

Community Provider Strategy Team (CPST)  
Meeting Notes  
January 13, 2022

**1. Welcome and Agenda Overview – Ramona Carroll**

**2. Meeting Structure and Logistics**

- a. Meeting every other Thursday from 1:30-2:30pm through the end of the year
- b. When requested, information sessions alternating Thursdays

**3. Information to Support your Work – Ramona Carroll**

- a. Public Health Update – Dr. Benjamin Schwartz
  - i. Massive increase due to Omicron variant, 7-day average is 2,520, 3x higher than peak of highest previous wave of Covid-19
  - ii. Hospitalizations/death rates remain low, due to Omicron being less likely to affect lungs and vaccinations
  - iii. Outbreaks and increased cases in congregate settings: Long Term Care, Schools, Homeless, and Hypothermia shelters
  - iv. Highest rates are in young adults, increased rates in 0-4 population which are too young to get vaccinated
  - v. Highest rates in African American and Hispanic populations
  - vi. Positivity rate for PCR test is 33%, the actual number is greater as people who have positive rapid tests aren't reporting to HD
  - vii. Testing
    1. Home tests are going to be covered by insurance later this week, but difficult to get
    2. PCR testing is available but is taking longer due to increased number of people needing them.
    3. Libraries offered 1,200 free testing kits and were out within a few minutes.
    4. The Health Department is in process of setting up contracted testing sites
  - viii. Vaccination rates
    1. Increasing, 80% of all Fairfax residents have received the first dose, 70% have completed the primary series.
    2. Highest vaccination rates in older adults 65 and older, Lowest vaccination rates in young adults 18-24 and 5–11 year olds,
    3. Significant disparities in African American and Hispanic populations
    4. Booster doses haven't been taken advantage of as much. Boosters are now approved for 12-15 year olds. Wait time reduced from 6 months to 5 months after receiving the initial series of mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna), and 2 months for the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. Data supports boosters: studies show shortly after the second dose of vaccine effectiveness is 80%, but at 10 weeks the effectiveness drops to the 30-40% range. The booster increases effectiveness back to 75-80% against Omicron.
  - ix. CDC recommendations on quarantine, 5+5:

1. If up to date with series and the booster, vigorously wear a mask for 10 days; do not need to quarantine
2. If not up to date on vaccines with primary series and booster, quarantine for 5 days if exposed, then wear mask vigorously for another 5 days when around other people.
3. If infected with COVID, isolation is 5 days regardless of vaccine status. If symptoms are improved/gone and fever free for 24 hours, you can leave isolation, but wear a mask for 5 days after.
4. Different guidance for healthcare workers/long term care
- x. In Fairfax, due to the greater burden of cases, not investigating all cases, referring those via text to who test positive to website with more information
- xi. Modeling suggests that the peak of Omicron may not come until early February
- xii. All mitigation methods are still in place.
- xiii. Questions/Answers:
  1. After receiving the first booster dose, should a second dose be administered, if so, how long in between? There are no recommendations in the US for a second booster dose.
  2. Hearing of cases of those testing positive for Covid, but not running a fever, does that make a difference in the guidance? No difference in the guidance; guidance is based off a positive test, not the symptoms.
  3. Will the definition of fully vaccinated include a booster shot soon? Using the term up-to date to include the booster.
  4. How effective are home tests in determining if someone is infected with the Omicron variant? The CDC reports that 98% of Covid infections are Omicron. If you're infected, chances are high you are infected with Omicron. No rapid or home test will detect the variant. Tests are performing well.
  5. Are any other variants on the horizon? Cannot determine at this time, given the propensity for the virus to mutate, could be a possibility.
  6. What is the present status of testing available? Difficult to find a Rapid Diagnostic test, manufacturers are working on it. President Biden has stated that the federal government will offer tests. VDH and Fairfax County do not have any to share. PCR testing is available.
  7. Common issue is that parents of children coming home from afterschool programs will call saying their child has the sniffles, sometimes they have access to rapid testing before the next day of the program and sometimes not. Is it necessary for the child to remain home until tested? If symptomatic they should stay home until a test is negative. FCPS has testing locations, may have capacity to get the test done.
- xiv. Health Department will be issuing more information on the emergency blog: [Blog | Fairfax County Emergency Information | Official Fairfax County Government Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery Website \(wpcomstaging.com\)](#)
- xv. Health Department will also be working on guidance and resources for healthcare workers that will be shared with this group in the near future.

#### **4. Partnership and Agency Updates - Stephanie Wood**

- a. CSP- Keisha Dotson
  - i. Transitioning funding sources and meeting need for emergency rental and utilities. More information will be coming out soon.
  - ii. Call volume has decreased, staff are available to meet needs
  - iii. Data will be published monthly in the same location: [hhs-update.pdf \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)
- b. DFS – Stephanie Wood
  - i. No updates
- c. Volunteer Fairfax- Kim Luckabaugh
  - i. <https://www.volunteerfairfax.org/signature-events/>
    - 1. MLK Weekend of service; launching today.
    - 2. Valentine’s challenge occurring Saturday 1/15
    - 3. Jam the Trolley-help with food insecurity
    - 4. Give together Program starting Monday 1/17
  - ii. No call for donations for KN-95 masks as of now
  - iii. If you have volunteer needs or donations, reach out to [kluckabaugh@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:kluckabaugh@volunteerfairfax.org)
- d. FCPS-Kathy Ryan
  - i. Email from FCPS regarding weather regarding students going virtual as snow days have been used up: <https://www.fcps.edu/blog/snow-forecast-how-prepare-inclement-weather-virtual-learning-day>
  - ii. Superintendent search: Town halls and survey: <https://www.fcps.edu/school-board/superintendent-search>
  - iii. Testing information: <https://www.fcps.edu/return-school/return-school-safety/return-school-covid-19-testing>
- e. New Inclusive Prosperity in Employment Subcommittee-Sarah White
  - i. Identifying challenges in residents engaging the region’s economy, such as transportation, child-care, language access, etc.
  - ii. Looking for opportunities to collaborate
  - iii. Looking for robust representation of CSPT members
  - iv. Contact [Sarah.White@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Sarah.White@fairfaxcounty.gov) if interested

**5. Partnership and Agency Updates – Judith Dittman**

- a. Food Access- Ramona Carroll
  - i. Emergency food strategy team still meeting monthly, working through Emergency Food Response Plan
  - ii. Received 58 FAP applications, processing and will provide updates soon
  - iii. Stuff the Bus will not happen this weekend, will move to March due to survey results
- b. Financial Assistance- Keisha Dotson
  - i. No formal financial assistance meetings
  - ii. EDRA Launch and the upcoming meeting with provider partners
  - iii. New effort in community to get individuals to fill applications completely in the Landlord portal or with CSP in requesting emergency rent assistance, working with 5 non-profit partners
- c. Health Access-Chrisp Perry

- i. Neighborhood Health will open a new clinic in Annandale 6715 Little River Turnpike.
  - 1. Was selected by the Health resources and services administration, to distribute Covid self-test kits, limited in quantity and to Neighborhood Health patients. Will consider mailing kits in future, but providing curbside pickup now.
  - 2. INOVA community health needs survey in multiple languages. Will be sending flyers, and paper surveys are available
- ii. Out of School Time/Youth Programming-Jonathan Melendez
  - 1. Meeting every other week
  - 2. Focusing on gang prevention, tying into protective factors with out of school time programming, how to engage and link people to out of school time programming as a gang prevention tool

**6. Wrap Up & Summary – Joe Fay**