



Maryland Commission on Health Equity

Health Equity Resource Communities

Jaki Bradley, Subcommittee Chair Pathways Call for Proposals / RFP Design
August 30, 2023



Pathways Call for Proposals / RFP Design Subcommittee

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Maryland Health Equity Resource Act Policy Objectives

Statutory objectives:

1. Reduce health disparities;
2. Improve health outcomes;
3. Improve access to primary care;
4. Promote primary and secondary prevention services; and
5. Reduce health care costs and hospital admissions and readmissions.

Maryland Health Equity Resource Act

Pathways to Health Equity Program

- Two-year grants issued by CHRC in February 2022.
- Applicants to demonstrate self-sustainability as a HERC.
- Provides foundation and guidance to become a HERC.

Health Equity Resource Communities (HERCs)

- Long-Term grants (Fall 2023 RFP).
- Emphasizes longer-term interventions that address SDOH:
 - Housing;
 - Transportation;
 - Employment;
 - Food Security.

Clinical Health Disparities

Health Disparities

Diabetes

Heart Disease and Hypertension

Mental Health

Substance Use Disorder

Maternal and Child Health

Sickle Cell Disease

Clinical Outcome

HbA1c

Blood Pressure

Depression Screening

Reduction in Low-Birth-Weight Babies

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Patients Treated in Infusion Clinics

Challenges and Support from the State

Challenges

- Some delays in hiring staff and initiation of services
- Data collection across multiple service providers
- MOU's; IRB approval; construction & permit approvals

State Support of Pathways Grants

- Monthly Technical and Evaluation Assistance calls
- One-on-one calls
- Consumer Engagement and Community Outreach calls

Project Proposal – Recommended Inclusions

- Mitigation Plan
- Performance - Based Payments
- Recruitment Plan (Key Personnel)
- Cost - Efficiency Analysis (cost per unduplicated individual served)
- Fully Executed Agreements - MOU, DUAs
 - Within the first 30-90 days
 - Outline Consequences of failure to meet requirement

Project Proposal Recommended Requirements

- Established EMR Mechanisms
- Clearly defined partner roles (outlined in MOUs)
- Clearly define how and agreed upon data sharing to occur at start up
- Confirmed Acknowledgement of the “Unduplicated Individuals Served”
- New Patients/Participants Only that meet the definition of “Unduplicated Individuals Served”

Key Measures to Evaluate Program Impact

1. Number of Individuals Served
2. Expanded Health Care Access
3. Types and Number of Services
4. Health Outcomes - A1C, Low Birth Weight Babies etc.
5. Hospital Utilization
6. Qualitative Data