

Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Physicians and Physician Assistants (MLARP)

Funding Structure Subgroup

Virtual Meeting

July 1, 2021; 2:30 p.m.

Attendees

Matthew Dudzic, Board of Physicians (BOP)

Jane Krienke, Maryland Hospital Association (MHA)

Erin Dorrien, Maryland Health Association (MHA)

Rick Rohrs, Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants (MAPA)

Megan Renfrew, Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC)

Shamonda Braithwaite, Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Clinics (MACHC)

Sara Seitz, Maryland Department of Health (MDH)

Mariah McLaren, MPower Summer Workforce intern, MDH

I. Welcome

II. Opening Business/ Remarks

- A. Review/approval of May 18, 2021 meeting minutes
- B. The minutes of the most recent meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and reviewed by attendees. No corrections were recommended. Minutes were approved as distributed.
- C. Timeline
 1. July 16, 2021 is the next full group meeting
 2. Finalize recommendations between the July and September meeting dates
 - i. Gather data to have firm recommendations by September
 3. After the September meeting, review the General Assembly report
- D. Overarching Goal
 1. Funding should be predictable, from a diverse set of sources and should strive for at least \$1,000,000 toward federal match

III. Discussion

- A. The group discussed each component of the MLARP funding source chart initially drafted via brainstorm at a prior meeting.
 1. Employer Match
 - i. MHA believes this is beneficial to the program
 - ii. A long term goal
 2. Assessment on Healthcare Facilities

1. Equitable option
 2. From the FQHC perspective, there may be pushback if benefits are not seen for keeping the provider for a long period of time, however, a tier approach could make this more equitable.
 3. Other states do not utilize a tier approach for this funding source
 4. Could be posed as an option for hospitals
- B. State General Funds
1. An opportunity to promote health equity and support the healthcare system
 2. Could be the main funding source in the future
- C. Dedicated Tax
1. More political
 2. Legislators should decide if they want to pursue this option
 3. Look into the Cigarette Restitution Fund and the Opioid Restitution Fund
- D. Community/local investment
1. Chambers of Commerce could help rural areas and improve retention rates
- E. State Tax Donation
1. Gives individuals the ability to donate
 2. Small donations could add up
 3. Presents the option to potential donors
- F. Schools and Universities
1. How would this work?
- G. Insurers
1. A route to building network adequacy

IV. Next Steps

- A. Draft and update report that outlines recommendations and a slide that incorporates questions for the July 16th meeting
1. Main recommendation is to increase funding so that the program is more valuable to MD as an incentive program
- B. Next Full Workgroup Meeting: July 16, 2021

V. Adjournment