



**Maryland State Health Improvement Process (SHIP)
Health Action Newsletter**
Friday, July 30, 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.

Webinar Series: *CovidCONNECT*

Join MDH every other Thursday for the CovidCONNECT Webinar Series. These free webinars are curated specifically for Marylanders who have been impacted by COVID-19.



Developed by the Maryland Department of Health's Behavioral Health Administration, in partnership with National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Maryland, 211 Maryland, and other stakeholders, these presentations include speakers who cover topics on mental health, wellness and recovery.

Up next:

Thursday, August 5 at 5 p.m.

CovidCONNECT Peer Support Group will share their personal journeys with the

COVID-19 virus and share their stories of hope and recovery.

To Register for this upcoming webinar, visit:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gHpjo1ewTuae7R_5xM-azg

Visit the CovidCONNECT website at covidconnect.health.maryland.gov to learn more.



Announcement: *Maryland Public Opinion Survey (MPOS)*

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:

umaryland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6M8XaCzYrmlgrT8

Event: *2021 Public Health Law Conference Building and Supporting Healthy Communities for All*



Tuesday, September 21 — Thursday, September 23

This is a very important time for those in the public health community to convene to address the many health concerns heightened by the pandemic, and to continue to explore pathways to protect and empower the public health efforts.

Please plan to join the *2021 Public Health Law In-Person Conference*, held at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore, MD. Safety protocols have been put in place, including the requirement that all attendees be vaccinated. In addition, a flexible registration cancellation policy has been implemented to allow for a refund should the number of COVID-19 cases nationwide increase to concerning levels resulting in a transition to a fully virtual conference.

The 2021 Public Health Law Conference will examine law and policy pathways to:

- Equitable COVID-19 Recovery
- Improving child and adolescent health
- Addressing environmental and climate challenges
- Eliminating the social and structural barriers to health equity
- Addressing critical issues like the ACA, opioids, mental health, gun violence and vaccinations
- Strengthening the legal capacity of public health departments

For more information and to register, visit: www.events.networkforphl.org/2021-conference/

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!

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



Event: American Public Health Association (APHA) 2021 - Creating the Healthiest Nation: Strengthening Social Connectedness Meeting

APHA's 2021 Annual Meeting and Expo will take place Oct. 24-27 and begin with the Opening General Session on Sunday. Activities like business meetings and poster sessions will be virtual and start on Oct. 18. The 2021 theme is "*Creating the Healthiest Nation: Strengthening Social Connectedness*."

In-person attendees will participate at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver. Virtual attendees will participate online from anywhere globally.

For more information and to register, visit: www.apha.org//events-and-meetings/annual



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.



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

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