

Carolinas Pandemic Preparedness Task Force

Background Materials – Meeting 6

State

- North Carolina Department of Information Technology (NCDIT): [Closing North Carolina's Digital Divide](#) (2021)
- South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff: [South Carolina Broadband Infrastructure Program](#)
- [South Carolina Telehealth Alliance](#)

National

- National Academy of Medicine (NAM): [Sharing Health Data: The Why, the Will, and the Way Forward](#) (2021)
- Academic Pathology: [From Testing to Decision-Making: A Data-Driven Analytics COVID-19 Response](#) (4/20/2021)
- National League of Cities: [Digital Equity Playbook: How City Leaders Can Bridge the Digital Divide](#)
- CDC: [Health Equity Guiding Principles for Inclusive Communication](#)
- [10 Essential Public Health Services](#)
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality: [2021 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report](#)
- Harvard Business Review: [How to Close the Digital Divide in the U.S.](#)
- American Journal of Public Health: [Supporting Health Equity Through Data-Driven Decision-Making: A Local Health Department Response to COVID-19](#) (5/21/2021)
- [Deployment of Health Equity Strike Teams to Address COVID-19 Vaccine Disparities in Arkansas](#) (9/12/2021)
- New York Times: [The C.D.C.'s New Challenge? Grappling With Imperfect Science](#) (1/17/2022)

Future References

- Foodtank: [South Carolina-Based Organization Creates Access to Healthy, Fresh Foods With Affordable Produce Boxes](#) (2022)
- [Neighborhood Racial and Economic Segregation and Disparities in Violence During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (8/30/2021)

Carolinas Pandemic Preparedness Task Force – North Carolina

Background Materials – Meeting 4

Meeting Theme and Context

During this meeting, we will hear from key perspectives on the challenges faced by the health care workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic with a focus on the January/February 2021 peak in cases, as well as what is needed to achieve workforce stability and resilience moving forward. Toward the end of the meeting, we will discuss potential areas of action, what it would take for proposed changes to be effective, and how progress could be measured in small synthesis groups.

General

New England Journal of Medicine: [Ensuring and Sustaining a Pandemic Workforce](#)

Journal of Academic Medicine: [Everyday Heroism: Maintaining Organizational Cultures of Wellness and Inclusive Excellence Amid Simultaneous Pandemics](#)

New England Journal of Medicine: [Community Health Workers and Covid-19 — Addressing Social Determinants of Health in Times of Crisis and Beyond](#)

North Carolina

Authored by task force member **Dr. Lori Byrd** – North Carolina Medical Journal: [The Health Care Education-to-Workforce Pipeline: Challenges and Changes After the Pandemic](#)

Authored by presenter **Dr. Ciara Zachary** – North Carolina Medical Journal: [The American Rescue Plan Act: Protecting and Supporting Frontline Workers](#)

Article on key perspective **Brandon Teal** – UNC School of Medicine: [Alleviating the Vaccine Gap: A Community Health Worker’s Contribution](#)

Short video featuring key perspective **Valerie Stephens** – North Carolina Healthcare Association: [Frontline Voices: NC respiratory therapist describes working under COVID-19 wave](#)

Short video featuring key perspective **Tracie Neilson** – North Carolina Healthcare Association: [Frontline Voices: How too many COVID cases are limiting your access to care](#)

Article featuring task force member and key perspective **Janice Somers** – North Carolina Health News: [Project ECHO resounds throughout WNC](#)

Other Helpful Resources

Project led by presenter **Hilary A. Campbell** – UNC Cecil G. Sheps Center: [North Carolina Health Workforce Data](#)

North Carolina Healthcare Association: [Frontline Voices](#)

North Carolina Area Health Education Centers: [Workforce Surge Planning Playbooks](#)

UNC Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research: [COVID-19 Response and the Workforce](#)

Carolinas Pandemic Preparedness Task Force – North Carolina

Background Materials – Meeting 3

Meeting Theme and Context

This meeting will focus on a six-month timeframe of the COVID-19 response (May – November/December 2020) with a focus on impacts on historically marginalized and vulnerable populations in North Carolina. By focusing on this period in time, we would like to center the discussion on issues faced after the initial “[scramble](#)” to identify and understand the virus, but before the vaccination campaign and the peak in cases in January 2021. Toward the end of the meeting, we will have a large group discussion on “the fourth wave” to hear from the task force about the current landscape of the response and consider opportunities for actionable recommendations.

General

The Conversation: [18 months of the COVID-19 pandemic – a retrospective in 7 charts](#)

North Carolina

The five (5) readings listed below are higher priority than the readings listed under “other helpful resources,” but we recognize that time is limited before the meeting so all of the readings for this meeting are considered optional.

North Carolina Medical Journal: [Innovations and Collaborations Born of Necessity During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Co-authored by task force member **Dr. Michelle Laws** – North Carolina Medical Journal: [In the Path of the Storm: North Carolina’s Response to COVID-19’s Impact on Historically Marginalized Populations](#)

Authored by task force member **Cornell Wright** – North Carolina Medical Journal: [In Search of Equity](#)

Authored by task force member **Tracy Doaks** – North Carolina Medical Journal: [Digital Equity and High-Speed Health Born From the COVID-19 Crisis](#)

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services: [COVID-19 Update](#) (Presentation by Secretary of Health and Human Services Mandy Cohen – August 11, 2020)

Other Helpful Resources

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services: [Historically Marginalized Populations Engagement Toolkit](#)

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services: [Annual Report to the North Carolina Medical Society](#) (October 2020)

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Resources: [The COVID-19 Pandemic: North Carolina’s Response and the Behavioral Health Impacts](#) (Presentation by Deputy Secretary Kody H. Kinsley – September 23, 2020)

News & Observer: [People in redlined areas more vulnerable to COVID-19](#) (November 24, 2020)

WCNC Charlotte: [NC DHHS: You no longer need a doctor referral to get a COVID-19 test](#)

Carolinas Pandemic Preparedness Task Force

Background Materials – Meeting 2

Meeting Theme and Context

This meeting will focus on identification of the disease outbreak and lessons learned during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic (January – March/April 2020). We also plan to incorporate discussion related to the recent surge in cases.

General

New York Times: [Helping Drug Users Survive, Not Abstain: ‘Harm Reduction’ Gains Federal Support](#)

New York Times: [A Timeline of the Coronavirus Pandemic](#)

New England Journal of Medicine: [COVID-19 – Navigating the Uncharted](#)

New York Times: [Catching Up With One of the First Covid Patients to Be Put on a Ventilator](#)

The Atlantic: [How the Pandemic Now Ends](#)

The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation: [COVID-19 Projections](#)

North Carolina

2020

News & Observer: [CDC reports first coronavirus case in North Carolina](#)

News & Observer: [NC governor declares state of emergency as state deals with coronavirus](#)

News & Observer: [How has North Carolina been hit by COVID-19? Let’s look at the numbers.](#)

News & Observer: [Gov. Roy Cooper orders NC bars and restaurants closed, new help for unemployed](#)

News & Observer: [Community transmission of coronavirus is now ‘widespread’ in NC. What does that mean?](#)

NC Health News: [COVID-19 prompts a shift to telehealth](#)

News & Observer: [Coronavirus shuts NC schools for the academic year, but virtual learning continues](#)

ABC11: [Here are the 3 phases of Gov. Roy Cooper's reopening plan](#)

2021

UNC Kenan Institute: [Venture-backed vs. Main Street: A Widening Business Gap](#)

News & Observer: [COVID-19 hospitalizations in NC continue to mount; almost 5,000 new cases reported](#)

South Carolina

2020

The State: [Here’s how South Carolina is preparing for a potential coronavirus outbreak](#)

The State: [What would change if the coronavirus outbreak is officially declared a pandemic?](#)

The State: [Gov. McMaster: SC not changing coronavirus plan after WHO declares pandemic](#)

The State: [Gov. McMaster closes all SC public schools through March as coronavirus cases rise](#)

The State: [To keep seniors safe at home, Medicare expands telemedicine](#)

The State: [Gov. McMaster orders restaurants to close in-house dining because of Coronavirus](#)

The Post and Courier: [COVID-19's effects on businesses have varied. Here's how SC's top private employers are doing](#)

2021

WLTX News: [A look at South Carolina businesses since the pandemic started](#)

The State: [Let parents make decision whether to mask their child in school, SC Gov. McMaster says](#)

Carolinas Pandemic Preparedness Task Force

Background Materials – Meeting 1

General

[COVID-19 and the Carolinas Part I](#)

[COVID-19 and the Carolinas Part II](#)

[COVID-19 and the Carolinas Part III](#)

[COVID-19 and the Carolinas Part IV](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: [Public Health Emergency Support Functions](#)

Federal Emergency Management Agency: [Emergency Management in the United States](#)

North Carolina Medical Journal: [COVID-19 and the Drivers of Health](#)

North Carolina

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services: [COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

[North Carolina Emergency Operations Plan Summary](#) (additional information linked [here](#))

South Carolina

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control: [COVID-19 Dashboards](#)

[South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan](#)