

**County Executive**  
**of**  
**Howard County, Maryland**

**Executive Order: 2020-18**  
**Dated: November 10, 2020**  
**Subject: HoCo RISE Collaborative**

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted every aspect of life across the world and, because of its extensive preparedness, once Howard County had its first case, Howard County took decisive action on early closures to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, with the community’s cooperation and support, the COVID-19 impact was mitigated, though not without tragic loss; and

**WHEREAS**, we have created a plan for Reopening Innovatively, Safely, and Effectively called “HoCo RISE” that is intended to operate within the framework laid out by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan and which uses data to guide decision-making around reopening and, if necessary, when to loosen restrictions; and

**WHEREAS**, Howard County cannot reopen further than the State Executive Orders mandate; and

**WHEREAS**, despite Howard County’s alignment with the State, businesses still have restrictions, school systems’ decisions vary per county, and many services are curtailed, all while uncertainties with the global pandemic remain; and

**WHEREAS**, in Howard County, this health crisis has forced organizations, businesses, and people to live, work, and play differently, which has meant finding new ways to operate, digitizing paper-based processes and modernizing operations to limit or eliminate in-person contact; and

**WHEREAS**, the global pandemic has also unmasked existing challenges such as access to healthcare, services, social supports, workforce training, and housing; and

**WHEREAS**, economic impacts continue as public and private entities grapple with how to thrive in this new environment where most federal aid and programs have ended or will culminate by the end of 2020 and there is little indication of what federal support might be available in the new year; and

**WHEREAS**, we are at a pivotal point in the pandemic and to both prepare for a continued COVID-19 response and to strengthen the community for long-term, this calls for the establishment of the HoCo RISE Collaborative; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the HoCo RISE Collaborative is to develop and provide key recommendations to ensure that every business, organization, and resident can have the opportunity to thrive in every setting; and

**WHEREAS**, the HoCo RISE Collaborative is made up of five interdependent Workgroups that will develop and provide key recommendations surrounding a sustained response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the five workgroups are Jobs and the Economy, Education and Workforce Development, Public Health Response, Family Opportunities, and Government Response.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED**, that the HoCo RISE Collaborative is hereby established.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, the HoCo RISE Collaborative will be made up of an overarching Chair, an Executive Committee (comprised of Workgroup Chairs), Administrative Advisory Staff, a Public Information Unit, Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Staff, and five Workgroups, as shown in the attached Exhibit A.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that the HoCo Rise Collaborative Chairperson is Ken Ulman.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that the Executive Committee shall consist of the following individuals:

1. Dr. Elizabeth Kromm
2. Lonnie Robbins
3. Marcellous Frye
4. Minah Woo
5. Shonte Eldridge

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that each Workgroup will be made up of a Workgroup Chair, Subject Lead(s), Administrative Advisory Staff, a Logistics Coordinator, Members from various subject-specific Howard County stakeholders, and OEM Staff, as shown in the attached Exhibit B.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that the following shall be the duties of each workgroup:

1. **Jobs and the Economy**
  - a. Recommend policies and practices that will leverage collective assets within industries;
  - b. Identify key needs in different industries;

- c. Assist businesses with accelerating their technical capabilities, namely small and minority-owned businesses; and
- d. Determine how to prepare for the long-term.

## **2. Education and Workforce Development**

- a. Recommend policies and practices that will identify new occupations that may arise as a result of COVID-19 and explore workforce training programs to prepare the workforce for those occupations;
- b. Address technology training and infrastructure needs that are needed for workers who are now expected to apply for and work remotely;
- c. Develop the workforce pipeline including elementary, post-secondary beyond, to respond to business needs;
- d. Address disconnected youth (those 16-24 who are neither working or in school) opportunities; and
- e. Identify and address experiences of unemployed and underemployed individuals including challenges related to equity.

## **3. Public Health Response**

- a. Recommend policies and practices that will fill remaining systems gaps that exist in other COVID-19 response efforts, such as testing;
- b. Increase timely access to a vaccine;
- c. Enable efficient and equitable distribution of a vaccine;
- d. Ensure safe storage of a vaccine;
- e. Optimize community engagement;
- f. Promote partnerships and alignment within the healthcare community; and,
- g. Align research with the Family Opportunities Workgroup.

## **4. Family Opportunities**

- a. Recommend policies and practices that will sustain food access needs across the County;
- b. Increase coordination and information sharing amongst all service providers;
- c. Reduce barriers to social services;
- d. To systemically address childcare challenges;
- e. Increase housing opportunities, including home ownership and foreclosure/eviction avoidance; and
- f. Increase digital equity and inclusion for all residents; and
- g. Increase availability of affordable, robust broadband internet service and access to devices and digital literacy training.

**5. Government Response**

- a. Continue oversight of all government activities, including responding to and leading emergency operations for the County;
- b. Reopen the government to employees and the public;
- c. Prepare for a possible second wave of coronavirus; and
- d. Oversee all CARES funding activities.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that the individuals listed in Exhibit B are appointed to each of the Workgroups.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that Workgroups may meet as in small groups from time to time, as needed.

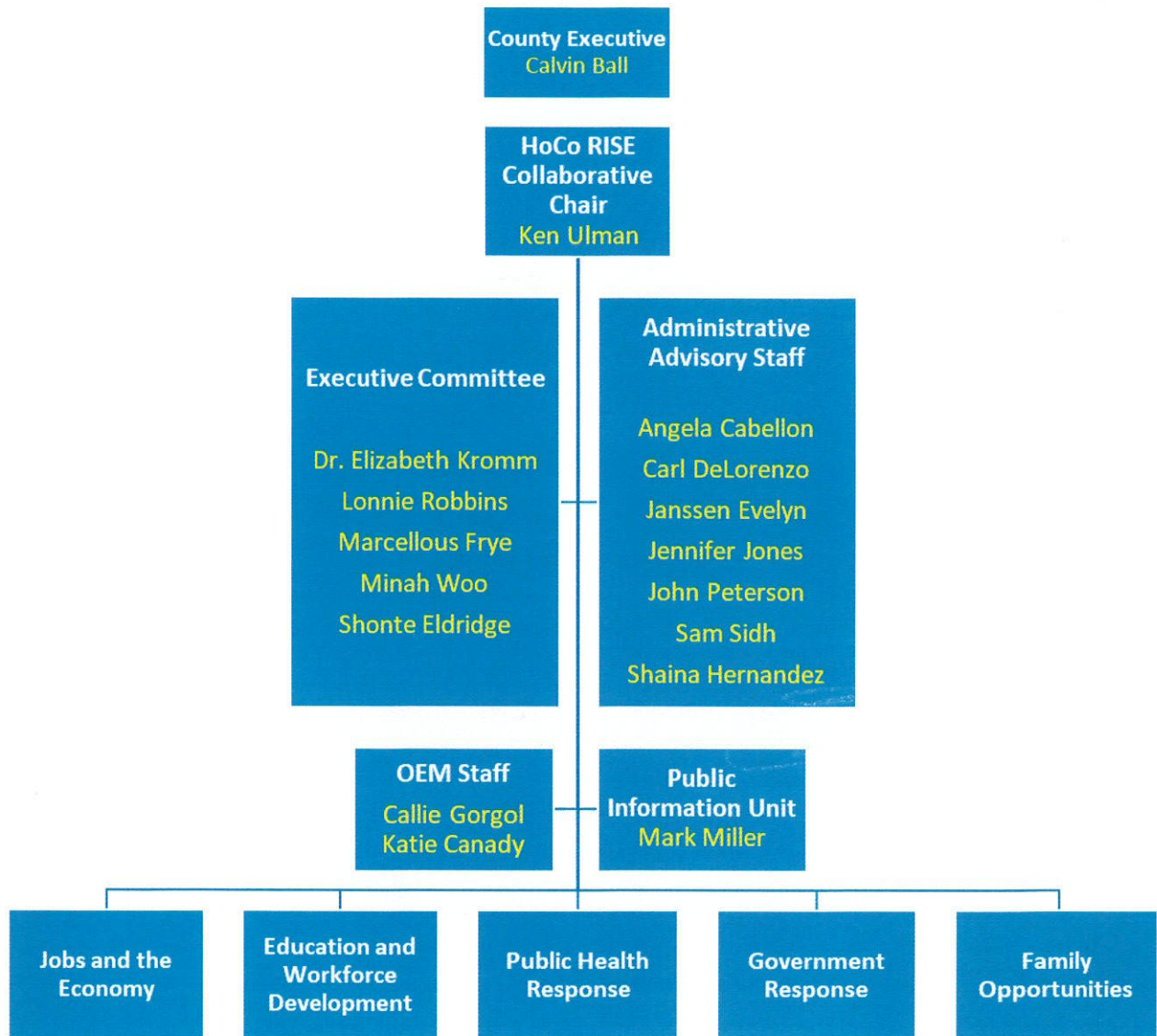
**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that the HoCo RISE Collaborative shall cease to exist on April 1, 2022 and the terms of the Executive Committee and Workgroup members shall expire on April 1, 2022.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I, Calvin Ball, as County Executive of Howard County, Maryland have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Howard County to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.



Calvin Ball  
County Executive





HoCo RISE Collaborative						
Chair	Ken Ulman	Jobs and the Economy	Education and Workforce Development	Public Health Response	Government Response	Family Opportunities
Workgroup Chair	Marcellous Frye, Economic Development Authority Board	Minah Woo, Howard County Community College	Dr. Elizabeth Kromm, Howard County General Hospital	Lonnie Robbins, Howard County Administration	Shonte Eldridge, Amazon Web Services	
Subject Lead(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Larry Twele, Howard County Economic Development Authority</li> <li>Leonardo McClarty, Howard County Chamber of Commerce</li> </ol>	<p>Francine Trout, Howard County Office of Workforce Development</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Larry Twele, Howard County Economic Development Authority</li> <li>2. Dwight Karr, Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab</li> <li>3. Emma Ostendorp, Howard County Library System</li> <li>4. Julie Givens, Maryland Department of Labor</li> <li>5. Leslie Iampieri, Howard County General Hospital</li> <li>6. Richard Clinch, University of Baltimore</li> <li>7. Sharon Kramer, Howard County Public Schools</li> </ol>	<p>Dr. Maura Rossman, Howard County Health Department</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Alice Sliwka, Chase Brexton</li> <li>2. Anna Izquierdo-Porrera, Care for Your Health, Inc.</li> <li>3. Bruce Nelson, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity</li> <li>4. Dr. Lee Washington, Aetna</li> <li>5. Jennifer White, Horizon Foundation</li> <li>6. Lanlan Xu, Howard County Chinese School</li> </ol>	N/A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brandee Ganz, Department of Technology and Communication Services</li> <li>2. Jackie Scott, Department of Community Resources and Services</li> </ol>	
Workgroup Members	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adam Joss, The Vertical Connection</li> <li>2. Bill Stone, Mobern Lighting</li> <li>3. Gina Abate, Edward Performance Solutions</li> <li>4. Louis Hutt, III, Hutt Companies</li> <li>5. Luke Chow, Prime Manufacturing Technologies</li> <li>6. Michelle Rosenheim, Lutheran Village at Miller Grant</li> <li>7. Roger Barnes, Lewrox Enterprises</li> <li>8. Trisha Hudson, Hudson Coastal</li> <li>9. Barbara Nicklas, the Mall in Columbia</li> <li>10. Jay Winer, Savage Mill</li> <li>11. Bob Gillette, Veterans Foundation</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chuck Bubeck, Howard County Economic Development Authority</li> <li>2. Dwight Karr, Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab</li> <li>3. Emma Ostendorp, Howard County Library System</li> <li>4. Julie Givens, Maryland Department of Labor</li> <li>5. Leslie Iampieri, Howard County General Hospital</li> <li>6. Richard Clinch, University of Baltimore</li> <li>7. Sharon Kramer, Howard County Public Schools</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Alice Sliwka, Chase Brexton</li> <li>2. Anna Izquierdo-Porrera, Care for Your Health, Inc.</li> <li>3. Bruce Nelson, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity</li> <li>4. Dr. Lee Washington, Aetna</li> <li>5. Jennifer White, Horizon Foundation</li> <li>6. Lanlan Xu, Howard County Chinese School</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brandee Ganz, Department of Technology and Communication Services</li> <li>2. Maria Bernadzikowski, Office of Emergency Management</li> <li>3. Mark Stromdahl, Department of Public Works</li> <li>4. Wanda Hutchinson, Office of Human Resources</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bita Dayhoff, Community Action Council</li> <li>2. Bruce Fulton, Neighbor Ride</li> <li>3. Joan Driessen, Association of Community Services</li> <li>4. Kari Staddon, United Way</li> <li>5. Katie DiSalvo-Thronson, Howard County Library System</li> <li>6. Kelly Cimino, Department of Housing and Community Development</li> <li>7. Kenitra Fowka, Horizon Foundation</li> <li>8. Liz Crammond, Bright Minds Foundation</li> </ol>	

HoCo RISE Collaborative					
	12. Amanda Hof, Visit Howard County				
Administrative Advisory Staff	Jennifer Jones	1. Sameer Sidh 2. Shaina Hernandez	Carl DeLorenzo	1. Janssen Evelyn 2. John Peterson	Angela Cabellon
Logistics Coordinator	Safa Hira	Connor Jett	Megan Williams	Diane Wilson	Dawn Tinker
OEM Staff	1. Callie Gorgol 2. Katie Canady				