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Community Health Resources Commission issues \$8.5 million in grant funding to expand access to health care and address health disparities in underserved communities

Programs expected to serve more than 14,000 Marylanders

Annapolis, MD – The Maryland Community Health Resources Commission (CHRC) recently issued 21 grants totaling \$8.5 million to support programs across the state that will expand health care access in underserved communities, serve vulnerable residents, and promote overall health equity. These programs are expected to serve more than 14,000 Marylanders across the state.

“The CHRC congratulates these grantees for developing these innovative and important programs,” said the Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer, CHRC Chair. “The Commission looks forward to working with the grantees in the coming weeks and months as they implement their programs.” This year’s Call for Proposals generated a total of 55 proposals requesting \$35 million in funding requests. The CHRC targeted four types of projects this year: (1) Addressing chronic disease, including an emphasis on diabetes; (2) Promoting behavioral health; (3) Supporting maternal and child health; and (4) Increasing access to dental care, with a particular emphasis on supporting the state’s expanded Medicaid benefit for adults. More information about the grants issued by the CHRC this year can be accessed on its website at this url: <https://health.maryland.gov/mchrc/Pages/home.aspx>.

“The Maryland Department of Health appreciates the CHRC’s continued investment in promoting health equity and addressing health disparities across the state,” commented MDH Secretary Dr. Laura Herrera Scott.

Since 2005, the CHRC has awarded 689 grants totaling \$126 million in funding, supporting programs in every jurisdiction of the State. These programs have collectively served over 511,000 Marylanders. The CHRC also implements the Maryland Health Equity Resource Act, which provides significant funding for local communities to address health disparities. In February 2022, the CHRC awarded \$13.5 million in funding for the Pathways to Health Equity Program. Information on the programs may be found [here](#). The CHRC also administers the Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports (Consortium) to meet K-12 student behavioral health needs in a holistic and non-stigmatized manner. The CHRC expects to release the first Consortium RFP later this spring. Click [here](#) for more information on the work of the Consortium.

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