



DELAWARE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

99 MAIN STREET, DELHI, NEW YORK 13753

Amanda Walsh, MPH Public Health Director

607-832-5200 Fax 607-832-6021

Early Intervention & Preschool Fax: 607-832-6022

Health Services Advisory Board Minutes

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| Meeting Date/Time: | March 19, 2020 10:10am - Via Zoom | |
| Attendees/Title: | | |
| Eugene Pigford, Town of Sidney Supervisor | Arthur Merrill, Town of Colchester Supervisor | |
| Wayne Marshfield, Town of Hamden Supervisor | Joseph Cetta, Town of Walton Supervisor | |
| Dr. Rohan Jayasena, Medical Director | Terry Whitney, Office of the Aging | |
| Jeanette Hinkley, Community Member | Amanda Walsh, Public Health Director | |
| Christina Gardner, Accounting Supervisor | | |

| Topic: | Discussion: | Action: |
|------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Virtual Meeting Capabilities | Public Health has purchased Zoom to conduct virtual meetings. IT has said that webex capability was coming for county departments but we still do not have access to this technology to date. | |
| COVID 19 | <p>Gene Pigford shared that Katie Hudson, Association of Towns, says there is no need for each town to declare an emergency as the NYS emergency order covers all towns statewide.</p> <p>Delaware County remains at one positive result. With more testing we anticipate to receive more positives. Currently there is a back log of test results. More labs are being authorized to perform COVID19 tests. This will help with the back log of tests. There will no longer be any prior approval needed for tests so we will not know who is being tested until we have their results.</p> <p>Mandy explained the difference of test kits needed by the labs and swabs needed by the Hospitals. Each of our hospitals has their own process on how to disseminate the swabs they have received to their satellite hospitals and offices.</p> | |



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Mandy explained what Quarantine and Isolation are and the process to be released. New guidelines are being issued daily. Just trying to stay up to date with the newest guidance is time consuming. We are awaiting guidance on the criteria to release persons in quarantine.

Many 2nd home owners are here and our B&B's are full. Many of these people will need to utilize the local emergency departments if sick as they do not have providers in this area. We are seeing an increase in the need for Mental Health and many services.

The Governor's emergency order is for 10 days, our County order and goes through April 13, 2020. The CDC guidance says to expect 6-8 weeks and this will continue in waves.

The order to stay and home and social distance will not completely stop the spread of the virus but is designed to slow the progression of the disease.

Wayne Marshfield inquired if our hospitals have plans to take on and isolate COVID19 patients from other areas. Mandy explained that our hospitals have isolation plans but our local hospitals are critical access hospitals and have set functions they can perform, any care or procedures beyond their capabilities will be transferred to larger hospitals. The biggest concern is that our hospitals will become overwhelmed. We have not seen the peak of this disease yet.

In response to many questions from the committee Dr. Jayasena explained that there are a lot of unknowns with this new virus/disease. It is too early to say if people can get it twice or if as with a lot of viral illnesses you will gain immunity once you've had it once. We have no guidelines of medications that can be used for this illness. Many countries do not have as stringent rules regarding medication studies as we do. Dr. Jayasena explained that just like a tiger is in the same family as your house cat it is a very dangerous cat this virus is in the same family as many known viruses but it is a very dangerous virus.



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| <p>Staffing</p> | <p>Our Continuity of Operations Plan has been instituted. We will be using more staff than some departments during this decreased staffing period but are working hard to abide by the 50% staffing order and have instituted weekend shifts.</p> <p>Testing results are backlogged. Once we receive the results from many of the back logged tests we can finalize how many staff we will need to have working. We are anticipating receiving many of these results Friday.</p> <p>Our staff are fielding many calls from businesses who are unsure what to do, the worried well, people who believe they are a contact of a contact, symptomatic people who want to get tested, asymptomatic people frustrated they cannot get tested, providers and hospitals who need guidance as well as monitoring calls to our people in isolation and quarantine.</p> <p>Education needs to continue to be provided as the media and hype around this virus is making people very anxious. Some people are self-quarantining without being told to by the health department or medical provider.</p> | |
| <p>Funding</p> | <p>Our current Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant has approved additional funding of \$7,700. We have received notice of a new COVID-19 grant in the amount of \$67,490. The committee approved a resolution to accept this grant funding. Resolution to be written.</p> <p>To receive this funding, we have new more extensive tracking of staff time/activities.</p> | |
| <p>Preschool/ Early Intervention</p> | <p>Preschool and Early Intervention therapy services have been determined as non-essential services at this time.</p> <p>We have been working with James McGuiness and Associates, who provides our Preschool software and Medicaid Service Bureau services to begin using the CPSE Portal service. CPSE Portal is a web-based system which allows service providers to create, sign, maintain their session notes electronically. This system has multiple compliance and monitoring checks and is verified Medicaid compliant. This service would cost the county an additional \$187 each month. The committee approved the use of CPSE Portal.</p> | |



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| Sharing | Terry Whitney shared that transportation is an issue. Symptomatic people need to get to testing sites but they cannot put a suspected COVID-19 case in a vehicle with their volunteer drivers. Terry has been working with Steve Hood and NYS on ideas to safely transport symptomatic people. | |
| Meeting Adjourned at: 11:05am | | |

Respectfully Submitted By,

Amanda C. Walsh, MPH
Public Health Director