

**Durham Recovery & Renewal
Task Force Virtual Meeting
via Zoom
July 31, 2020
8:00am - 10:00am**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am by Task Force Co-Chair Maticia Sims.

Task Force Members:

Katie Galbraith, Task Force Co-Chair, President, Duke Regional Hospital
Maticia Sims, Task Force Co-Chair, Vice President and Corporate Controller, Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC
Ibukun Akinboyo, M.D., Assistant Professor, Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Duke Health
Susan Amey, CEO, Discover Durham
Ed Boyd, Chief Strategy Office, iInvictus
Dr. Herbert Reynolds Davis, Senior Pastor, Nehemiah Church
Lois DeLoatch, Executive Vice President, Self-Help
Geoff Durham, Durham Chamber of Commerce
George Habel, Vice President, Capitol Broadcasting Company
Philip Harewood, CEO, Lincoln Community Healthcare Center
Rodney Jenkins, Health Director, Durham County Department of Public Health
Jodi Miller, Deputy County Manager, Durham County Government, representing the Emergency Operations Center
Pilar Rocha-Goldberg, President and CEO, El Centro Hispano
Anthony Nelson, Dean, North Carolina Central University School of Business
Nicole Thompson, CEO, Downtown Durham Inc.

Priority Updates

Mayor Schewel expressed appreciation for the continued support of the Task Force members; updated the Task Force about the upcoming schedule from September 2020 to May 2021; explained that City and County elected bodies were conducting meetings to discuss Budget Proposals; shared that the seven day average of COVID-19 cases fell below 60 and thanked the Task Force and the community for all the work done to keep the community safe because it is working; discussed threats: return of students to North Carolina Central University and Duke University; delay in start of on campus learning at Durham Public Schools; lifting of the moratoria on evictions and utility calls. He discussed opportunities to support "Back on the Bull" and spoke to the community health ambassadors program and their bi-lingual outreach to businesses, individuals and institutions, ensuring safety.

Durham County Commission Chair, Wendy Jacobs recognized the accomplishments of the Task Force and spoke to evident positive impacts in our communities; encouraged members to be very focused on how to address the barriers and create equitable access to job retraining for persons who are under-employed or in low-wage jobs in hospitality, tourism and

restaurants; noted that getting persons into good-paying jobs was essential to the recovery over the next few years; and suggested the Task Force consider adding other representation to Durham Tech, North Carolina Central University and Durham Public Schools.

Katie Galbraith, Task Force Co-Chair, provided the update on Vulnerable Populations Group and face-coverings for Go-Durham Bus riders.

Updates from Public Health

Co-Chair Galbraith provided the statistical update from local hospitals:

- 7-day average for number of COVID-19 patients/day is 64.
- Patients requiring critical care down to 22.
- Currently COVID-19 patients are down to 4% of the overall patients.

Task Force Member Rodney Jenkins presented the Dashboard metric updates for Durham County, State of North Carolina and nationally.

Co-Chair Maticia Sims inquired about the 11,000 contacts that had been made and if the figure was valid.

Task Force Member Rodney Jenkins responded that the figure was valid and indicated success in identification and encouraging contacts to respond to the tracers. Through the awareness campaign, residents are encouraged to answer Durham Health Department calls- this has impacted the number of phones being answered.

Task Force Member Dr. Ibukun Akinboyo commented that overall, Durham is doing well; the trend is flattening, potentially decreasing; this is a time to continue what we are doing and not a time to peel back efforts.

Updates from Additional Roundtables

Task Force Member Pilar Rocha-Goldberg updated efforts from Immigrant and Refugee Roundtable:

- Planning a Community Town Hall Meeting on August 25, 2020 7-8:30 pm in 3 different languages (English, Spanish and French and will concentrate on education and requests to enhance community support.

Task Force Member Herbert Reynolds provided the update from Places of Worship Roundtable

- Meetings moved to every other week.
- Some participants hosted a virtual gathering about places of worship returning and where the worship places were located, this was sponsored by DCIA. Plans are to have 1-2 more of these meetings to be sponsored by DCIA, Durham CANN and IMA to enable peaceable dialog.

Co-Chair Sims shared her appreciation for the Task Force members' commitment during the Durham Recovery and Renewal Task Force Phase 1 and as it transitions into Durham Recovery and Renewal Task Force Phase 2; it is understood for those who are not able to continue due to the workload which was more than the weekly meeting time of two hours - additional work happened behind the scenes.

Co-Chair Sims compared the initial ten priorities to what had been achieved; stated that many

great outreach efforts had been accomplished; and requested feedback on specific areas on which to focus and spoke to the need to invite others to join the Task Force. There was consensus around the following recommended next steps:

- Adding representatives from North Carolina Central University, Duke University, Durham Tech and Durham Public Schools to RRTF.
- Identifying students from above universities/colleges as stakeholders and more diverse representation on RRTF.
- Including a student roundtable from above universities/colleges and to include representatives from Student Affairs.
- Establishing a roundtable with representatives from parent groups such PTAs that exist to hear how to support parents and caregivers.
- In discussions with college students, encourage them to designate pods with which they can isolate themselves, but within, they can still be social college students.
- How can the RRTF work with the health system's stretched resources combined with the demand of immunizations for the impending flu season.
- How can the RRTF encourage businesses to resume operations, return to the business community and for customers to venture and spend money at the locations in a safe manner.
- Invite Board of Election Director Derick Bowens and Chair of the Board of Elections Phil Laymond to report at a meeting about their election preparation plans.
- Establish a roundtable with rank and file workers such as persons from the hospitality industry.
- Update the Task Force on the Census 2020.
- Receive a report from the Emergency Operations Center.

Other Concerns and Questions

The Task Force discussed other concerns and questions:

- Important to understand how social life resumes on the campuses.
- How does the Durham County Health Department sync up with Duke University and North Carolina Central University as they resume classes and is this data in place? Rodney Jenkins responded that with Duke University, the data is in place and has been since the beginning of the pandemic and has never stopped. Meetings have taken place with N.C.C.U. to get them up to speed in terms of knowing who the points of contact are regarding contact tracing and they are going to a contract vendor for their contact tracing and they were ensured that the Health Department will be there to assist them.
- Integrate Duke and NCCU into the "Back on the Bull" Campaign.
- Concern about enforcement in regards to social life off-campus and what are the enforcement protocols.
- Important to communicate and provide guidelines as to what is appropriate behavior on and off campus.
- Should there be additional messaging and expectations set by communities beyond what is coming from the universities to the students.
- How can we ensure that bars and restaurants that attract students don't get out of hand and affect other bars and restaurants.
- Opportunity to work with local businesses honing in on ways that the RRTF can help support them with making sure they are able to enforce what they need to do without

shutting down. Start with the Restaurant Roundtable or Durham Restaurant Coalition and ask them to give some thought as to how this could be done.

- How to create distractions/entertainment options for student engagement while ensuring safety.

Co Chair Sims concluded with the following info:

- Two meetings will be planned in September 2020 to transition to monthly meetings.
- Plans are to do some additional education with the Task Force.
- Need to have discussion on how will the vaccine be distributed once it is provided – what will be the plan?
- On-going education brought to group about the vaccine and where it stands now and what is being done and also include the clinical trials.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:0 a.m.

LaVerne Brooks
Assistant City Clerk