



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Acting Secretary

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Community Health Resources Commission issues Call for Proposals to serve vulnerable populations and build capacity of safety net providers

A total of \$7 million will be available in this RFP; Funding areas include: diabetes and chronic disease; maternal and child health and pediatric asthma; and Behavioral Health including the opioid crisis

Annapolis, MD – The Maryland Community Health Resources Commission (CHRC), an independent commission within the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), has released its annual Call for Proposals for state FY 2022, which can be accessed here:

<https://health.maryland.gov/mchrc/Pages/notices.aspx>. The Call for Proposals will provide \$7 million in new grant funding and will solicit proposals in the following three areas of focus: (1) diabetes and chronic disease; (2) maternal and child health, and childhood asthma; and (3) behavioral health, opioids, and racial disparities in overdose rates.

The CHRC will host a Frequently Asked Questions call on **February 14 at 10:00 AM**. The Zoom link is: <https://zoom.us/j/93361463380?pwd=WnZHdHV0UG10OHVDZzhMMjFhL01iZz09> Meeting ID: 933 6146 3380 Passcode: 159826 Dial-In #: 301-715-8592. Letters of intent are due to the CHRC on **February 28** and grant proposals are due **March 22**. Grant aware decisions are expected to be made by the CHRC Commissioners in May, 2022.

“This year’s Call for Proposals continues the CHRC’s focus on serving vulnerable populations and promoting health equity,” said Ed Kasemeyer, CHRC Chair. “We look forward to supporting our safety net providers as they serve our most vulnerable residents and navigate the impact of COVID.” In addition to its annual grant program, the CHRC issued its first ever emergency RFP, to support safety net providers during the initial phases of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Last year, the CHRC also administered a grant program for Developmental Disabilities Administration providers as part of the RELIEF Act passed by the Maryland General Assembly.

“The Maryland Department of Health appreciates the work of the CHRC and its commitment to our safety net providers” said MDH Secretary Dennis R. Schrader. “CHRC grants are helping to support the goals of Maryland’s Total Cost of Care Model.”

Since its inception in 2005, the CHRC has awarded 639 grants totaling \$98.4 million, supporting projects in every jurisdiction of the state. These projects collectively have served more than 517,000 Marylanders. In addition to its annual Call for Proposals, the CHRC is currently administering the Health Equity Resources Community (HERC) program, and will issue the first cycle of grant awards for this program later this month.

For more information about the FY 2022 Call for Proposals, the Pathways to Health Equity program, or the work of the CHRC, please visit:
<https://health.maryland.gov/mchrc/Pages/home.aspx>.

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About the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission: The Maryland General Assembly created the Community Health Resources Commission in 2005 to expand access to affordable, high-quality health care services in the state's underserved communities; increase access to specialty health care services for the uninsured and low-income individuals; promote interconnected systems of care and partnerships among community health resources and hospitals; help reduce preventable hospital ED visits; and support the adoption of health information technology in community health resources. The CHRC is an independent commission within the Maryland Department of Health, and its 11 members are appointed by the Governor. More information about the CHRC can be found on its [website](#).