

**SC DHEC Pee Dee COVID-19 –  
Regional Community Assessment Review and Equity (CARE) Panel  
Virtual Meeting: May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
1:00 – 2:00 PM  
AGENDA**

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

a. Jim Bruckner

**2. Panel Discussion:**

a. DHEC update - Jim Bruckner:

a. Shared/Reviewed Pee Dee Data updated as of today (5/25/2021)

| County<br>+        | Total County Population | Population Eligible For Vaccine | % of Population 12+ yrs. | Total Vaccinations Administered (Pfizer, Moderna, and Janssen) | % of Eligible Population Received At Least 1 Dose | % of Eligible Population Vaccination Series Completed | % of Vaccine Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|---|---|
|                    |                         | Population Eligible             |                          | Vaccine Administered   |   |   |   |
| Chesterfield       | 45,650                  | 39,632                          | 82.38%                   | 23,779   | 60.0%   | 11,416  | 28.8%   |
| Clarendon          | 33,745                  | 29,556                          | 84.60%                   | 19,798   | 67.0%   | 9,716   | 32.9%   |
| Darlington         | 66,618                  | 57,441                          | 82.20%                   | 44,245   | 77.0%   | 20,503  | 35.7%   |
| Dillon             | 30,479                  | 25,436                          | 79.33%                   | 15,983   | 62.8%   | 7,635   | 30.0%   |
| Florence           | 138,293                 | 116,636                         | 80.31%                   | 93,659   | 80.3%   | 42,362  | 36.3%   |
| Georgetown         | 62,680                  | 54,636                          | 83.96%                   | 52,704   | 96.5%   | 25,411  | 46.5%   |
| Horry              | 354,081                 | 292,546                         | 79.62%                   | 264,559  | 90.4%   | 123,867   | 42.3%   |
| Lee                | 16,828                  | 15,221                          | 86.73%                   | 9,195  | 60.4%   | 4,273   | 28.1%   |
| Marion             | 30,657                  | 26,626                          | 82.51%                   | 19,436   | 73.0%   | 9,068   | 34.1%   |
| Marlboro           | 26,118                  | 23,198                          | 85.30%                   | 12,232   | 52.7%   | 5,667   | 24.4%   |
| Sumter             | 106,721                 | 89,604                          | 79.95%                   | 52,109   | 58.2%   | 23,942  | 26.7%   |
| Williamsburg       | 30,368                  | 27,087                          | 85.44%                   | 19,216   | 70.9%   | 9,452   | 34.9%   |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>942,238</b>          | <b>797,619</b>                  |                          | <b>626,915</b>   | <b>78.6%</b>                                      | <b>293,312</b>  | <b>36.8%</b>                                      |

b.

- c. Chesterfield, Lee, Marlboro, and Sumter are still the 4 counties focused on.
- d. Only recommendation that we do not have an answer for is the - Outreach to additional Physician office, which is being handled by Columbia. They have done that in every county of the state trying to recruit as many as can to provide COVID vaccinations in rural counties. It is also posted on the website as well.
- e. ETV town Hall meetings last week, Lesli McGee and Gayle Resetar did an awesome job representing the Pee Dee. Kudos to them!!

b. DHEC Outreach Efforts - Suzette McClellan:

- a. This past Saturday attended an event in Pamplico sponsored by Allen University Environmental Justice Institute. Was able to speak on COVID and sit on a panel. The Health Educator was able to provide outreach materials to individuals. We also had the vaccination team onsite to provide vaccinations.
- b. Constantly sending information out to community coalitions, media and promoting all vaccine clinics (DHEC and partner events). Looking for additional areas to do outreach in the communities.
- c. Sharing information about age 12-15 now being able to get the Pfizer vaccine, promoting that info in community and information re: booster shots, variants, etc.
- d. Anyone on the panel has any ideas for the team to follow up on please let know.

c. Lesli McGee:

- a. Need to have some dialog around the meeting cadence and what the group is finding to be effective for this meeting.
- b. Motion to move the meeting to monthly
  - i. Ann Lewis & John Williams second's the motion
  - ii. All in group in favor.

iii. Meeting will be moved to monthly starting on June 8th.

### 3. New Panel Recommendations for Submittal to DHEC:

a. Ann Lewis:

a. As more and more small offices receive notifications from DHEC, several have turned to CareSouth. They do not have the capacity to handle all the burdensome paperwork. Had a difficult time in some of the smaller offices ourselves. It helps that wastage is not as much of a problem as it was but there is still a large amount of reporting/tracking/inventory mgmt./portal entries/etc. If it could be as simple as administering the flu vaccine or any other documentation that goes to SIMON, that would be an extraordinary competent move to get more people engaged in the vaccination efforts.

**i. Jim will put in formal comment - burdensome paperwork**

b. Lesli McGee:

a. Outreach education - have we thought about how to stage work so that we are following behind Suzette's team? Ex: Suzette's team goes in and gives education and touches on the hesitancy pieces, then we come in behind that with the availability to schedule appts or administer vaccine. Struggle is not with # of people issuing the vaccine but instead the turn out.

**i. Jim - we can connect with our partnership call on Thursday with Suzette and possibly build a schedule to know what communities her team is going into for partners to follow.**

b. Is there some science behind how long it takes people to make up their mind after being educated? We are seeing a lot of activity that is not netting volumes and that feels like the definition of insanity... doing the same thing with expectation of a different result.

**i. Jim- haven't read anything about this, may have to do some of this on our own, continue to do some research to find this information. Personal feeling is that the closer to the education we go back in the better. We will bring up on the Coalition call to find a determination of a timeline. Providers are flooding the communities and that is watering down the amount of people getting vaccine in each of the communities. There are so many providers, good thing but are impacting the number of those showing up.**

c. Nancy Ofendo Reyes:

a. As an educator, it's been over a year and we haven't affected the reach out on the education side of this. In doubt currently if they will see the advantage, education is the only key to get out the message. How can we use educators to make this an active discussion in class? New class of nurses only have 25% of a class of 40 that are vaccinated, very concerning. What else can we do, can we reach out to community colleges, community health, trying to look at everything we can. Students are not convinced it's important. Maybe another information media push is needed.

**i. Jim - outreach to target allied health students to convince the importance of vaccination.**

4. Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 8th @ 1:00

5. Adjourn

**Reminder:** Regional data is available on the DHEC website at [scdhec.gov/covid19/covid-19-vaccination-dashboard](https://scdhec.gov/covid19/covid-19-vaccination-dashboard). It includes heat maps; county and zip code level data; and other relevant factors. Requests for additional data can be made through the DHEC Panel Representative.

**Note:** In an effort to practice physical distancing, the proceedings will be available to the public via audio using the following call-in information: 1-864-558-7311 Phone Conference ID: 845 625 091#.