



MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



## Maryland Community Health Resources Commission

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### CHRC News

#### FY 2023 and FY 2024 Call for Proposals

The application period for the FY 2023 Call for Proposals is closed. Last month, CHRC Commissioners voted to award \$8.5 million to **21 applicants** from rural, suburban, and urban areas throughout the state. The FY 2023 Call for Proposals had four areas of focus: chronic disease, maternal and child health, behavioral health, and dental. These programs are expected to serve more than 14,000 Marylanders.

The CHRC anticipates issuing its FY 2024 Call for Proposals during the fall of 2023. More information will be shared in upcoming newsletters and on the CHRC website.

For questions, please contact Jen Clatterbuck at (410) 260-6086 or at [Jen.Clatterbuck@maryland.gov](mailto:Jen.Clatterbuck@maryland.gov).

#### UPDATE: Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports

The Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports is an initiative to support student behavioral health and other related needs.

Led by the Consortium's Outreach Subcommittee, chaired by Tammy Fraley from the Allegany County Board of Education, the Consortium is continuing to meet with key stakeholders to discuss the Partnerships model and planning for the first RFP that will be released later this spring or early this summer. Outreach briefings have been held with multiple stakeholder groups, and presentations can be accessed [HERE](#).

To request a briefing, please contact Lorianne Moss at (410) 456-6526 or at [Lorianne.Moss@Maryland.gov](mailto:Lorianne.Moss@Maryland.gov).

The next meeting of the full Consortium will be held on **May 9** in Annapolis. Meeting information can be found on the Consortium's [webpage](#). Consortium meetings are open to the public, but participation is limited to Consortium members. Members of the public are invited to attend in-person or virtually.

To view or download a flyer on the initiative, click [HERE](#).

To sign up for the Consortium's mailing list, click [HERE](#).

## Grantee News



### **Behavioral Health Leadership Institute Implements Program to Address Opioid Use Disorder**

Behavioral Health Leadership Institute (BHLI) is implementing a CHRC grant to expand their "pop-up" clinic program that uses a mobile van to provide opioid use disorder services to vulnerable residents in Baltimore City. The program provides buprenorphine treatment to vulnerable and underserved populations, including justice-involved and homeless individuals. BHLI also provides harm reduction services such as naloxone distribution and education about medication treatment and overdose. Additionally, their outreach team works to address clients' nonmedical needs and transition patients to primary care.

Through partnerships with community pharmacies, BHLI helps uninsured and low-income clients purchase medication. When clients reported shortages in the supply of buprenorphine, BHLI staff worked with Walgreens, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) officials to identify barriers and make structural changes.

The COVID-19 pandemic created other challenges and required alternatives to serving clients inside the mobile van. Telehealth was available for some clients. For clients without access to reliable technology or phones, BHLI invested in street medicine, purchasing weather-proof tents, heaters, and generators.

To date, the program has served 425 individuals, far surpassing the original goal of 120. In the period since May 2020, 160 individuals received a buprenorphine prescription following intake, and 119 individuals were provided Narcan/naloxone. Over 80 percent of the total number of individuals served have remained engaged in the program 30 days following enrollment.

For more information on CHRC grants to increase access to behavioral health services and address the opioid crisis, click [HERE](#).



### **Corsica River completes grant to support individuals following hospital discharge.**

Corsica River Mental Health Services, Inc recently completed a grant implementing the Care Connections, a care coordination or "warm handoff" program to provide discharge and transition recovery support services to individuals following emergency department or inpatient hospital discharge for behavioral health disorders. Over the two-year grant period, the Care Connections program served 216 unduplicated individuals in the five mid-shore counties: Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline, Talbot & Dorchester. Through a partnership with University of Maryland Shore Regional Health, Choptank Community Health Systems and CRMHS, these individuals received support navigating community-based services during periods of acute need.

The objective of the Care Connections project was to expand access to community resources such as preventative health and primary care services to address social determinants of health. The project aimed to reduce health inequities and provide technology supported interventions to address chronic conditions for a population that repeatedly uses emergency room and inpatient resources.

The Care Connections Team conducts comprehensive health assessments and develops a person-centered care plan within 2-3 days of hospital discharge. The Team uses Motivational Interviewing, Illness Management Recovery, a Wellness Recovery Action Plan, and Family Psychoeducation evidenced-based practices to initiate and maintain participant engagement.

The program also utilizes the **GoMo Health Technology** to help participants take a proactive approach to managing their care. This is done through Care Messages delivered to patients on their mobile device throughout their treatment and includes content relevant to specific milestones along the patient journey. GoMo CHAT feature provides for live messaging with the Care Connections team to address immediate needs, offer reminders, and in-the-moment support. The Health platform also provides regular screenings, prompts for brief interventions, and immediate connection to care when needed.

The program achieved a 61% reduction in emergency department utilization and a 67% reduction in readmission to inpatient behavioral health units. Based on the results of this program, Corsica River expanded use of the GoMo CHAT platform to provide enhanced engagement in care coordination, homeless outreach, mobile treatment services and to its entire outpatient clinic population of approximately 800 individuals. CHRC grant funds were used to leverage additional funding from Rural Maryland Council and the Queen Anne's County Mental Health Committee. Going forward, the ongoing cost of the GoMo Health platform will be sustained with revenue from all Corsica River programs it benefits. Care Connections staff positions also have been sustained by Corsica River.

## Events and Grants

### Training Opportunities to Improve Linkages to Care for People at Risk of Overdose - Applications due May 3

The Maryland Department of Health's Center for Harm Reduction Services is accepting applications for two training and technical assistance opportunities focused on improving linkages to comprehensive care for people at risk of overdose. Training will be provided in the *COACH* and *RELATE* frameworks. These free training opportunities are intended for individuals who are currently working in care management, case management, and care coordination, and for those who have a passion for serving people who use drugs.

Applications are due by **Wednesday, May 3rd, at 12 pm**. For more information, click [HERE](#).



### Maryland School-Based Health Center Conference - May 9

The Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care (MASBHC) will hold its annual conference on May 9, 2023, in person at The Meeting House in Columbia Maryland. The theme of the conference is "Targeting Health and Healing."

The keynote speaker will be John Woodrow Cox, who will speak on "How Gun Violence Impacts Children - and What You Can do to Help Them." For more information click [HERE](#).

## Residential Substance Use Treatment Services Grant Opportunity - Applications Due June 9

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS) has released a Notice of Funding Availability from through their Residential Substance Use Treatment grant program. Through this program, GOCPYVS will distribute approximately \$1.2 million to support substance use disorder treatment services in local detention centers. The deadline to apply is Friday, June 9, 2023. For more information, click [HERE](#).

## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

May is Mental Health Awareness Month was established in 1949 to increase awareness of the importance of mental health and wellness and to celebrate recovery from mental illness. For more information about support for mental health, drug and alcohol issues, resources, and events, visit the [SAMHSA](#) website.

## About the Commission

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**Aruna Miller, Lieutenant Governor**  
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Mark Luckner, Executive Director

MCHRC | 45 Calvert Street, Room 336, Annapolis, MD 21410

[Unsubscribe michael.fay@maryland.gov](mailto:michael.fay@maryland.gov)

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