

**SC DHEC Lowcountry COVID-19 Regional Community Assessment Review and Equity
(CARE) Panel
April 15, 2021**

The Lowcountry COVID-19 Regional Community Assessment Review and Equity (CARE) Panel met on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 1:00pm.

In attendance (15):

- Taylor Lee (SCDHEC)
- Chris McLain, MD (Roper St. Francis Healthcare)
- Melanie Wooten (Hampton Regional Medical Center)
- Olivia Brinkley, PHARM D (Bamberg Family Practice)
- Chris Altman (Hampton EMS)
- Tara Tsehlana (Roper St. Francis Healthcare)
- Debbie Slaycyk (AccessHealth Lowcountry)
- Aretha Powers, DHA, MPH, MA (Fetter Health Care Network)
- Faith Polkey, MD, MPH (Beaufort Jasper Hampton Comprehensive Health Services)
- Letisha Scotland (Lowcountry Area Agency on Aging)
- Danielle Scheurer (MUSC)
- Dr. Natasha Davis (NAACP)
- Chief Michelle Mitchum (Pine Hill Indian Community Development Initiative)
- Elaine Morgan (Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce)
- Carmen Grice (DHEC)

Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taylor Lee, DHEC Lowcountry Region Health Director, called the meeting to an order at 1:00pm. He welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
1 st Order of Business – Membership to Elect a Chairperson and Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson’s duties are to preside over meetings and set up agendas for meetings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No one nominated or volunteered. Will follow up on this position. • Secretary will manage meeting agenda, take minutes, and post the minutes to the SCDHEC website. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No one nominated or volunteered. We will follow up on this position.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The meeting minutes will be posted on the SCDHEC website along with a recording of the meeting.• Taylor Lee’s role is to facilitate. He does not have voting privileges.
Introduction to CARE Panels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The meetings are open to the media and public. These are virtual meetings. Meeting minutes and a recording of the meeting will be posted on SCDHEC website.• In addition to choosing a chairperson and secretary, we will need spokesperson for the media. No one nominated or volunteered at this time. Will follow up on this position.• The goal is to identify gaps in vaccine distribution and work to fill these gaps. If anyone has any recommendations, please add them to the Recommendation Form and email it back to Taylor Lee.• Offer recommendations on how to engage underserved communities.• We want to engage community leaders in providing vaccines.• Recommendations coming out of panel will be focused on equitable access. We want to consider equitable access, underserved communities, availability of vaccines, finding providers who are best equipped to handle certain vaccines, and operating off of the most current and comprehensive data. Taylor sent out the static data maps to the panel. These maps provide vaccination rates on age and location. The goal of the region is to have the information on the SCDHEC website for viewing. This will allow everyone to have access to the most recent data.• If there is any specific data a panel member would like to see, please submit to Taylor Lee on the Recommendation Form.

- Data will include heat maps, county/zip code data. You can find this information in the COVID section on the SCDHEC website.
- DHEC is working to provide vaccines and we coordinate as many vaccine events/clinics as we are asked to coordinate. DHEC serves as the main point to coordinate vaccine events. However, no one is required to come to DHEC to set up an event. This is why you may see events close together or events back to back. We are able to view of a lot of events going on, so we can assist in coordinating when and where an event takes place. We can assist with determining if a facility will work well for a vaccine clinic.
- The underserved and rural areas are our main focus. The key to the helping the underserved areas is working with other providers.

Questions:

- Per Olivia Brinkley, is there a lag time from when data is received to when it goes into the maps? Per Taylor Lee, there is a lag time, at the very least, of 24-48 hours old. The map shows that 0 shots have been given in the 29812- zip code, and she is aware of some people who have received the vaccine in this location. Taylor Lee will have the data team look into this.
- Per Tara Tsehlana, is anyone selected to host a vaccine clinic if they have vaccines? Per Taylor Lee, someone who hosts a vaccine must have clinical capabilities. If a church would like to host a vaccine clinic, then we will need to coordinate to have clinical staff there. We can look at a church to see if it is a good location for size and location. Tara knows about people who have access to the vaccine, is there a central hub she needs to

	<p>connect them to? Per Taylor Lee, she can use his name, office phone number, and/or email as a connection point. DHEC has a designated COVID vaccine team, and they coordinate events every day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Per Chief Michelle Mitchum, if organizations and churches do not have nursing staff to provide the vaccine, are they brought in from another organization? Per Taylor Lee, if there is a church or facility we can use, we will need to see if we have the vaccine and staff available to have an event at the specific location. We work with organizations to see who may have nursing staff that can assist. DHEC has nurses who can assist as well. Pine Hill Health Network has everything except for someone to administer the vaccine. DHEC can assist with the coordination process. • Per Dr. Natasha Davis, what happens when a provider is not able to assist in a clinic that has been planned out? Per Taylor Lee, it is recommended to make sure we have all of the pieces of the puzzle put together before any dates are released or published. This means we need to have a suitable location, clinical staff who can assist, logistics, and an appropriate date/time. If something falls through when we have an event coordinated with one of our partners, we will have to look to our clinical partners to see if they can assist.
Outline Future Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting frequency will need to be based off of purpose and need. Any recommendations on when we should have the next meeting? • Danielle Scheurer suggested the panel meets bi-weekly. Taylor Lee's office will schedule the meeting 2 weeks from now.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will receive a Teams invite for the next meeting for 2 weeks from today at 1:00pm.
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting and volunteered to participate on the panel.• Call adjourned at 1:35pm.