

# ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

July 12, 2021

## AGENDA

### CALL TO ORDER

- **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Approval of June 14, 2021 Minutes

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Opioid Epidemic & Midtown Kingston Healthy Disparity Improvement Update (Mr. Martello)

- b. Commissioner's Report (Dr. Smith)

- COVID Update

- Camp and Pool Season- Lifeguards

- Personnel Update

### MEETING CONCLUSION



Ulster County Board of Health  
July 12, 2021  
6:30 p.m.  
239 Golden Hill Lane, Kingston, NY

**PRESENT:** Naomi Stevens, Dr. Walter Woodley, Dr. Gina Carena (virtual), Kathleen Rogan, Stephanie Turco, Tasha DeFelice

**EXCUSED:** Peter Case Graham

**ABSENT:**

**UCDOH:** Dr. Carol Smith, Vincent Martello

1. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made Ms. Rogan to approve the June 2021 minutes, and the motion was second by Ms. Turco and the minutes were unanimously approved.
2. Mr. Martello gave an update on the Opioid Epidemic:
  - Still experiencing a significant epidemic, however, increases seem to be plateauing and the numbers are beginning to trend slightly downward. As the COVID pandemic continues to subside, we believe that our substantial interventions in care, treatment and recovery services will continue to drive the numbers down.
  - 2020 overdoses (through 07.07) = 256  
2020 fatalities (through 07.07) = 37 fatalities
  - 2021 overdoses (through 07.07) = 224 (a 12.5 decrease from 2020)  
2021 fatalities (through 07.07) = 30 fatalities (a 18.9% decrease from 2020)
  - Midtown Kingston Health Disparity/Community Improvement Update:
    - Midtown Kingston is "ground zero" for some of the worse health, behavioral health, and substance use disorder conditions in Ulster County. The following new, and expanded services, will provide a significant new level of care, treatment, and access for Midtown residents:
      - a. **Step One:** has opened new office in Aaron Court, adjacent to Kingston Plaza and the Midtown linear park (walkable trail that parallels Broadway in Midtown Kingston)  
Step One provides comprehensive, outpatient substance use disorder services, along with behavioral health counseling

- b. **Institute for Family Health:** is the largest federally qualified health clinic in NYS. They currently have locations in New Paltz, Ellenville and Kingston, however their current Kingston location on Route 32 is very difficult and dangerous for pedestrian residents to reach. Their new location on Pine Street will provide walkable access to comprehensive health, behavioral health, dental and family support, and substance use disorder services based on ability to pay.
  
- c. **Samadhi Community Recovery Outreach Center:** is moving into a new 11,000 square foot building at 609-11 Broadway, in Kingston (between the Mobil Station and UPAC). Samadhi received a generous donation from the NOVO Foundation for a complete renovation of the building and a 5-year lease. Ulster County's NACCHO grant is also supplying funding that will help provide 24/7 services. The new building will have treatment care rooms, a kitchen and cafe, spaces for classes and workshops, 8 beautiful apartments that can house up to 16 people on a transitional/respite housing basis and will be staffed 24/7 by Certified Recovery Peer Advocates, CASACs and other Samadhi staff. Samadhi will be converting their current facility on Clinton Avenue to an OASAS licensed treatment center. The new building will be open to the public starting 08.15.21
  
- d. **People's Place:** has just announced creation of a Community Empowerment and Wellness Center at their location on Broadway, so addition to their food pantry and cafe they will now be offering classes and educational services on nutrition, stress reduction, mindfulness meditation, finances and other topics related to overall individual and family health and wellness. We have been in touch with them to offer our various educational materials and presentation opportunities.

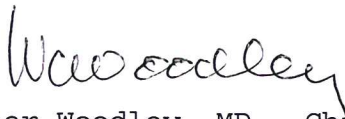
**3. Commissioner's Update:** Dr. Smith reported on the following:

- **Mental Health Beds in Ulster County:** The County Executive's Office is pushing hard for Westchester Medical to return mental health beds to HealthAlliance in Kingston. The Community Services Board is considering their options to support this. The Board of Health is considering the same. If the Community Services Board puts out a statement, the Board of Health will join their efforts. There is a Behavioral Health Task Force public meeting on August 12<sup>th</sup>.
- **COVID Overview:** Reviewed the most recent COVID numbers (see attached) The COVID vaccine is still considered to be 95% effective according to the Vaccination and Rates of cases graph. The Pfizer vaccine is still the only one approved for ages 12-17.
- **Staffing Update:** There are 3 Patient Services vacancies; 2 PH Nurses; currently looking for an RN. Desperately exhausting all avenues for a PH Engineer. The WIC Coordinator resigned. The State extended the WIC contract. Awaiting the release of the RFA. It will be the County's decision to apply or not apply again.
- **Lifeguards:** The hiring of Lifeguards have not been as difficult as in prior years since there was an increase to the rate of pay.
- **Camps:** So far there have been no confirmed cases reported. There was one scare which ended up being a Norovirus case.

6. **Adjournment:** Ms. Turco made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Rogan and unanimously approved.

7. **Next Meeting:** Scheduled for Monday, August 9, 2021 at 6:30PM, at the Department of Health 239 Golden Hill Lane.

Respectfully submitted by:



Walter Woodley, MD - Chair

TODAY			
<b>Official Counts For</b>		<b>7/13/2021</b>	
<b>Data As Of</b>		<b>7/12/2021</b>	
Total Tests	413121	+354	<i>Since Yesterday</i>
Confirmed Cases	15275	+6	<i>Since Yesterday</i>
Transferred	-70	0	<i>No Change Since Yesterday</i>
Recovered	14975	+8	<i>Since Yesterday</i>
Fatalities	265	0	<i>No Change Since Yesterday</i>
Active	35	-2	<i>Since Yesterday</i>

ResTown	Town	Active	Recovered	Deceased	Total Confirmed
City of Kingston	City of Kingston	7	2265	49	2321
Wawarsing	Town of Wawarsing	5	1012	10	1027
Hurley	Town of Hurley	0	320	7	327
Lloyd	Town of Lloyd	0	1342	60	1402
Ulster	Town of Ulster	2	1169	56	1227
Marlborough	Town of Marlborough	0	1012	7	1019
Saugerties	Town of Saugerties	3	1320	12	1335
Shawangunk	Town of Shawangunk	5	994	7	1006
New Paltz	Town of New Paltz	3	1070	17	1090
Esopus	Town of Esopus	2	549	4	555
Plattekill	Town of Plattekill	0	980	12	992
Rochester	Town of Rochester	2	363	5	370
Rosendale	Town of Rosendale	2	284	3	289
Marbletown	Town of Marbletown	0	252	1	253
Gardiner	Town of Gardiner	0	316	2	318
Unknown	Unknown	0	924	7	931
Woodstock	Town of Woodstock	4	232	1	237
Olive	Town of Olive	0	204	0	204
Shandaken	Town of Shandaken	0	116	0	116
Denning	Town of Denning	0	16	0	16
Hardenburg	Town of Hardenburg	0	2	0	2

Out of County	Out of County	0	209	5	214
Town of Kingston	Town of Kingston	0	24	0	24
<b>Total</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>14975</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>15275</b>