

**Monroe County Board of Health (MCDPH) Meeting Minutes – October 6, 2025**

**111 Westfall Road, Room 964, 3:30-5pm**

**Minutes**

<b>BOH in Attendance</b>		<b>DPH Attendance</b>
Theresa Green	Rashid Muhammad	Dr. Vélez de Brown -Zoom
Emma Forbes-Jones	Sarah Fletcher	Meaghan McDermott
Mike Weston	Erin Graupman	Tarilynn Forney
Celia McIntosh-zoom	Miguel Melendez, Jr	
Linda Clark	Albert Blankley	Guests: Kathy Carelock – Nursing Services Division, Kate Lyness- Maternal Child Health Division

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Theresa Green at 3:36 p.m.

**Introductions and General Announcements**

Theresa welcomed Kathy Carelock, BSN - Manager of Public Health Nursing Services and Kate Lyness, manager of maternal and child health services to the Board of Health (BOH) members and the (DPH) Staff and guests attending in person and by Zoom.

**Review and Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting was made and seconded. All voted to approve the September minutes.

**Commissioner’s Report – Dr. Marielena Vélez de Brown**

- Dr. Vélez de Brown reported on the successful renewal of **75** Preschool Special Education contracts along with the addition of five new providers. Thanks were given to Roxana Inscho and Frank Golisano.
- The Workplace Wellness initiative of bringing in therapy dogs for employee breaks has had very positive and productive feedback. Shout out to Meaghan McDermott and NYS Public Health Corp Fellow Lisa Chidsey for arranging.
- Presentations given this past month by Dr. Vélez de Brown include: the Public Health Grand Rounds Lecture Series through URMC ([PHGR Presentation](#)): Rochester Latino Business Association, WDKX radio interview with Dr. April Aycock where the Office of Mental Health was able to share about the free OMH resource App and 988 national suicide prevention hotlines. New York State Association of County Health Officials Public Health Community Engagement Summit, held in Rochester recently. NYSACHO colleagues came and toured the health department, Sexual Health Clinic and WIC sites.
- Mari met with the new RCSD Superintendent, Eric Jay Rosser, during the Latinx Roundtable meeting. Collaboration is expected between Dr. April Aycock (OMH) and Addiction Services (AS) to provide in-school services.

- Dr. Vélez de Brown discussed the City of Rochester-County of Monroe, HeartSafe Communities Initiative, that aims to train at least 15% of the county population in hands-only CPR, while also addressing racial disparities in CPR training. Discussions were had about disparities and the importance of using diverse mannequins for training. Mari to inquire about funding or potential discounts for public facing AED's. October 16<sup>th</sup> is World Restart a Heart Day.
- The FDA removed their Emergency Use Authorization for vaccines for those younger than 65 years of age. COVID Vaccines for Children (VFC) or Vaccines for Adults (VFA) the program that provides the under/un-insured to receive vaccinations has not allowed orders to be placed. Local CVSs appear to have vaccines for adults.

#### **Nursing Services- Kathy Carelock, BSN**

- The Department of Public Health Nursing Services Division has made changes to update the Administration Policies for Article 28 Clinics (Sexual Health Clinic, TB Clinic and Immunization Clinic). Kathy went over each change to update the current policies.
- Albert Blankley made a motion to accept the changes which was seconded by Sarah Fletcher. All in favor.

#### **President's Report –by Theresa Green**

- Dr. Green presented the 2025-2027 Monroe County Community Health Improvement Plan 2025-2027 priority areas. The plan is complete and can be found on the Monroe County hospitals and public health department websites.
  - The three Focus areas in the Community Health Improvement Plan are: Decreasing Poverty, Decrease Stress and Anxiety, and Decrease Maternal Mortality and reducing differences in outcomes
  - To view the complete plan check here: [Monroe County, NY - Public Health Statistics & Reports](#)
- **BOH Nominations Committee Voting Results**
  - At- large Member recommendation to the county leg – Dina Johnson MCDPH has begun the process of Legislative Approval of new “At-Large” BOH member. Beth Kiss will not be extending her appointment.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Miguel Melendez, the motion was seconded by Theresa Green, approved by all. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025