



STATE OF MARYLAND

# Community Health Resources Commission

45 Calvert Street, Room 336 • Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Larry Hogan, Governor – Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor  
Elizabeth Chung, Chair – Mark Luckner, Executive Director

April 24, 2020

## FY 2020 CHRC Call for Proposals, Grant awards issued by Maryland Community Health Resources

### Promoting delivery of essential health services: primary/preventative care, dental, and women’s health services:

**Salisbury-Wicomico Integrated First Care Team (SWIFT) and City of Salisbury (Wicomico County; total award \$270,000).** This program will support expansion of the current Mobile Integrated Health/EMS diversion program in Salisbury, providing real time access to primary and preventive care services, and chronic disease management in patient homes. This project seeks to serve Wicomico County residents outside the Salisbury City Fire District service area. The current CHRC grant funded MIH program is one of several grants recently highlighted in the CHRC's Maryland's Rural Health Stories project.

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**Frederick Health Hospital (Frederick County; total award \$175,000).** This program will support and expand a care coordination service program for low-income seniors living in single-unit housing who typically present with complex health and social service needs. The program will provide an array of services and care coordination that will enable these residents to continue living at home and avoid hospital utilization. The program will be jointly implemented by the Frederick Health System and Frederick County Aging Department. Implementation of this project could provide a worthwhile blueprint for other jurisdictions looking to prepare for its aging population.

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**Mobile Medical Care (Montgomery County; total award \$140,000).** The program will expand access to health care services by increasing clinical capacity at the existing East Montgomery Service Center from 2.5 to 3.5 days per week and increase access to behavioral health services by one to two days per week. This expanded capacity will provide comprehensive healthcare services to low-income uninsured individuals and Medicaid and Medicare enrollees. Expansion of the bilingual integrated behavioral health services that MobileMed currently provides is a collaboration with Aspire Counseling.

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**Vietnamese American Services (Montgomery County; total award \$75,000).** Vietnamese American Services focuses on serving low-income clients with limited English proficiency. Vietnamese residents surveyed by Vietnamese American Services report that they face language barriers in accessing care. Only two local primary care physicians speak Vietnamese and these providers are not accepting new Medicaid patients. The program will assist Vietnamese senior

residents to register for health insurance and gain access to healthcare. A CHW position funded under the grant will help facilitate referrals to the MobileMed clinic and help connect these seniors to existing resources. Funding could lead to the establishment of the first senior day care center serving Vietnamese residents in Montgomery County.

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**Helping Up Mission (Baltimore City; total award \$95,000).** This program will support expansion of the current women’s oral health program at Helping Up Mission which provides low-cost/free preventive and restorative dental services to homeless women in recovery from drug addiction. Women enrolled in the program reside at the Mission where they receive an array of social support and wraparound services, case management and vocational assistance.

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**Prince George’s County Health Department (Prince George’s County; \$300,000).** This program will support a care management program to improve reproductive and maternal health as well as support expanded care management to improve health outcomes for high-risk racial/ethnic minority females who are pre-conceptual, pregnant, or post-partum. The target population is women referred to the Department’s Administrative Care Coordination Unit (ACCU), which has a caseload of 1,250 women. The proposal states that the program will bill third-party payers for care coordination services. The proposal states this project will emphasize addressing social determinants of health.

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**Access to Wholistic & Productive Living Institute (Prince George’s County; total award \$335,000).** This program will fund the Bright Beginnings of Prince George’s County project to assist high-risk, racial/ethnic minority women who are pregnant, postpartum or diagnosed with cardiovascular disease and/or Type 2 diabetes access to needed health and social services in a timely and effective manner. CHWs will be assigned to provide care coordination, patient navigation and health education services to assist women to overcome social determinants of health and adopt preventive behaviors to achieve better health outcomes. A lifestyle coach will support healthy eating and active living measures.

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**Somerset County Health Department (Somerset County; total award \$300,000).** This program will support the opening a new School-based Wellness Center (SBWC) at Washington High School for students and staff. Many students who attend Washington High School live in distressed neighborhoods and are at greater risk for negative outcomes including poor physical and mental health, delinquency, and high-risk sexual behavior. The SBWC will address several healthcare service delivery gaps, social determinants of health and health disparities. The CHRC has a long history of supporting SBHCs (a designated community health resource) and currently staffs the Council on Advancement of SBHCs.

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**Baltimore City Health Department (Baltimore City; total award \$350,000).** This program, Reproductive Planning and Access Now! will expand access to reproductive planning for women engaged in SUD treatment and recovery services who experience a disproportionately high level of

unmet reproductive health needs and have other complex health and social service needs. Through improved access to on-site clinical family planning services, the program seeks to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies, which are estimated to represent 90% of pregnancies among women with SUD.

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**Corsica River Mental Health Services, Inc. (Kent, Queen Anne’s, Caroline, Talbot & Dorchester Counties; total award \$215,000).** The Care Connections program will support a care transition team to provide services to individuals following hospital discharge. The Care Connections Team will conduct comprehensive health assessments and develop a person-centered care plan within 2-3 days of hospital discharge. The Team will use Motivational Interviewing, Illness Management Recovery, a Wellness Recovery Action Plan and Family Psychoeducation practices to initiate and maintain participant engagement. The program plans to use the GoMo Health Concierge mobile application to encourage participants to take a proactive approach to managing their care, and deliver personalized text messages about nutrition, health, exercise and emotional support.

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**Addressing the heroin epidemic through behavioral health integration:**

**Choptank Community Health (Caroline, Dorchester & Talbot Counties; total award \$295,000).** This program will fund initiation of mental health services for vulnerable adults and children at the new Choptank Denton practice, in an underserved area for mental health services and substance use treatment. The Denton location currently provides integrated somatic and dental care to adults and children. The program will help promote integration of somatic and behavioral health services on-site rather than through a contractual partnership with an existing mental health provider. Choptank currently offers MAT at one other primary care practice and this grant will support provision of SUD treatment at the Denton location in subsequent years.

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**Pressley Ridge (Baltimore & Washington Counties; total award \$420,000).** This program will support the HOMEBUILDERS model, which is an evidenced-based family preservation program that serves families impacted by the opioid crisis who are referred by Child Protective Services, with specific focus on infants and children at serious risk for removal from the home. The program provides intensive in-home services to vulnerable families with complex health and social service needs over a 28-day period, and referrals for specialized addiction services outside the home.

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**Worcester Youth & Family Counseling (Worcester County; total award \$120,000).** The program will expand existing service capacity and accelerate access to mental health services on the Eastern Shore by helping to reduce a current two-month waiting list. The program will support a licensed clinical supervisor and a master’s level social work graduate during completion of their required 3,000 hours of supervised clinical social work required for LCSW licensure. The program seeks to serve vulnerable, at-risk low-income residents in Worcester County.

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**Garrett County Lighthouse (Garrett County; total award \$350,000).** Garrett County Lighthouse currently serves individuals with serious and persistent mental illness. This program will support

an array of services to individuals with SUD treatment needs in this rural and underserved area of the state, including case management, individual and group therapy, assessment and skills development. The proposal indicates that over the last five years in Garrett County, 47% of children with a parent having a SUD issue have been removed from the home, and the Garrett County Health Department has reported approximately 49 new diagnoses each year.

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**Tuerk House (Baltimore City; total award \$180,000).** This program will support the opening of an “urgent” care center at the current Tuerk House location in Baltimore City. The new center will offer greater access to a range of behavioral health services including substance use and medication-assisted treatment. The program will also help connect clients to community resources from ongoing healthcare to housing assistance and work force development opportunities which contribute to successful recovery. Grant funding will be used primarily to support the hiring of clinical professional and peer recovery staff for the new center.

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**Baltimore City Health Department (Baltimore City; total award \$220,000).** This program will fund expansion of the current mobile health clinic program called Healthcare on the Spot (The Spot). The Spot current offers integrated medical services and co-locates with substance use treatment programs, drop-in centers and a syringe exchange program run by the Baltimore City Health Department. This proposal will help The Spot engage individuals that use drugs for expanded HCV testing and treatment.

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**Behavioral Life Leadership Institute (Baltimore City; total award \$220,000).** This program will expand the existing Behavioral Life Leadership Institute’s “pop-up” clinic program that uses a mobile van to provide access to low-threshold medication for opioid use disorder to vulnerable residents at two new sites in Baltimore City which have requested these services. The target population includes justice-involved residents who are shunned from traditional SUD programs and homeless individuals impacted by multiple barriers to accessing health care services. The program currently provides services a half-day per week per site, at three sites in Baltimore City.

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**Meritus Medical Center (Washington County; total award \$220,000).** This program will support screenings for individuals with SUD treatment needs, crisis intervention and stabilization, care planning and care coordination, and ongoing client support through recovery. Meritus Medical Center has implemented several inpatient initiatives to address SUD and this program will focus on care gaps following discharge. The program team to be funded by the CHRC grant will follow-up and stay connected with individuals 100 days post-discharge from the hospital. The program aims to extend the hospital's relationship with SUD patients, institute a peer support program following crisis intervention/stabilization at the hospital and address social determinants of health and barriers to support services during recovery.

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## Promoting food security and diabetes prevention and management:

**Moveable Feast (Anne Arundel, Baltimore County, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties; total award \$170,000).** Moveable Feast seeks to serve vulnerable, low-income, homebound diabetic clients. The grant will support expansion of the currently successful program that delivers free medically tailored meals to vulnerable home bound individuals who have prediabetes or diabetes and other chronic conditions, and experience food insecurity and malnutrition. Clients will also be offered medical nutrition therapy courses, and the beneficial effects of increased social contacts with Mobile Feast staff and volunteers.

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**Food and Friends (Calvert, Frederick, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's, and Washington Counties; total award \$120,000).** Grant funds will support expansion of Food and Friends' current home-delivered medically tailored free meals program for individuals identified by MedStar Family Choice and MedStar Health with type II diabetes, food insecurity, malnutrition, and limitations of Activities of Daily Living. The program aims to continue to build the case for coverage by public and private payors to address social determinates of health. The applicant navigates clients towards the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and publicly funding health insurance. Transportation and nutrition education barriers are overcome through the delivery of meals. The volunteer delivery mechanism and 'case for coverage' are the primary sources of sustainability and there is strong endorsement from MedStar Family Choice MCO.

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**Chesapeake Food Pantry (Calvert County and surrounding Southern Shore communities; total award \$100,000).** Chesapeake Food Pantry (the largest food pantry in Southern Maryland) will implement the Eat Smart, Move More Calvert! pilot program which seeks to serve low income food pantry clients with diabetes and/or prediabetes. CHRC grant funding will support the hiring of a Food Ambassador to develop a team of volunteer health coaches and provide for cooking classes and food distribution costs. This program will also leverage multiple health resources and community supports for participants. Multiple services pertinent to the client for achieving health and addressing other social determinants of health are provided at no cost.

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**Primary Care Coalition (Prince George's County; total award \$140,000).** Primary Care Coalition will implement the Food Is Medicine model, an evidence-based medical food and nutrition intervention to serve vulnerable, low-income food insecure patients. The program will offer two service pathways: navigation to food assistance for individuals without a diabetes or prediabetes diagnosis; or referral to a 12-week nutrition education program with food assistance. Primary Care Coalition will use a variant of the National Diabetes Prevention Program (Stanford Protocol) which is tailored to work effectively in resource constrained settings. Clinical and biometric measures will be assessed. The grant also supports the hiring of nine CHWs who link provider referred patients to food assistance and nutrition education. This program will implement mechanisms and tools that providers can use to ensure referrals to the Food Is Medicine program.

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**Cecil County Health Department (Cecil County; total award \$275,000).** Cecil County Health Department will implement the Cecil County Diabetes Action Plan Project which aims to expand delivery of the evidence-based National Diabetes Prevention Program to under-served, vulnerable low-income individuals whilst addressing common barriers to program recruitment and retention including lack of transportation and high medical expenses. Childcare vouchers will also be distributed to parents to encourage Diabetes Prevention Program attendance. Cecil County Health Department plans to convene their Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) as the coordinating body.

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**Johns Hopkins University SOM / Rales Health Center (Baltimore City; total award \$300,000).** Funding for this program by the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics will be used to expand the SBHC program at the KIPP Harmony and KIPP Ujima Village Academies, serving K-8 low-income minority children at the Rales Health Center in West Baltimore. This program will increase access to healthy food for children living in Healthy Food Priority areas, facilitate early clinical identification of children who are overweight and obese, and engage these students in weight management clinical care. The program will screen for food security and develop a system for referral to the school-based food pantry and support ongoing implementation of the Fitness Gram screening program.

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**Mountain Laurel Medical Center (Western Maryland Healthcare – Allegany and Garrett Counties; total award \$195,000).** This program by Mountain Laurel Medical Center will, through its three primary care delivery locations, expand access to chronic care management services for patient with uncontrolled diabetes who are uninsured/underinsured, or classified as low income, and offer free diabetes self-management education classes to improve diabetes self-management and health outcomes. The program provides an LPN Navigator to help patients secure their diabetes medication through assistance programs, and two RNs for diabetes self-management education delivery.

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**My Brother’s Keeper (Associated Catholic Charities, Baltimore City; total award \$220,000).** This program by My Brother’s Keeper, in partnership with St. Agnes Ascension Health, will establish an on-site medical home for My Brother’s Keeper clients and low-income, underserved and at-risk adult and teenager residents of the surrounding area. The new clinic will provide treatment for acute illness and chronic disease, including diabetes and its comorbidities. Services will be targeted to those who currently access primary and/or urgent care through emergency departments. Clinic patients will be screened for diabetes and prediabetes and have access to evidence-based lifestyle change programs, Diabetes Self-Management Education and Supports (DSMES), Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) and the National Diabetes Prevention Program.

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**Lower Shore Clinic (Lower Shore Counties; total award \$120,000).** This program by Lower Shore Clinic (a current grantee) seeks to improve access to healthy food for vulnerable clients with serious mental illness (SMI) who have prediabetes and diabetes by hiring a Healthy Foods coordinator to develop sustainable relationships with farmers, food distribution companies and local supermarkets to obtain food that is about to expire and will otherwise be wasted. This will

improve food security, stretch food budgets and supplement SNAP. Lower Shore clients will also receive nutrition education, training on food preservation techniques and safe food storage, and opportunities to engage in physical activity. This program follows the Geisinger Health System "Farmacy" model which has demonstrated effectiveness and is validated.

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**Anne Arundel County Health Department (Anne Arundel County; total award \$200,000).** This program by Anne Arundel County Health Department seeks to expand the capacity of the current food pantry in the county's largest food desert area, increase support for the farmer's market, and support a new, second pantry in partnership with a community organization in Brooklyn Park. An existing program, with funding support from the CHRC, enjoys broad support through association with several community and county partners and volunteers. Improving diabetes outcomes will be achieved through better nutrition and healthier food choices, addressing obesity, and use of diabetes disease prevention and management education.

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**Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (Montgomery County; total award \$240,000).** This program by the Montgomery County DHHS proposes a multipronged approach to addressing emergency department use through better disease management among patients with type II diabetes. DHHS will use risk prediction to identify eligible patients. Once enrolled, patients will have access to the Chronic Care Model (CCM) and other wrap around services, including social resources to overcome social determinants of health largely delivered by CHWs. This project is highly focused on decreasing diabetes-related Emergency Department (ED) use with a target reduction of 10%.

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**Upper Shore Aging (Caroline, Kent and Talbot Counties; total award \$90,000).** This program by Upper Shore Aging seeks to increase diabetes risk screening for all low-income seniors served by Upper Shore Aging, including those attending senior centers and home bound seniors. Home screenings will be performed in partnership with Meals on Wheels. The applicant seeks to increase awareness of diabetes risk factors and provide risk prevention education and increase food security by improving access to healthy fruit and vegetables delivered with Meals on Wheels home meals. The program seeks to increase collaboration among health care providers and will work with the Kent County Health Department/Department of Social Services to increase no cost access to Diabetes Prevention Programs for Medicare recipients.