



Mecklenburg County COVID-19
Recovery and Renewal Task Force
Draft Recommendations

COVID-19

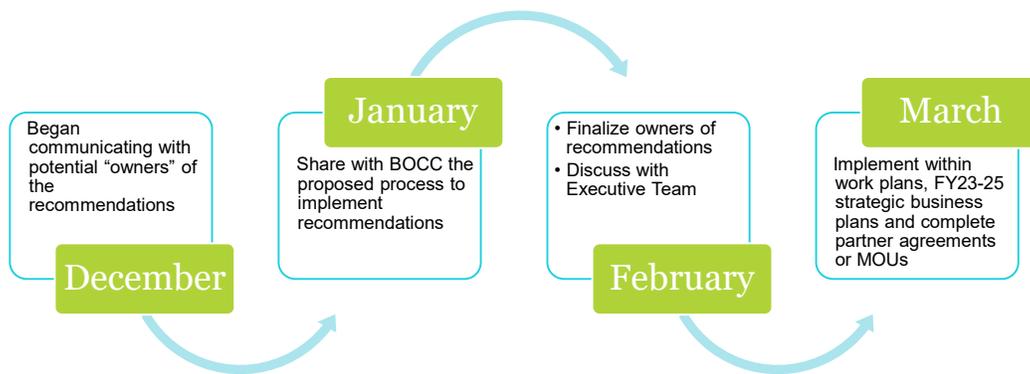
RECOVERY AND RENEWAL TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Implementation Plan Update
BOCC Retreat
Presented by: **Monica R. Allen, PhD**
Director, Strategic Planning & Evaluation

Background

- BOCC appointed the Recovery and Renewal Task Force in 2020
- Task Force developed three goal areas: **Health**, **Economy** and **Community**
- BOCC approved recommendations in September 2021
- Accountability for implementation of recommendations is within the County Manager's FY2022 Work Plan with a strategic approach to integrate and align to existing and future work via:
 - COVID-19 Strategic Recovery Plan
 - County Department Strategic Business Plans
 - Partner Agreements

2022 Timeline for Initial Implementation



Implementation Framework

Focus Areas	Recommendations	Potential Department/Partner Alignment*
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eight strategies 33 actions 	Public health, Community Resources, Social Services, Community Support Services, Public Information Dept., Park and Recreation, Asset and Facilities Management, County Manager's Office, City of Charlotte, CATS
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three strategies 13 actions 	Community Support Services, Dept. of Community Resources, Office of Economic Development, Public Library, Park and Recreation, County Manager's Office
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two strategies Nine actions 	Public Health, Social Services, Public Information Dept., Community Resources, County Manager's Office

*See handout with potential department/partner alignment

Implementation Update: Current Work

- Some Task Force actions are already underway, being accomplished through various programs and initiatives within the County currently.
- Park and Recreation
 - Has initiated deployment of WiFi at all County recreation centers (action 9E)
 - Partners with the City of Charlotte to provide free WiFi in Lincoln Heights Park (action 9E)
 - Maintains a selection of [edible landscapes](#) and orchards (action 5C)
- Community Support Services
 - Provides clinical services to domestic violence victims, teen dating violence victims, and child witnesses. Also provides substance use services in detention centers, domestic violence shelters, and homeless shelters (actions 28H and 32H)

Implementation Update: Current Work (continued)

- Information Technology Services
 - Has made a strategic effort to expand public Wi-Fi as well as PC devices at Park and Rec as well as County Library locations (action 9E)
- Charlotte Mecklenburg Library
 - Currently partners with Public Health on COVID-19 Test Kit distributions and is open to further collaboration (action 5H)
 - Has provided over 2,000 internet devices, through the MeckTech initiative, to community residents in need. Additionally, has secured an \$8 million dollar grant from the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) which will be used to obtain an additional 20,000 devices for the MeckTech program (action 8E)
 - Is an active participant in the Culture Blocks program and plans to continue to support this impactful program (action 15E)

Implementation Update: Current Work (continued)

- Department of Social Services
 - Advocates, as a department, for the expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina (action 18H)
 - Heavily engaged with behavioral health providers and with MeckHope and is open to the expansion of behavioral health services (action 28H)
 - Provides funding for Crisis Assistance Ministries (action 2E)
 - Involved in a limited scope of job training and workforce preparedness programs for eligible public assistance recipients (action 12E)
 - Provides access to food for seniors through the Senior Citizens Nutrition Program (Meals on Wheels) (action 6C)
 - Beginning a robust transportation study in 2022, wherein partnerships for food related transportation services can be considered (action 7C)

Implementation Update: Current Work (continued)

- Public Health Department Highlights
 - Work related to action (1H)
 - Currently involved in enhancing community outreach and engagement for both COVID and non-COVID programs
 - Maintains an Office of Community Engagement
 - Has a community outreach team within the COVID response unit
 - In the process of hiring a public health communications director
 - Work related to action (2H)
 - Has hired a COVID-19 epidemiologist
 - Conducted a COVID-19 disparities study with UNCC

Implementation Update: Current Work (continued)

- Public Health Department Highlights pt. 2
 - Work related to action (9H)
 - Hired a community health worker (CHW) manager to lead County funded community health worker initiatives
 - Hired 22 CHW's through the "A Guided Journey" program, which focused on providing services to new and expecting mothers
 - Hired 10 CHW's in partnership with FQHCs, JCSU, CareRing, and Camino Health Center to focus on COVID mitigation
 - Provided funds to Atrium and Novant to hire 12 CHWs

Implementation Update: Current Work (continued)

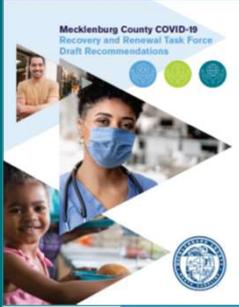
- Public Health Department Highlights pt. 3
 - Work related to action (5C)
 - Established 2 new pop-up markets, 1 at Eastway Recreation Center and 1 at the VCW
 - Provided funding for a healthy food communication campaign
 - Expanded community gardens from 4 to 15
 - Provided unlimited double bucks for SNAP recipients at farmers markets
 - Conducted a survey in West Charlotte to analyze the retail market and preferences for healthy foods from within the community

Things to Keep in Mind

- More than one department and/or partner may be needed to effectively execute the recommendations
- Implementation of recommendations may occur over a multi-year period whereas some recommendations can be implemented as soon as possible
- If there are recommendations not able to be implemented, communication about those recommendations will occur in Quarter 4 of FY2022

Next Steps

- Continue partnering with County departments to determine alignment of recommendations to plans
- Engage partners in the community to begin working with on the recommendations
- Update to the BOCC in later FY2022



PREPARE:
An already being and working
in 2020. It is important
to have a plan in place for
what you need to do
if you are unable to
work or if you are
unable to access services.
This includes having a plan
for how you will pay for
your expenses and how
you will care for your
family.



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