

Cass County Health Department

BOARD OF HEALTH

October 27th, 2021

The Cass County Board of Health met at the Virginia office of the Cass County Health Department on October 27th, 2021. President Amy Parlier called the meeting to order at 12:23 p.m.

Board of Health members present were Amy Parlier, Mekelle Neathery, Kim Hance, Cathy Gibson, Joyce Brannan, Jennifer Allen and Zach Flinn.

Health Department employees present were Teresa Armstrong, Dirk Debergh, Tiffany Angelo, Shelly Taylor, Nicole Roegge and Krystal Myers. Robyn McKinley was present to take minutes of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Cathy Gibson and seconded by Jennifer Allen to approve the minutes of the September meeting as presented. The motion carried with all in favor.

Approval of Financial Report

Financial Report

Dirk Debergh, Financial Director, reported that September was a normal month.

Dirk reported that all State grants have been recognized so far other than the Well Woman Grant but Dirk anticipates we will hear something on that grant soon. Dirk stated the covid tracing grant has been extended past December. This grant is based off of population of each county.

Dirk reported that he and Teresa will be working on a revised budget for this year due to the additional grants that have been received. Dirk anticipates to have this budget ready by next month's board meeting.

Teresa reported that on the Financial Scorecard, all visits are above goal.

Dirk went over the monthly graphs with the group.

Administrator's Report

Teresa Armstrong, Administrator, reported that to date (10/21/21), Cass County has 2,658 positive cases of Covid-19, with 43 fatalities and 2,595 individuals recovered and 1 covid positive patient hospitalized. Teresa also noted that Cass County now has 21,914.88 cases per 100,000 people, which remains the highest county per capita average in the State of Illinois. Cass County has finally started to see our weekly cases start to decrease, with only 20 cases last week. Our test positivity 7-day rolling average is currently 3.1%, with the region at 3.0%. Teresa noted that our local hospitals are now finally starting to see an improvement, with some ICU and inpatient beds generally available daily.

Teresa reported that as of October 21, 2021 our State of Illinois numbers stand at 1,677,939 cases and 25,563 confirmed deaths and 2,819 probable deaths.

Teresa reported that we currently have two outbreaks open: Washington Place and Arnold Farms. A-C Central currently has 1 student/staff out on isolation or quarantine; Virginia School has 2 and Beardstown School has 18.

Teresa reported that CCHD has administered over 12,800 doses of Covid-19 vaccine, to Cass County residents and others employed in the county and surrounding area. Teresa noted that we now have over 51.9% of our population fully vaccinated. Teresa stated that the State of Illinois is at 56.43% of the population fully

vaccinated. The Cass County 65 and older population is 81.86% fully vaccinated, those 18 and older are 63.54% fully vaccinated, and those 12 and older are 45.94% fully vaccinated.

Teresa provided a break down by zip code of those fully vaccinated: 62627 (Chandlerville) 37.03%; 62611 (Arenzville) 42.42%; 62612 (Ashland) 47.36%; 62618 (Beardstown) 51.47% and 62691 (Virginia) 56.42%.

Teresa noted that based on this data, we need to do more outreach and messaging to Arenzville, Chandlerville and Ashland. Teresa noted that we will be at Isaac's Coffee Shop in Arenzville next week and Hollywood's in Chandlerville as well. We continue to work on pop-up clinics for these communities as well.

Teresa reported we continue to work closely with all of our school districts. We are currently assisting Virginia School district with testing of their unvaccinated staff. This will be on a short-term basis until they get their own testing program set up through SHIELD. Beardstown and A-C Central Schools are now doing their own weekly testing of staff, and are also doing "test to stay" with students exposed to Covid through a non-household member. Teresa noted that the EMS calls are now back to bi-weekly.

Teresa reported she anticipates approval of Pfizer vaccine for 5-11 year olds by November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Teresa noted we have placed an order for 300 doses which will ship as soon as final approval is received. Teresa reported we have received final approval for Moderna and Johnson & Johnson boosters as well. The Moderna booster is recommended for those 65 and older and those at high-risk of Covid due to heightened job risk or institutional exposure. The Johnson & Johnson booster is recommended for everyone who received a previous single dose of J & J.

Teresa reported in other news we have a signed contract with Myers for their building in Beardstown. The board gave their approval to move forward with a signed contract. Teresa has met with a Project Manager who has inspected the building and will be getting back to her with a proposed budget for the project. Teresa updated the board on potential costs above grant funding to complete the project and all were in favor of moving forward.

Teresa reported we have started giving flu vaccines and have been in each community twice. To date we have given over 480 flu shots.

Teresa reported she has been working on our competitive Service Area Competition application for our HRSA grant.

Teresa reported she received word from A-C School district that the school board was not in favor of the health department coming on site to provide services. Jennifer Allen had stated she had heard about this situation and was very disappointed in this decision. Jennifer also stated that some of the staff was going to go to the board as they were very upset in this decision. Teresa has written a letter to the school board which will be discussed at the next school board meeting. Teresa forwarded this letter to the board of health members. Teresa noted that in her letter she stated we have been going on site for decades to do flu shots for staff and we also had staff on site to provide Covid vaccines as the school requested.

See handout.

### Clinic Report

Tiffany Angelo, Clinic Director, reported that we are currently looking for a full time Medical Assistant or LPN to take Vanessa's place in the Beardstown office. Maryia continues to work part time as she continues to take nursing classes and will continue to adjust her hours based on her school schedule.

Tiffany reported we have started the Behavioral Health Services with JBS once again and hopeful it will take off this time. Nora has been to the plant to meet with supervisors and the meeting went very well. Currently

there are 38 people signed up and ready to start with counseling once we get going in November. Teegan continues to be busy in the schools providing counseling services. Teegan's time was adjusted this month so she is spending half a day instead of a full day in Chandlerville School and adding an additional half a day in Virginia School due to their increased need.

Tiffany reported that testing is still being offered 5 days a week in Virginia. And the Beardstown office. We are currently rotating back and forth between locations and adjusting for weather as needed. To date we have completed 5,665 tests in Beardstown with 1,260 positives and 3,287 tests in Virginia with 593 positives.

Tiffany reported that our Nextgen hosting migration went very well. There are still a few items that are not working but we continue to meet weekly to discuss the progress on these items. Nextgen Population Health in Nextgen has recently gone live. Angie has worked through all the data validation and everything is looking great.

Tiffany reported that the outreach team was very busy with events in the month of September. During the month our team attended 6 different food pantries and/or food pop-up distributions as well as helped with 6 pop-up clinics in our communities. September was also a busy month with resource requests, as we completed over 70 resource requests and 6 community referrals.

Tiffany reported for the month of September we reported on 11 quality measures. Of those 11 measures we exceeded our goal or increased from last reporting period on 6 measures. The 5 measures that were not met were Screening for Depression and Follow-Up Plan; Depression Remission at 12 months; Adult Tobacco Use Assessment and Intervention; Ischemic Vascular Disease and Diabetes. Alerts will continue to be placed on the patients charts and staff talked to about the importance of getting these measures completed.

Behavioral Health reported on 2 measures: Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and other drug dependence treatment at 14 days and 30 days. Both measures were 67% compliance.

Dental reported on 2 measures: Sealant Retention and Sealant to First Molars. Dental sealant retention was 100% compliance and sealants to first molars was 91% compliance. Notes were added to patient's charts.

See handout.

### Home Services

Shelly Taylor, Home Services Director, reported that our Medicare home health unduplicated census count at the end of September was 133 compared to last year at 114. Our total unduplicated census for all payer sources at the end of September was 294 compared to last year at 264.

Shelly reported that in July we had 36 admissions, 32 in August and 31 in September. Of those 99 admissions in the last 3 months, 39 were Medicare, 7 were Medicaid, 48 were private insurance and 1 was private pay.

Shelly reported that we had 9 hospice referrals in July with 9 admissions, 17 referrals in August with 15 admissions and 10 referrals in September with 9 admissions. The 3 non-admissions: 1 patient died before admission and the other 2 patients refused. Shelly noted the 2 that refused were the same person and she did get admitted to hospice in October.

Shelly reported we continue to look for an Occupational Therapist and Speech Therapist.

See handout.

### Quality Assurance Report

Krystal Myers, Quality Assurance Nurse, went over survey results for medical, behavioral health and dental as well as the quarterly home health and hospice reports.

Krystal reported there will be a new measure effective October 2021 for hospice: Hospice Visits Last Days of Life. This measure indicates the hospice provider's proportion who have received in person visits from a registered nurse or medical social worker on at least two out of the three days of the end of patient's life.

See handout.

### Human Resources Report

Nicole Roegge, Human Resource Specialist, reported that we are still looking for PRN occupational and speech therapists for the Home Services program. This can be a difficult position to fill since it is PRN and patients vary in amount and location. Other open positions currently are full time dentist and clinic LPN or CMA.

Nicole reported she currently has one FMLA case. There were two cases closed during the reporting period. Nicole noted she has two additional cases pending for late this year/early next year.

Nicole reported we announced our third "Employee of the Quarter" in June, Kim Shadden.

See handout.

### New Business

A motion was made by Jennifer Allen and seconded by Cathy Gibson to approve the changes to the CCHD By-Laws. The motion carried with all in favor.

A motion was made by Zach Flinn and seconded by Jennifer Allen to approve the Service Area Competition Application. The motion carried with all in favor.

A motion was made by Jennifer Allen and seconded by Cathy Gibson to approve Clinic Hours of Operation. The motion carried with all in favor.

A motion was made by Zach Flinn and seconded by Jennifer Allen to approve the Health Insurance Renewal Rates. The motion carried with all in favor.

### Adjournment

A motion was made by Cathy Gibson and seconded by Mekelle Neathery to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all in favor. President Amy Parlier adjourned the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robyn McKinley, Admin. Asst.

