



RMC Health Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Time: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Type: Zoom Teleconference

Participants: Sara Seitz, Alexander Edward Chan, David Stewart, Ashley Clark, Kelly Scott, Diane-Lynne Hsu, Kara Kverno, John Hartline, Noelle Flaherty, Yolanda Hipski, Erin Dorrien, Jonathan Dayton, Mark Boucot, Kat Rodgers, Jinhee Kim, Charlotte Davis, Amanda Clevenger, Dakota Matthews, Megan D'Arcy, Ezekiel Nosiri.

Health Committee Chair Sara Seitz welcomed everyone to the meeting at 1:03pm. Committee members introduced themselves through a popcorn style introduction. Members reviewed the Committee's purpose and priorities and discussed as a group what the struggles are related to health care in Rural Maryland. The Committee felt that the group should focus on three areas of concern – telehealth, retention, and advocacy on behalf of the constituency. The Committee discussed the \$500 million available for expansion-roll out, build out and affordability - access to devices, technological literacy, connecting to resources and navigating them. Additional items discussed include the partnership with Maryland Rural Health Association, equity and inclusion in the rural environment, general access to care, provider access and strengthening community paramedicine. Facilitating and connecting between certain professions to help with health issues and integrating social determinants of health were also discussed. The Committee decided to create an electronic survey containing a list of the priorities discussed with members picking their top priorities so the Committee can focus on these.

Charlotte Davis shared information on the Maryland Telehealth Alliance stating that it was an entity originally funded through a MAERDAF grant program in 2018 that supported the startup and logo. Ms. Davis further stated that it has since gone defunct. The Committee discussed possible uses of it to promote telehealth and work on advocacy, billing programs and delivery concerns.

Yolanda Hipski provided a background and purpose of the upcoming Rural Health Care Transportation roundtables that will take place across the State with a kickoff event at MACo in Ocean City on 8/18/2022; Delmarva Community Services in Cambridge on 9/29/2022; Rocky Gap Resort in Flintstone on 10/25/2022; at the Maryland Department of Agriculture in Annapolis on 11/17/2022.

The Committee discussed the meeting schedule. Committee Chair Sara Seitz suggested beginning with bi-monthly meetings and then moving to quarterly meetings. Chair Seitz thanked everyone for joining the meeting and adjourned the meeting at 2:10pm.