



# Pathways to Health Equity

**Maryland Commission on Health Equity**  
**April 20, 2022**

Rebecca Altman, HERC Advisory Data & Evaluation Subcommittee Chair  
Mark Luckner, Executive Director, MD Community Health Resources Commission



# Maryland Health Equity Resource Act (2021)

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1. Reduce health disparities
2. Improve health outcomes
3. Improve access to primary care
4. Promote primary and secondary prevention services
5. Reduce health care costs, hospital admissions and readmissions

# Maryland Health Equity Resource Act

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## Pathways to Health Equity Program

- Two-year grants issued by CHRC.
- Applicants to demonstrate self-sustainability as a HERC.
- Provides foundation and guidance to become a HERC.

## Health Equity Resource Communities (HERCs)

- Five-year grants (October 2023 RFP).
- Emphasizes longer-term interventions that address SDOH:
  - Housing;
  - Transportation;
  - Employment;
  - Food Security.

# HERC Advisory Committee

Eleven members, appointed by the Governor and Presiding Officers

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## Chair

**The Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer**,  
Chair of CHRC and Chair of the HERC  
Advisory Committee

## Data Subcommittee

**Chair: Rebecca A. Altman**, RN and MBA,  
Vice President and Chief Integration  
Officer, *LifeBridge* Health

## Call for Proposals Subcommittee

**Chair: Jacqueline J. Bradley**, MSN, MSS,  
CRNP, Bradley Consulting, LLC

## Outreach Subcommittee

**Chair: Elizabeth L. Chung**, Executive  
Director, Asian American Center of  
Frederick

**Noel Brathwaite**, PhD, MSPH, Director, Minority Health and  
Health Disparities, Maryland Department of Health

**Alyssa L. Brown**, JD, Director, Innovation, Research, and  
Development, Office of Health Care Financing, Maryland  
Department of Health

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Racism, and Equity, Department of Health Policy and  
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**Jonathan Dayton**, MS, NREMT, Community Relations and  
Population Health Supervisor, Mt. Laurel Medical Center

**Mikayla A. Walker**, MPH, Management Consultant, ReefPoint  
Group

**The Honorable John A. Hurson**, Esq., former Chair, Maryland  
Community Health Resources Commission

# Pathways to Health Equity

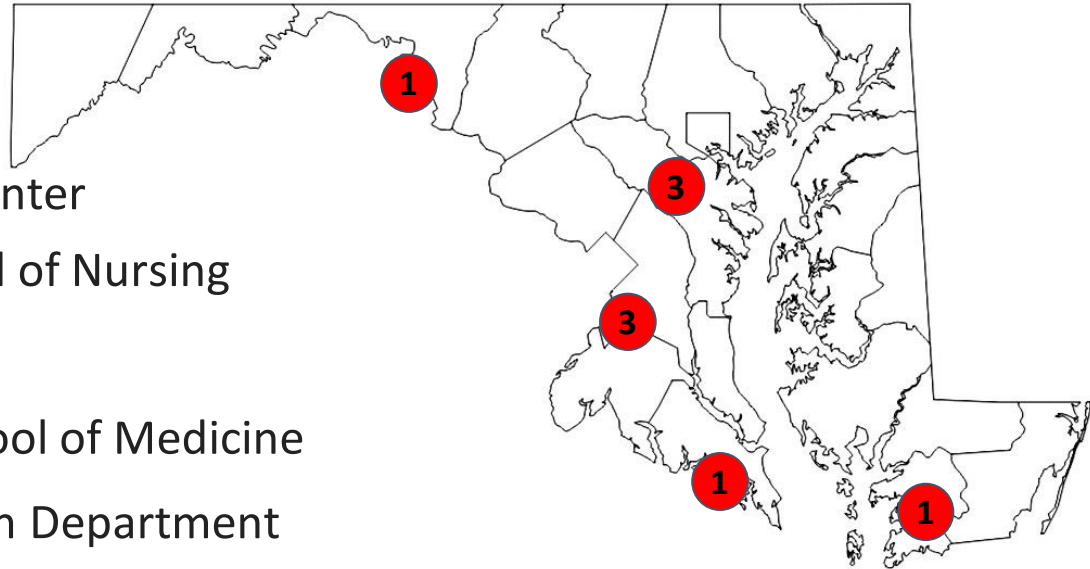
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- Pathways RFP issued October 12, 2021.
- 40 Applications received, requesting \$41 million.
- Following a review period, 9 grants were awarded totaling \$13.5 million.
- Estimated 75,000 Marylanders to receive services under Pathways to Health Equity programs.
- Projects will serve urban, suburban and rural communities (see next slide).

# Nine Pathways Grantees

## Baltimore City

- Baltimore Healthy Start
- Greater Baltimore Medical Center
- University of Maryland School of Nursing



## Prince George's County

- Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Prince George's County Health Department
- La Clínica del Pueblo

## Rural Maryland

- Tidal Health (Somerset, Wicomico & Worcester Counties)
- St. Mary's County Health Department
- Horizon Goodwill Industries (Washington County)

# “HERC-Ability”

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1. Evidence supporting progress in addressing policy objectives.
2. Key Stakeholder participation (public & private sector).
3. Self-sustainability from a long-term funding perspective. Leveraging, FFS Revenue, and Hospital community benefit dollars.
4. Integration with the State’s Health Improvement Plans, Local Health Improvement Coalitions, HSCRC Regional Partnership.
5. Provider capacity and service delivery improvements.

# Types of Data Reported / Collected

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- Standardized Measures
  - Unduplicated Patients, etc.
- Customized measures
  - Based on Program focus, such as reduction of A1c levels or blood pressure control.
- Additional data provided by CRISP
  - Hospitalization data.



# Immediate Next Steps

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- Execute grant agreements
- Finalize data measures to be collected
- Weekly Technical assistance meetings  
CHRC/CRISP
- 90-day implementation progress reports  
(narrative) due August 1, 2022
- Submit first data set for period May 1 – October 31, 2022, to CHRC by November 30, 2022

# Contact Information

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