



STATE OF MARYLAND

Community Health Resources Commission

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For Immediate Release

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COMMUNITY HEALTH RESOURCES COMMISSION ISSUES PATHWAYS TO HEALTH EQUITY CALL FOR PROPOSALS

\$13 million in new grant funding to be awarded; outreach events scheduled

(Annapolis, MD)— The Maryland Community Health Resources Commission (CHRC) has issued its Call for Proposals for the Pathways to Health Equity grant program, which will provide \$13 million in new grant funding to reduce health disparities and improve health outcomes in underserved communities. This new funding was made available by the Maryland Health Equity Resource Act approved by the Maryland General Assembly earlier this year. The Call for Proposals can be found on the CHRC's website at: <https://health.maryland.gov/mchrc/Pages/notices.aspx>.

“Promoting health equity is a long-standing goal of the Community Health Resources Commission,” said Senator Edward Kasemeyer, CHRC Chairman. “We look forward to implementing the Act and informing local communities across the State about this funding opportunity.”

“The Maryland Department of Health is committed to addressing health disparities,” said Maryland Department of Health Secretary Dennis R. Schrader. “Pathways to Health Equity grants offer the potential to bring much-needed services to vulnerable communities and help achieve the overall public health goals of the state.”

The Commission, together with the HERC Advisory Committee, will host a series of in-person and virtual outreach forums to inform local communities about the program and to provide opportunities to discuss local priorities. Details about the forums listed below – and additional regional meetings to be held in Prince George’s County, Southern Maryland, and the Eastern Shore – will be provided on the CHRC’s website.

- October 14 4:00 pm First statewide forum ([online](#))
- October 21 4:30 pm Western Maryland regional forum (in-person and hybrid)
- October 26 10:00 am Western Maryland follow-up meeting (online)
- October 26 4:30 pm Baltimore regional forum (in-person and hybrid)
- October 28 10:00 am Baltimore follow-up meeting (online)

The public engagement period will occur October through November. **Applications will be due Tuesday, December 7 at 12:00 NOON.** To provide more information about the application process, the CHRC will host a Frequently Asked Questions call on October 19.

ABOUT THE CHRC (health.maryland.gov/mchrc)

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; and help reduce avoidable hospital utilization. The CHRC is an independent commission within the Maryland Department of Health, and its 11 members are appointed by the Governor. The CHRC has awarded 639 grants totaling \$98.4 million, supporting projects in every jurisdiction of the state. These projects have collectively served more than 517,000 Marylanders.

ABOUT THE HERC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (health.maryland.gov/mchrc/Pages/herc.aspx)

The Health Equity Resource Community Advisory Committee was established by the Maryland Health Equity Resource Act of 2021 to provide guidance to the CHRC in implementation of the Act. The Committee includes 11 members appointed by the Governor, Speaker of the House, and Senate President, who collectively have expertise in health disparities, Social Determinants of Health, health care costs and drivers, and other related issues. A list of Advisory Committee members can be found on the HERC webpage.

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