that she can attend and assist people getting connected to area resources.
  - Thanks for working together. This is the last time Sarah will attend this meeting.
- Dirk Dirksen, Morrow County School District -
  - Thank you, Troy, for tech support!
  - Summer activities have started in Boardman and Heppner. Irrigon children are being bussed to Boardman for activities.
  - Please share updates with the District Office and Dirk as the offices are closed in the month of July.
- Jessica Reker, Good Shepherd Community Health System -
  - Have held summer vaccine clinics.
  - Had 159 participants at the Family Safety event.

### 7. Next Meeting: September 2, 2021

There will not be an August meeting

### 8. Adjourn 9:58 am

Submitted by Marci McMurphy