

Tentative Agenda
Maryland Community Health Resources Commission
Policy Retreat, June 16, 2006

The MCHRC is charged with awarding grants to organizations for the purpose of supporting access to primary care (and later specialty care) in Maryland. The Commissioners realize that the money they have available for this activity is, in relation to total health care costs, or the need, is small. If the Commission's grant making program is to succeed it will need to award its grants strategically and seek to maximize the benefit they can provide.

Toward that end, the purpose of the retreat is two fold.

- To provide the Commissioners with an overview of the health care landscape in Maryland, focusing on issues of access and uninsurance. In addition it will provide some general background on the role publicly funded programs play in providing (or not) financial access to low income populations in Maryland.
- To hear the thoughts of key policy makers in Maryland on what initiatives might provide the greatest benefit to improving access to care. It is assumed that Commissioners will be able to engage in discussion with these individuals to explore issues and opportunities. Also, since the format assumes discussion of policy issues and options the presenters should be senior enough to be able to comment on their organizations policy priorities.

Meeting Schedule

8:00-8:30 **Coffee**

8:30-8:45 **Greeting and Introductions**
Sam Lin,
Chair, Maryland Community Health Resources Commission

8:45-9:30 **MCHRC Roll in Improving Health Care in Maryland**
Anthony McCann (**Confirmed**)
Secretary, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

9:30-10:30 **Panel Presentation: Overview of the Maryland Healthcare Landscape**
The Uninsured in Maryland, Who Are They and Where Do They Live?

Linda Bartinytska, (**Confirmed**)
Maryland Health Care Commission
(20 minutes)

Health Disparities in Maryland
Dr. Carlessia Hussein (**Confirmed**)
Office of Minority Health and Disparities
(15 minutes)

Public coverage
Stacy Davis (**Confirmed**)
Office of Planning and Finance, DHMH

(15 minutes)

Presentation Notes- These three presentations will provide background and context for the Commissioners. Ms. Bartinytska's presentation will provide largely statistical information on the magnitude of the uninsured population in Maryland and their characteristics. Dr. Hussein's presentation will highlight some of the disparities in health status among Maryland residents and place those disparities in their larger national context. Finally, Ms. Davis will provide background on the role public programs play in assuring financial access to care.

10:30-10:45 **Break**

PROGRAM PERSPECTIVES

This portion of the retreat will feature State officials engaging in a dialogue with the Commissioners on how the work of the MCHRC might benefit the individuals their programs' serve. Each individual session will include an identification of the major access issues and gaps in service the population faces, thoughts on how those gaps might be addressed, and how limited grant funds might be leveraged to provide the greatest benefit.

10:45- 11:15 **Maryland Medicaid**

Presenter: Paul Gurney (**Confirmed**)
Deputy Secretary for Finance DHMH

Key themes to explore – How grants could help shore up gaps in eligibility; how grants could help to leverage other funds; the gaps that Medicaid creates.

11:15- 11:45 **Public Health/Local Health Officers**

Presenter: Rodney Glotfelty, President, Maryland Association of County Health Officers. (**Confirmed**)

Key themes to explore – Local variations in access to care, innovative local approaches to improving access

11:45-12:15 **Immigrant Health Initiative**

Presenter: Audrey Regan (**Confirmed**)
Family Health Administration

Key themes to explore: State funds to being used to serve uninsured immigrants, where uninsured immigrants live; programs that provide service to uninsured immigrants.

12:15-1:30 **LUNCH**

1-30- 2:30 **Integrating Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment with Primary Care**

Panel Presentation

Presenters: Gail Jordan-Randolph, MHA (**confirmed**) and Peter Luongo Ph.D.(**confirmed**)

Key themes to explore – Integration of services for individuals needing substance abuse and mental health treatment; access to primary care for gray zone patients; primary care as an alternative to ER use.

2:30- 2:45 **BREAK**

2:45- 3:15 **Rural Health Administration**

Possible Presenters: Jake Frego, President of MD Rural Health Association (awaiting response)

Key Themes to explore – Access problems unique to rural areas, transportation issues,

3:15- 3:30 **Summary/Adjourn**

Sam Lin, Chairman, Maryland Community Health Resources Commission