**ATTACHMENT H**

**Additional Information**

**for**

**Federally Qualified Health Centers Capital Funding Applicants**

Prepared by:

**The Primary Care Office (PCO)**

**Office of Population Health Improvement (OPHI)**

**Maryland Department of Health (MDH)**

**If you have any questions about this information, please contact**

Elizabeth Vaidya, Director

Primary Care Office

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410-767-5695

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To All Federally Qualified Health Centers

Areas of Priority to Be Considered in Grant Applications for Capital Funding

*The Maryland Primary Care Office has developed the following list of priorities to be considered for inclusion in the review of any grant applications received for grant funding for Fiscal Year 2026.*

The list will provide a basis for determining the State’s greatest needs for FQHC services in keeping with federal guidelines and to make available quality health care services for the underserved throughout the State. The list is in no way meant to be exclusionary. The Primary Care Office is aware that the FQHCs provide much-needed services and that their expansion plans will benefit the underserved. The evaluation of grant applications will be done equally. The list below serves only to provide an agreed upon set of priorities if funding will not support awards to all applicants.

The agreed-upon priorities include:

* Projects that support behavioral health services including both mental health and substance use treatment.
* Projects that support and/or foster inclusive or innovative collaborations among community agencies and/or community integration (e.g., a cooperative agreement between an FQHC and community hospital, or local health improvement coalition).
* Projects that can establish documented evidence of inadequate services in an area through reports such as the Primary Care Office’s 2021 Need Assessment that ranks Maryland’s jurisdictions to indicate which areas are in need by quartile. Reports should include primary care health indicators which use morbidity and/or mortality measures to indicate health status or include preventative measures and health care affordability to measure health care access.
* Projects that expand capacity for maternal care services via recruitment of providers (obstetricians, gynecologists, nurse practitioners, mid-wives, or other applicable providers) in areas that are at risk.
* Projects that support dental services.
* Projects that are located in an active Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA).

Please ensure that you submit an electronic copy of your Capital Funding application with all attachments, as well as a **copy of your most current UDS report** to the Primary Care Office for review to Elizabeth Vaidya, Elizabeth.vaidya@maryland.gov. Should you have any questions, she can be reached at (410) 767-5695.