

**SCIC Zoom Meeting Minutes – 12/10/2021**

**Attendees:** Marianne Adam (PSU–Schuylkill) [mta133@psu.edu](mailto:mta133@psu.edu)

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Jenny Wagner (Diakon Community Services) [wagnerje@diakon.org](mailto:wagnerje@diakon.org)

Joanne Walsh (Seqirus) joanne.walsh@seqirus.com

Alan Wirt (Medical Reserve Corps) [alandwirt@gmail.com](mailto:alandwirt@gmail.com)

**Welcome/Introductions**

* newcomers Heidi Schmidt and Alan Wirt were welcomed and introduced to other attendees

**Medical Reserve Corps (South Central Region Task Force) – Alan Wirt**

* Alan explained the mission of the task force and that there are currently 600 clinical and non-clinical volunteers; the SC Task Force covers 9 counties, with Schuylkill County being the latest addition
* Efforts in Schuylkill County involve mobile vaccinations for homebound residents

- each team has one vaccinator and one support person

- teams pick up vaccines at Morris Pharmacy in Mahanoy City

- other local partners include the Office of Senior Services and Dr. Graves in Pine Grove

* Alan made an appeal to our group that the task force is in need of volunteers in Schuylkill County; Stephanie will post this appeal on the PAIC (PA Immunization Coalition) Weekly Update

**Schuylkill County Emergency Management Agency (SCEMA)**

* The current impact of COVID-19 is that there are overtaxed hospitals in PA (UPMC, St. Luke’s); 80% of COVID patients are unvaccinated
* COVID vaccination statistics for Schuylkill County residents, shown by number and percentages vaccinated by age group, can be found at scema.org

- those in 60s, 70s and 80s are 75% vaccinated; those in 40s and 50s are 50% vaccinated; those in 20s

and 30s are lagging behind; vaccinations on the increase in children age 5-9 and 10-15

* Health networks and pharmacies continue to offer vaccines; the challenge is still hesitancy

**PAIC Funding Opportunity – Kayla**

* Funding Opportunity: Promoting COVID-19 Vaccine Education and Outreach for Pennsylvania’s

Under-Vaccinated Communities

- Schuylkill County Immunization Coalition (SCIC) applied for funding; awardee letters are being sent

out today

* PAIC to be fiscal manager (for Schuylkill, Chester and Berks County coalitions) and to oversee staff person at their office in Media who will be covering these counties; local grant staff also written into SCIC application
* PA AAP will be fronting $10,000 to each of the (3) coalitions to start progress and will invoice it back
* The hunt continues for an employee who will work PT for each coalition and will be managed by PA AAP; interviews have been scheduled; first 6 months of position will focus on extra campaign efforts

**PAIC Updates – Kayla**

* Statewide media campaign for Vaccine Promotion will take place starting in January
* A media refresh is being done on-line for PAIC website highlights
* There is a push out of materials for the holidays (i.e. tips & tricks)

**REACH Project – Mandy/Cindy**

* Mandy and Cindy were on a REACH Project Call
* Materials are out the door; focus is on Shenandoah and Mahanoy City areas; need a way and place to distribute materials (our coalition can be a co-brand rather than Schuylkill County VISION)
* Mandy will connect REACH Project staff with PAIC/PA AAP staff
* Reach Project is run by Penn State University, where the EXCITE program is run by the Penn State Cooperative Extension (Alyssa DeFazio is no longer involved with the EXCITE program)

**Member Recruitment**

* Mandy mentioned that we need health care systems represented on our coalition
* Cindy E. reached out to Gail Newton (works for PA Dept. of Health) and Dr. Bilinski; they said they are very busy but did not say no

**Other Topics of Interest**

* Jenny compiled a list of businesses that are providing COVID tests in Schuylkill County; she will send this with the meeting minutes; Mandy said you could also use the PA Department of Health website to find locations for tests

**Partner Sharing**

* Joanne from Seqirus shared the following:

- you can now pre-book flu doses for the 22-23 season; available to private practices; can order doses

in any amounts

- the Flu 360 website has downloadable, free, non-branded posters available that focus on the family

* Mandy from VISION shared that 8-12 person focus groups (age 18+) called *Community Conversations* are taking place at 5 sites (Pottsville Library, Schuylkill Haven Recreation Center, Downtown Shenandoah, Frackville Library and Pine Grove Lions); PAIC will include this information in their weekly update

- Schuylkill County VISION’s function is to mobilize community resources

**Next Meeting**

* February 11, 2022 at 8:30 am

**2022 Meeting Schedule:**

2/11/22 8/12/22

4/8/22 10/14/22

6/10/22 12/9/22