



**Maryland State Health Improvement Process (SHIP)
Health Action Newsletter**

Friday, June 25, 2021

Please note the SHIP Newsletter is distributed on a bi-weekly basis.

Resource: *The Maryland Department of Health (MDH): Latest Updates on the COVID-19 Pandemic*

Visit several MDH websites for the most current information about COVID-19 and Maryland's ongoing response to the pandemic.

The MDH coronavirus.maryland.gov site provides daily updates on the rates of infection and hospitalizations by county, testing, vaccine information, nursing home data and schools data, in addition to contact tracing.

MDH [CovidLINK](#) is Maryland's public hub for information about COVID-19. It is another resource which allows us to better understand disease transmission, prevent new infection, and help slow the spread of COVID-19 by working together.



Announcement: *Maryland Public Opinion Survey (MPOS) about Opioids*



The 2021 Maryland Public Opinion Survey is now open! If you are a Marylander 18 and over, please visit to take the 15-minute survey on drug use in your community and enter for a chance to win Amazon gift cards!

For more information, visit: https://umaryland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6M8XaCzYrmlgrT8

Announcement: *Deadline for Community Health Worker (CHW) Certification Applications Based on Experience*

Wednesday, June 30

Applications for CHW certification based on experience will continue to be accepted until **June 30, 2021**. Visit the CHW Certification homepage for information about certification, full eligibility requirements, and application instructions.



To apply for CHW certification based on experience:

- Log into Maryland OneStop
- Upload the required form of age verification and two letter of validation forms
- Submit the application

Once the experience pathway closes, the only pathway to CHW certification will be based on the completion of an accredited CHW certification training program!

Join the over 800 CHWs who have been certified in Maryland!

Contact the CHW team with any questions at MDH.CHWApplications@maryland.gov or 410-767-5971. We would like to help you complete your application!

For more information, visit: pophealth.health.maryland.gov/Community-Health-Workers/Pages/Certification-Program.aspx

Find a list of accredited CHW Training Programs, visit: pophealth.health.maryland.gov/Community-Health-Workers/Pages/Accredited-Community-Health-Worker-Training-Programs



Opportunity: *National Rural Health Day - Community Stars*

The National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health's (NOSORH) annual Community Star recognition program is one of the most popular features of *National Rural Health Day*.

Community Stars from around the country are recognized for their work to address the social determinants of health and improve the lives of those who call rural their home. Do you know someone who deserves to be called out as Maryland's 2021 star?

Nominate them today (or by August 2, 2021)!

For more information, visit: www.powerofrural.org/community-stars/

Grant Opportunities: *Rural Maryland*

Seeking funding for a project to improve the health of rural Marylanders? The Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF) and the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPIF) grant application process for FY2022 is now open!



Important Dates:

Full Application Deadline: Friday, July 16, 2021

Awards announced the week of August 23, 2021

For more information, visit: rural.maryland.gov/Grant%20Opportunities/

Event: *2021 Virtual Maryland Rural Health Conference*



Monday, October 18 — Tuesday, October 19

The Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA) is excited to present the *2021 Virtual Maryland Rural Health Conference: Rural Resiliency, Reflection, & Recovery*.

Visit the conference website to learn more about submitting a proposal to present at the conference, sponsor the event, and to get registered to attend!

CALL FOR PROPOSALS EXTENDED

Proposals for Education or Certification/Training sessions supporting the theme: *Rural Resiliency, Reflection & Recovery* will be accepted until July 2, 2021!

For more information, visit: www.mdruralhealth.org/2021-virtual-maryland-rural-health-conference/

Resource: *Health Equity Technical Assistance*

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Office of Minority Health (CMS OMH) offers a health equity technical assistance program with resources aimed to help health care organizations take action against health disparities.

The CMS OMH Health Equity Technical Assistance program offers personalized coaching, resources to help improve care for underserved populations, data collection and analysis, assistance in developing a language access plan to ensure effective communication with those you serve, and resources to help you embed health equity into your strategic plan.

For more information and to register, visit: www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/equity-initiatives/Health-Equity-Technical-Assistance



Resource: *Public Health Law Academy*

The Public Health Law Academy offers free, online training to provide an understanding of the basics of our legal system and the use of law and policy for improving population health outcomes. These self-paced courses were designed for state, tribal, local, and territorial public health professionals, as well as public health lawyers, nurses, educators, advocates, and faculty and students in graduate and undergraduate programs.

For more information, visit: www.cdc.gov/php/publications/topic/phlacademy.html?s_cid=CSTLTS_DYK_Email_PHL_Academy

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