



**Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports**  
**45 Calvert Street, Room 336, Annapolis, MD 21401**

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Wes Moore, Governor; Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor  
David D. Rudolph, Chair; Mark Luckner, Executive Director, CHRC

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For Immediate Release:

**State of Maryland provides \$111 million in new grant funding to support mental health services for Maryland students**

*129 grants awarded by the Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports and Maryland Community Health Resources Commission*

**Annapolis, MD** – The Maryland Community Health Resources Commission approved 129 grant awards totaling \$111 million to expand access to comprehensive behavioral health services for children, kindergarten through high school, in every jurisdiction in Maryland. These grant awards follow the recommendations of the Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports. Programs will begin this spring and continue through next year. Funding to support these new programs was made available by the Maryland General Assembly under the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future (Ch. 36 of 2021).

“These grant programs will expand access to much-needed mental health and substance use programs for students in Maryland,” commented Consortium Chair David D. Rudolph. “These programs will assist in ensuring that our students are receiving the supports and services that they need to succeed in the classroom and in life.” The programs will address a wide range of behavioral health issues through prevention, behavioral health screenings, counseling, addiction treatment, family support, crisis planning and services, telehealth services, support groups, wraparound services, and more.

“The Commission congratulates the new grantees who will be implementing these important programs in communities across our state,” said Edward J. Kasemeyer, CHRC Chair. “The Commission looks forward to working with the programs, the Consortium, and others in the coming weeks and months as these programs begin providing services.”

“The need for access to behavioral health care services for Pre-K to 12 students has never been more acute,” said Senate President Bill Ferguson. “Never before have young people faced so many challenges in such a rapid, short period of time. That is why I am hopeful that our historic \$111 million investment will have an immediate and positive impact on children throughout our state.”

“Too many young people in Maryland are falling through the cracks,” Maryland Speaker of the Maryland House Adrienne A. Jones said. “We need programs that meet students where they are and give them the support to succeed. The grant programs that the CHRC and Consortium are funding demonstrate our commitment to providing services and resources to students most in need.”

“Improving the quality of mental health and substance use services for our students — especially for children in underserved communities — is one of our top priorities,” commented Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health Laura Herrera Scott, MD. “We appreciate the work of the Consortium and the Community Health Resources Commission in supporting programs that will help fill gaps in care and deliver critical behavioral health services to Maryland students and their families.”

“Schools need support in helping students whose personal or family circumstances cause behavioral challenges in the classroom. These grants present a tremendous opportunity to address the behavioral health issues that may prevent academic success,” said Interim State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carey Wright. “We appreciate the Consortium’s partnership with local school districts and their work to improve teaching and learning environments.”

### **About the Consortium**

The Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports was created in 2021 through the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future (Ch. 36 of 2021). It is composed of 25 experts in behavioral health and education. The Consortium’s purpose is to develop a statewide framework to expand access to comprehensive behavioral health and wraparound services for Maryland students.

More information about the work of the Consortium can be found at this URL:

<https://health.maryland.gov/mchrc/Pages/Maryland-Consortium-on-Consolidated-Community-Supports.aspx>.

### **About the CHRC**

The CHRC was created by the Maryland General Assembly in 2005 to expand access to health care for low-income Marylanders and underserved communities across the state and to bolster the capacity of the health care safety net infrastructure to deliver affordable, high-quality health services. The CHRC is an independent commission within the Maryland Department of Health, and its 11 Commissioners are appointed by the Governor. Under the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future (Ch. 36 of 2021), the CHRC serves as the fiscal agent for the Consortium. Since its inception, the CHRC has awarded 824 grants totaling \$238 million, supporting programs in all 24 jurisdictions of the state.

More information about the work of the CHRC can be found at this URL:

<https://health.maryland.gov/mchrc/Pages/home.aspx>