



Maryland Community Health Resources Commission Grants Awarded – FY 2023 Call for Proposals

March 21, 2023

Chronic Disease

MedStar Franklin Square Hospital (Baltimore County; total award \$290,000): The program seeks to address disparities in chronic disease and food access, as well as other disparities faced by African American residents in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. MedStar Franklin Square Hospital will provide healthy food for patients to prepare nutritious meals for their families, connect patients to a dietician and Community Health Advocate, and provide 20 hours of health education. Through the Primary Care Center and Family Health Center, patients will have access to primary care, specialty care, prevention services, and behavioral health assistance.

Maryland Living Well Center – Agency on Aging (Eastern Shore; total award \$300,000): The program will improve diabetes management and expand access to care for low-income, elderly, and racial and ethnic minority individuals living on the Eastern Shore. Maryland Living Well Center will provide Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) screenings, identify social service needs, and enroll older adults with or at high risk for diabetes and other chronic conditions into evidence-based disease management programs.

Food & Friends (Washington County; total award \$150,000): The program will address health disparities related to diabetes among the African American population in Washington County. Food & Friends will deliver Medically Tailored Meals and Medical Nutrition Therapy to homes of individuals who are too ill to shop or cook for themselves and have diabetes with A1C>8%.

University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health (Harford County; total award \$340,000): The program will address higher rates of uncontrolled diabetes and avoidable emergency department (ED) utilization and hospitalizations for African American residents of Harford County by : (1) providing case management and linkages to community supports to individuals who visit the hospital emergency department for avoidable diabetes related complications as well as to other individuals referred by their PCPs; (2) offering culturally competent diabetes self-management education and diabetes prevention education; and (3) increasing peer support for individuals with diabetes and their families including through a virtual diabetes support group and a Spanish language support group.

Asian American Health Center (Multiple Counties; total award \$160,000): The program will address disparities in cardiovascular disease among low income and/or vulnerable Asian American residents in Baltimore County, Baltimore City, and Howard County. Asian American Health Center will provide one-stop comprehensive screenings (including EKG, A1c, cholesterol panel, lung disease screens) and a physician consultation to review test results, diagnoses, and medications, and offer referrals to primary/specialty care. In addition, care coordination services related to medication management and referrals for wraparound social/community services will be offered, as well as culturally and linguistically appropriate health education and health coaching.

Shepherd's Clinic (Baltimore City; total award \$280,000): The *TRIUMPH* program will address racial disparities related to diabetes facing uninsured and underinsured adults in Baltimore City. Through the *TRIUMPH* program, Shepherd's Clinic will provide: (1) education on healthy eating and nutrition counseling by a licensed dietician; (2) expanded access to movement classes; (3) remote patient monitoring for weight, physical activity, and blood glucose; and 4) navigation to services that address other patient needs.

Associated Catholic Charities -Esperanza Center (Baltimore City; total award \$115,900): The program will expand access to effective screening and diagnostic testing for diabetes, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol for the uninsured Latino immigrant population in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. The Esperanza Center will provide clients point of care phlebotomy and screening services, focusing on screening and management of chronic diseases.

Healthcare for the Homeless (Baltimore City; total award \$390,000): The program will expand access to care for unhoused and housing insecure individuals, primarily racial and ethnic minorities, living in Baltimore City and impacted disproportionately by diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, and comorbidities such as obesity. The program will provide comprehensive care management to engage participants, implement interventions to control high blood pressure and diabetes, routinely measure BMI for management, and complete follow up planning after emergency department admissions and acute hospitalization.

Dental Services

Garrett County Health Department (Garrett County; total award \$330,000): The program will expand access to dental care services for adult Medicaid beneficiaries in Garrett County, a dental health professional shortage area where some residents may need to drive more than 100 miles (round trip) for dental care. Grant funding will allow the Garrett County Health Department to increase access to dental care, recruit private dentists to serve Medicaid enrollees, and provide dentures to low-income individuals in the County.

Community Clinic, Inc (Suburban MD; total award \$155,000): The program will expand access to dental services for CCI's patient base, which is low-income and ethnically diverse. Grant funding will increase CCI's capacity to provide access to comprehensive dental services, including screenings, education, preventative, and restorative care at its existing site in Greenbelt (Prince George's County).

Baltimore Medical System (Baltimore City; total award: \$745,000): The program will expand access to dental services for low-income residents in a medical, mental health, and dental underserved area. Grant funding will allow Baltimore Medical System to launch a dental program at their Yard 56 FQHC site, and create one integrated center for medical, behavioral health, and dental services.

Behavioral Health

Frederick Health Hospital (Frederick County; total award: \$600,000): The program will close gaps and reduce disparities in behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment, including during transitions in care such as hospital discharge, as well as through referrals from schools, focusing on low-income and minority populations. Grant funding will allow Frederick Health Hospital to expand care, reduce fatal overdoses, increase clinician use of evidence based behavioral health treatment modalities including services to address adverse childhood experiences and substance use disorder, improve timely follow-up after discharge, reduce avoidable emergency room visits and hospitalizations, and decrease the total cost of care for the population served.

Choptank Community Health (Kent County; total award \$215,000): The program will increase access to substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health treatment in Kent County by using the existing mobile integrated behavioral health program, ensuring access to care for individuals with transportation barriers.

LifeStyles Foundation of Maryland (Southern, MD; total award \$275,000): The program will improve access to mental health and SUD services for homeless and low-income populations in Southern Maryland. LifeStyles will offer healthcare services through a partner and will provide harm reduction information (i.e., Narcan) to its clients.

Lighthouse, Inc. (Multiple Counties; total award \$155,000): The program will expand counseling and other services for families in Central Maryland affected by a loved one's substance use. The program seeks to help Lighthouse clients improve their mental health and increase their life satisfaction; strengthen family bonds; increase knowledge

about addiction; improve coping strategies and stress management skills within families, schools, workplaces, and the community; decrease substance use by children served by the project; and increase awareness of and treatment options for families affected by opioid use.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center (Multiple Counties; total award \$500,000): The program will add 24-hour behavioral health urgent care services to Grassroots' existing SUD crisis stabilization services in Central Maryland, focusing on individuals who are low-income, African American, and/or women. Grant funding will allow Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center to reduce barriers to accessing affordable, quality urgent behavioral health care; decrease the acuity of behavioral health symptoms; and decrease hospital emergency department visits for behavioral health patients.

Pride Center of Maryland (Multiple Counties; total award \$875,000): The program will increase access to behavioral health care and somatic health care, improve mental health, decrease substance use, increase employment, increase housing stability, and decrease rates of overdose morbidity and mortality. Pride Center's client population is diverse sexual and gender minority (SGM) individuals affected by adverse Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), with emphasis on African American SGM who face high rates of health disparities as well as adverse and disproportionate impacts from COVID-19.

Maternal & Child Health

TidalHealth (Wicomico County; total award \$700,000): The program will address cultural and linguistic barriers for the Haitian community of Wicomico County to access maternal health care. TidalHealth will provide education and support before and during pregnancy, and after childbirth. Additionally, TidalHealth will establish collaborative partnerships among Haitian-Creole health care providers, community health workers, and health educators, and will create a new "workforce pipeline" for certified medical interpreters.

Charles County Health Department (Charles County; total award \$650,000): The program will allow the Charles County Health Department to open a school-based health center at the Indian Head Elementary School to serve students from Indian Head and nearby schools, and receive referrals from other sources in Charles County. Grant funding will allow the Charles County Health Department to address the chronic health needs of students.

Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care (Montgomery County; total award \$775,000): The program will address disparities in maternal mortality, child welfare, and school readiness by expanding Mary's Center Healthy Families America home-visiting program into Montgomery County.

Baltimore City Health Department (Baltimore City, total award \$500,000): The program will expand the capacity of the Baltimore City Health Department's existing centralized intake system for pregnant women with a "no wrong door" marketing approach. Grant funding will allow the Baltimore City Health Department to improve access and provider referrals, and will support a new pilot for expanded care coordination that equips the Healthcare Access Maryland Community Health Advocate to follow up with clients and ensure that referred care/services are received.