



Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations Meeting minutes 3/21/23

Attendees

Alicia Mezu, Alyson Bennett, Debbie Busch, Dianna Abney -MDH-, Elease Booker -MDH-, Jim Campbell, Jim Campbell's Presentation, Liz Elliott, Monique Soileau-Burke, Prof Gordon, Rebecca Carter, Sara V, Yen Dang

Transcript

Monique Soileau-Burke: All right. Okay, at least well, I think we should go ahead and get started if that's okay with everyone. I want to thank everyone for coming tonight to the statewide Immunization Commission and Advisory Commission. We have a pretty full agenda. I want to go ahead and get started as soon as we can. The first thing I wanted to do, we, I think, at least we've already taken care of approving. The minutes. Correct? Because we did that online from after our last meeting so that they could be uploaded to the site more efficiently. Is that correct?

Elease Booker -MDH-: We discussed it but we have not approved December's minutes.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Okay, so we should go ahead and start with the approval of the minutes. I think that at least did send those out a while ago, can I get a motion to approve the minutes? Can I get a second?

Prof Gordon: So moved.

Dianna Abney -MDH-: Second.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Thank you all those in favor.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Please say, I

Sara V: I,

Alicia Mezu: I,

Monique Soileau-Burke: Opposed. Any abstentions? Okay, great. Well, it looks like the minutes were approved. The second thing that I wanted to do is just a little bit of follow-up for old business is that we had the letter that we'd been working on to send to Governor Moore and we were able to get that letter sent at least. Would you mind just quickly giving everybody an update of what the status is? I know you've been working on that and doing a lot of contacts on that.

Elease Booker -MDH-: The letter was delivered to Secretary Herrera- Scott's office early last week and they are in the process of reaching out to the commission chair to set up the meeting. They did ask for a little bit of background on the commission, which we provided for them and I got an email today. Reminding us that we should be on the lookout for an email, in reference to the meeting.

Monique Soileau-Burke: That's great. I'm really excited about that. I think that with the immunization rates that we're seeing going down and and some other concerns that we have, I think it'll be great to to get an in-person a little face-to-face time to talk with that.

Monique Soileau-Burke: All right. Well, if anyone thinks of anything else that wasn't addressed in the letter, please let me know. I will let you all know when we have the meeting and we're able to do that in person conversation. I'll be able to send out a brief summary to let you guys know what happened. We're very, very privileged tonight to have one of my favorite people here and one of the smartest men, I know Dr. Jim Campbell who is a professor of pediatrics at the University of Maryland. He also is now the new co-chair of the Pediatric Infectious Disease Committee for the American Academy Pediatrics, which puts out the Red Book. I just want to invited him tonight give us an update on what the new vaccines are going to be available, what their status is some that are just coming to the market, some that are in development so that we have a better idea about what's coming down the pipe.

Jim Campbell: He? Now, that's fine. Thanks Monique So I just put together a number of slides on like vaccines that had recently been approved recommended for children. And then, what is coming? Some of the things that are coming down, immediate Pike, just to kind of open up the discussion, but if there's any questions about anything else beyond this, we can get into that.

-----Jim Campbell's Presentation-----

Monique Soileau-Burke: All right, thanks so much. If anyone else have any other points to bring up for conversation or thoughts for what we just heard about all the vaccines that are on the horizon.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Any areas that are interesting to us that we feel like we should discuss or weigh in on. I do think that the pneumococcal vaccine coming out is going to be something that unlike just things that are going to be pertaining to pediatrics, which is what we spend a lot of time focusing on. This is really an adult medicine issue too. As well as the RSV vaccine

Monique Soileau-Burke: Anybody.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Okay, well, if there are questions or any comments that you had then let me know and we will address this. Is everybody, okay with me including the pneumococcal and the RSV discussion when I talked to Secretary, Herrera Scott? In addition to what we discussed on the letter

Monique Soileau-Burke: Thanks Rebecca. Thanks. Oh look, this is great. I love the thumbs that are coming across the that's awesome.

Alicia Mezu: And this is Alicia. Yes.

Monique Soileau-Burke: So really quickly, I felt that this was important and our last meeting we had talked about collaborating with other commissions and maybe kind of thinking about putting some some thoughts together with that and Elease. I was wondering if you could bring up a quick list of the commissions that we had that you had on the website and I just like us all to take two minutes to look over this right now and see if there are any commissions that you would like me to reach out to.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Yes, there are a lot of other commissions. I did notice that as you get through the alphabet, there are significantly less as you get past the first few letters.

Elease Booker -MDH-: Right.

Monique Soileau-Burke: If we're going reach out, I would like to, to have everybody's input about where we want to to reach out where we want to focus.

Liz Elliott: I I just had a comment, I was looking at the ends, the Maryland, State School Health Commission, maybe it's under S's that could be helpful. That is something that I've participated on at this state level. And the health centers, as well. Immunizations in schools have a lot of overlap.

Alicia Mezu: I was just going to say you may also want to include the Maryland Association of School, Health Nurses. It's a state organization and I was also going to say the State School Health Council as well.

Liz Elliott: Right, so I know I'm on this committee is that representing massen, but it's not a State commission. So I don't know if it would be on this list.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Rebecca are you still there? Rebecca is that the same group we just collaborated or we've been collaborating with AAP. We just have been doing a series with the Maryland School health nurses. So that's definitely something that we've been doing.

Monique Soileau-Burke: But that's a separate.

Liz Elliott: I know the other thing I did because I'm a little bit of a data geek according to census data in the state of Maryland, approximately, 15% of young adults ages, 19 to 25 are uninsured and that It. Um, yeah. I looked at the census data and I know that's one of the things that the AAP and Madison have been looking at is percentage of young adults, without insurance, and they're in school and they're required to have vaccinations. And there's no programs or anyone available to pay for those vaccines and that's I know this commission has talked about that before but it's particularly, young adults. I should say.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Yes, that that is a huge problem and that is something I know Rebecca and I have talked about that extensively as well. And I think that that's one of the issues that we can definitely bring up. I'm going put that on my list, as well as more of my speaking points, if that's okay with you. But there is there's a huge gap for young at for adolescents and young adults. And I know I'm going pick on Dianna again because she's the health officer here. But Dianna, when you vaccinate young adults, and at older adolescents, the health department is really the only place they can go.

Dianna Abney -MDH-: Um, unless they can go to a free clinic probably. So, Or...unless there are some pediatricians who've been there, pediatrician a long time and don't mind losing the cost of one or two vaccines out of their private stock.

Monique Soileau-Burke: That, that's what you do and that's what I do. I know.

Dianna Abney -MDH-: That's what we do. but everybody doesn't do that the end and you can't blame them

Monique Soileau-Burke: How much, like how often do you feel like you see young adults and adolescents, like how often is it that age group - population, kind of seeking out the health department for vaccination?

01:05:00

Dianna Abney -MDH-: not as much as the need of them to be vaccinated because they don't think about it. They're not, you know, most people are like I have to have a vaccination because I have to be in school. So unless they're college requires it.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Right.

Dianna Abney -MDH-: A lot of people, down this way, go to community college or go to go straight into a trade. Which is not to say everybody does but a lot of people get jobs that don't require them to have any vaccinations other than the ones that they had to go to school. I mean like is as secondary school second, you know? So, not that many. um,

Monique Soileau-Burke: Right, so it seems like we talk about adult vaccination, it seems like that's really a point there because after you get out of school, there's no one else that's requiring you to get vaccinated. There's really no check on that. Except maybe again when they get pregnant. if it's a female or, you know, if a female who, or someone who identifies and is able to have children.

Monique Soileau-Burke: All right, I'm having I'm coming up with more questions that I have answers to I've noticed and Okay.

Monique Soileau-Burke: I hope was this helpful for everybody tonight. Was this? I always find that listening to Jim is really helpful and kind of getting our bearings straight. So I will come up with a few more talking points and Please. I'm so excited that you said they're going to be reaching out soon to chat. I think we have a lot of information that we would like them to think about. And I think a lot of people from the policy level are not aware of this gap that we have after kids age out of VFC.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Well, any other questions comments thoughts before? I know, I don't think we have any public company public on the phone for comment, but certainly Please. I'll let you through the time for that.

Dianna Abney -MDH-: So it says, yes most vaccines are covered for Medicaid but I'm not getting down to see what they mean by most vaccines yet.

Rebecca Carter: Yeah, I was going say I feel like that that's always the go-to is there's VFC but the reality is there's always a subset that can't access vaccines through VFC whether it's because of age or other reasons based on clinical space. So I feel like the state needs to address A different mechanism for access.

Monique Soileau-Burke: Yeah. Okay, well I think that's I think we have a lot of a lot of good conversation tonight and a lot of good plans that we can work on in the future. If you at least you we want to go ahead and make a time for public comment if there's anyone available on the phone or anyone that would like to make comment.

Please Booker -MDH-: Absolutely. At this time we're going open the line for public comment. If you are on the line from the public, please state, your name

Please Booker -MDH-: All right, and hearing no responses, we're going to close the public comment portion.

Monique Soileau-Burke: All right, thank you so much. I really appreciate everybody joining tonight. I know it went a little bit longer than we normally do but I feel like we got some some good information tonight. So I appreciate everyone's time. I will at least we'll be sending out copies of the minutes for us to go ahead and approve. So we can get those posted to the website and I will keep everyone updated about our upcoming meeting.

Meeting ended after 01:11:05 🙋