



Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Harford County Health Department

HARFORD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
DIRECTORY OF SERVICES



www.harfordcountyhealth.com

410-838-1500

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Harford County Health Department

"Healthy People in a Healthy Environment"



Vision: To make Harford County the healthiest community in Maryland.

Mission: To protect, promote and improve the health, safety, and environment of the residents of Harford County through community assessment, education, collaboration and assurance of services.

About the Harford County Health Department:

The Harford County Health Department (HCHD) is the operational arm of both the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and local government for the delivery of public health services to the residents of Harford County. Programs offered by HCHD are tailored to the community's needs and include behavioral health, care coordination, clinical health services, disease surveillance and control, environmental health, health education and promotion, public health emergency preparedness, WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) nutritional services, and many others.

In March 2015, HCHD was awarded national public health accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), one of only 67 public health departments of the more than 3,000 eligible health departments in the country to have received the honor at that time.

Employing over 150 employees, HCHD provides public health services throughout the County and has community health centers in Bel Air, Edgewood and Havre de Grace.



Assistance Programs

Care Coordination Plus

Care Coordination Plus assists clients in accessing community resources and the medical care they need after being discharged from the hospital. All Harford County residents are eligible regardless of the type of medical insurance they have. A patient navigator works as a liaison between the health department, University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Medical Center and other local agencies to coordinate patient care.

Maryland Children's Health Program

Maryland Children's Health Program works through the Maryland Health Connection to assist Maryland residents with applying for health insurance, assisting with the Managed Care Organization (MCO) and primary care doctor selection process. Eligibility for health insurance products offered through the Maryland Health Connection is based on household size and income.

Medical Assistance Transportation

The Medical Assistance Transportation grant program is funded by the State of Maryland and coordinates transportation services for Medical Assistance recipients who reside in Harford County and need transportation to access medically necessary services. This program provides "last resort" transportation for Medical Assistance recipients who have no other means available to get to and from medical appointments. Modes of service transportation available include Ambulatory (cab/passenger van), Wheelchair Van, and Ambulance.

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Assistance Programs

Hospital Outreach Program

The Hospital Outreach Program (HOP) nurse assists individuals 18 years of age or older, referred by local hospitals or nursing facilities who are at risk for long-term care placement. The HOP nurse assists in locating continued-community resources, identifying barriers in the community, conducting follow-up visits to the home, coordinating with other community agencies including hospital discharge coordinators, and assisting the client with adherence to the hospital discharge plan and medication management.

Nurse Monitoring Program

The Nurse Monitoring Program provides assistance with activities of daily living, medication management, shopping, and light housekeeping to medical assistance recipients. If applicable, clients may be eligible for an environmental assessment, adaptive equipment and more.

WIC

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is a public health nutrition program under the USDA providing nutrition education, nutritious foods, breastfeeding support, and healthcare referrals for income-eligible women who are pregnant or post-partum, infants, and children up to age 5. Clients who are eligible must live in Maryland, meet income guidelines, and have a nutritional need.



Behavioral Health Services

Drug Overdose Fatality Review Team

The Overdose Fatality Review Team reviews recent deaths that occurred in Harford County, and of Harford County residents who died from a drug overdose. The primary objectives of the team are to develop an understanding of the causes and incidences of drug overdose deaths in the county, develop plans for and recommend changes within County and State agencies represented on the local team to prevent drug overdose deaths, and advise changes to law, policy, or practice, including the use of devices that are programmed to dispense medications on a schedule.

Naloxone Training

The health department provides an educational training and certification program under the Maryland Overdose Response Program. This program is designed to educate and certify community members who, either through their occupation, family or social experience, may encounter a person who is experiencing an opioid overdose.

Opiate Recovery Court

The Opiate Recovery Court is a voluntary program for addicts who have hit rock bottom and are facing criminal charges for opioid related activity. The mission of the opiate recovery court is to provide a court-managed drug treatment and monitoring program that addresses rehabilitation in the form of medication and counseling for opioid-dependent participants as an alternative to traditional case processing.



Behavioral Health Services

Peer Recovery and Support Services

The Peer Recovery and Support Services program provides continuing care services, support services, and education to clients in an effort to support retention in treatment and long-term recovery. Services are provided by peer recovery specialists.

Prevention, Treatment and Support Services

The health department provides an array of outpatient treatment and support services for adolescents and adults suffering from a mental illness, a substance use disorder, or an addiction. Services include drug and alcohol evaluation, treatment and referral, mental health evaluation, group counseling, individual counseling, intensive outpatient treatment, continuing care, family education and support, drug screens, and medication management. Services are individualized and based upon the needs of the client. Services offered at the health department vary from low-intensity to high-intensity outpatient treatment. At admission, clients are assessed to determine the best course of treatment.



Clinical Services

Dental Clinic

The Dental clinic provides comprehensive oral health care services to children from birth through age 20, and pregnant women who are enrolled in Medical Assistance. The clinic services include x-rays, cleanings, sealants, fluoride treatments, oral health education, nutrition education, restorations (fillings), extractions, root canals, crowns, space maintainers for missing primary teeth, and referrals to specialty care when necessary. Also, the clinic provides dental care on two Saturdays a month to Harford County residents living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

The Health Department's Dental Program has several outreach programs including: a school-based oral health screening program to include pre-k classes and kindergarten classes in eight Title I elementary schools in Harford County, a dental sealant program in 2nd and 3rd grades in the Title I schools, and an oral health screening program for children and pregnant women in its three Women, Infant and Children's (WIC) centers in Harford and Cecil Counties.

Emergency Contraception

Clients of the health department who did not use a contraceptive during sex or fear their contraceptive did not work properly are eligible for Emergency Contraception (EC) through the family planning clinic. EC is also known as the Morning After Pill or Plan B. Plan B can be taken up to 5 days after unprotected sex and does not end a pregnancy that has already been established.



Clinical Services

Family Planning

The Family Planning clinic provides gynecological exams including breast exams, Pap smear testing, STD testing and treatment, HIV counseling and testing, birth control options, education and supplies, reproductive and preventive health education, pregnancy testing services and emergency contraception. The clinic also provides colposcopy services for women who need follow-up treatment from an abnormal Pap smear. The clinic accepts insurance and has a sliding-fee scale for uninsured or under-insured. The staff of the family planning clinic consists of physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses and clerical staff.

Immunizations

The Immunization clinic provides vaccines for preventable diseases. Vaccines include required vaccines for school admission and recommended childhood and adult vaccines.

Pregnancy Testing

The health department Family Planning clinic offers free urine pregnancy testing for women who suspect they may be pregnant. During the appointment for pregnancy testing, clients are educated on their options and provided preconception health counseling.

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)

The STI Clinic provides testing for sexually transmitted infections including Chlamydia, Genital Herpes, HIV, HPV, Gonorrhea, Syphilis, Trichomoniasis, and Viral Hepatitis. Treatment is also provided for STI's except for Hepatitis. The clinic provides education to the patient in regard to STI's and prevention. The clinic is held weekly on a first-come first-served basis and most insurances are accepted. For uninsured clients, a sliding-fee scale is available.



Community Health Services

Emergency Preparedness

The Emergency Preparedness program is responsible for planning and responding to any health related issue that might occur as a result of a disaster. The program staff works closely with other first responders at the local, regional and state level as well as other Harford County agencies.

Health Education

The Public Health Education program provides no-cost presentations for community, business, and school groups on a variety of tobacco awareness, cancer prevention, and other health issues. Staff members are also available to exhibit at community and business functions, providing information about health department services, and a variety of personal and public health-related topics.

Healthcare for the Homeless

HealthCare for the Homeless (HCH), in partnership with the health department, provides a comprehensive system of health-related services to reduce the incidence and burdens of homelessness in Harford County. HCH offers pediatric and adult primary medical care, in addition to case management services. HCH serves all persons who currently, or have in the past year, lack a fixed, regular, and/or adequate residence.



Community Health Services

Infectious Disease

The Communicable Disease Surveillance and Control (CDSC) program focuses on preventing or limiting the spread of certain infectious diseases. This is achieved through disease surveillance, case investigation, contact follow-up, and implementation of control measures when necessary. The health department relies on healthcare providers, laboratories, hospitals, and citizens to report diseases.

Tobacco Education and Treatment

Tobacco-related services are conducted through Maryland Cigarette Restitution Fund Program (CRFP) grant funding. The Program offers training, provides personalized educational presentations, and performs outreach to community organizations and schools targeted at preventing the use of all (combustible, smokeless, and electronic) tobacco/nicotine products. No-cost tobacco treatment (or “Quit Tobacco”) classes are offered throughout the year to any adult tobacco user who wants to quit. Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) product, including patches, lozenges, and gum, also may be available at no cost to participants who qualify.

Tobacco Enforcement

The Health Department coordinates annual, random, unannounced tobacco sales compliance checks of tobacco retail sales outlets for purposes of enforcing existing regulations prohibiting the sale or distribution of any tobacco product to individuals under 18 years of age. Additionally, the program visits all licensed tobacco vendors in the County in support of efforts to increase retailer compliance and to promote public awareness of youth access laws.



Environmental Health Services

Air Quality

Air Quality and Solid Waste Control reviews open burning/fire training permit requests and demolition permits. Staff conduct inspections at landfills, mobile home parks, and farm land for sludge (bio-solids). In addition, mobile liquid waste hauler trucks are jointly inspected with the county. In addition to investigating complaints related to abandoned buildings, garbage, solid waste, illegal burning hazmat/medical waste and indoor air quality issues in schools. Staff also provides information and technical support on air pollution, radon, asbestos, mold and other miscellaneous issues affecting air quality.

Bay Restoration Fund

Environmental Health manages the BRF grant to upgrade onsite sewage disposal systems (septic systems) with the Best Available Technology (BAT) for nitrogen removal in Harford County. State law allows BRF money to be used to pay for properties on septic systems to be connected to public sewer. The goal of the program is to reduce nutrients from getting into the Chesapeake Bay. Failing systems located within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area should be upgraded with BAT units or connected to public sewer. Other septic systems, including failing systems outside of the Critical Area may also be eligible for grant money depending on funding availability.

Building Permit Review

The Miscellaneous Residential Building Permit program reviews miscellaneous building permit applications such as garages, additions to dwellings, sheds, pools, etc., on properties serviced by individual wells and/or septic systems. Staff reviews pre-permit plan review proposals and issues sanitary construction permits for upgrades of existing systems or the repair of failing on-site disposal systems.



Environmental Health Services

Food Inspection & Food Plan Review

The Food Control program protects the community through plan review of food service facilities and inspections of all public food facilities, including hospitals, nursing homes, day treatment facilities, and assisted living facilities serving 17 or more residents. Staff inspects food vendors at public events, mobile food units, and snowball stands. Staff also investigates foodborne outbreaks, citizen complaints, and illegal food service operations.

Public Swimming Pools and Spas

The Public Swimming Pool and Spa Inspections program licenses all public/semi-public swimming pools. Staff conducts routine inspections, issues pool operator certificates to persons successfully completing an approved pool operator's course, and maintains a database on all public and semi-public swimming pools and certified pool operators in Harford County.

Rabies and Vector Control

The Rabies program provides low-cost rabies vaccination clinics for dogs, cats, and ferrets. Staff investigates possible human and animal rabies exposure cases while assisting in the surveillance of West Nile Virus and other arboviruses. The Vector Control program assists communities with prevention and control of rodent and insect infestations. Staff provides mosquito larvicidal treatments when warranted.



Environmental Health Services

Soil Testing

The Soil Testing program conducts soil percolation tests to determine if the soil/site conditions are suitable for an on-site disposal system (septic), establishes the limits of the waste disposal area, determines the type and size of the disposal systems from test data, and evaluates lots/parcels for Innovative and Alternative (I and A) on-site systems for lots with severe limiting conditions. In addition, basic repair soil tests are conducted to repair failing on-site disposal systems (septic).

Water Quality

The Water Quality program collects water samples from individual water supplies for analysis of bacteria, nitrates, turbidity, and sand. They analyze results, issue certificates of potability, respond to concerns about the safety of private drinking water supplies, collect miscellaneous water samples including volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and discharge from treatment systems, streams, etc.

Well and Septic

The Sanitary Construction Inspection and Enforcement program inspects new, replacement, and upgraded septic systems, investigates complaints from citizens concerning on-site waste disposal systems and takes appropriate enforcement action. Staff also reviews applications and issues well permits in accordance with the State regulations, conducts grout inspections and ensures that unsafe wells are properly abandoned and sealed.



Healthcare Coordination Services

Adult Evaluation Review Services

The Adult Evaluation Review Service conducts comprehensive evaluations to identify services available to help individuals remain in the community, or in the least restrictive environment while functioning at the highest possible level of independence and personal well-being.

Administrative Care Coordination

The Administrative Care Coordination unit (ACCU) is a local resource for information for Medicaid (Medical Assistance) recipients. The program increases client's overall awareness of the Medicaid program, provides HealthChoice and Medicaid education, including care coordination activities and access health care.

Infectious Disease Services

HIV/AIDS Services

The health department offers free, confidential, and anonymous HIV counseling and testing services. Education is provided for clients on the importance of protection and the risks associated with the disease. Clients are educated on how to reduce chances of HIV/AIDS exposure. For eligible HIV positive individuals, the following services are available: a monthly medical clinic, Case Management services, and an HIV support group. PrEP is also available for those who are at risk for HIV but are not HIV positive.



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YES
 NO



Infectious Disease Services

Infectious Diseases

The Communicable Disease Surveillance and Control (CDSC) program focuses on preventing or limiting the spread of certain communicable diseases. This is achieved through disease surveillance, case investigation, contact follow-up and implementation of control measures.

Rabies Control and other Zoonotic Diseases

The Rabies and other Zoonotic Disease program provides low-cost rabies vaccination clinics for dogs, cats, and ferrets. Staff investigates possible human and animal rabies exposure cases while assisting in the surveillance of West Nile Virus and other arboviruses. Staff also conducts annual inspections of pet stores and exotic bird breeders, issues psittacine bird permits and provides Lyme disease awareness and prevention presentations to interested community groups.

Tuberculosis

Active Tuberculosis (TB) cases are followed by health department nurses using direct observed medication therapy. Patients are required to take their medication in the presence of a health care worker for the entire treatment time. Tuberculin skin testing is available at no charge to adoptive or foster parents, and persons exposed to someone with active TB disease. Individuals who test positive for TB will receive a medical review to confirm the diagnosis and possible need for treatment.



Maternal and Child Health Services

Child Fatality Review Team

The Child Fatality Review Team reviews all child deaths from ages 0 to 1 year for SIDS, sudden unexplained death of an infant, and other child deaths ages 1 to 18 years that are autopsied by a medical examiner. The review team operates using a systems approach, asking questions regarding why the child died, prevention, and safety of the child. The team then develops recommendations for increased child safety and prevention of future deaths.

Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Team

The goal of the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Team is to prevent poor pregnancy outcomes and reduce infant mortality. The team reviews fetal deaths from 20 weeks gestation and infant deaths that are not related to unsafe sleeping, performs medical record abstraction, maternal interviews, and presents de-identified cases to the team to review. Team members use a systems approach to determine how the outcome could have been avoided, if applicable, to prevent future deaths.

Healthy Families

Healthy Families is a program under the Care Coordination division that provides home visiting services to all prenatal and postpartum families in the Aberdeen area. All pregnant women and families with children under the age of 3-months are eligible for the Healthy Families program. Eligible families are able to participate until their children reach three years of age.



Maternal and Child Health Services

Hearing and Vision Screening

The Hearing and Vision Screening program provides screening to students enrolled in private pre-schools and other schools that are currently approved by the Maryland Department of Education. Screenings are provided to children in April and May of each year.

Home Birth Verification

The Home Birth Verification program verifies the births of Harford County babies that are not delivered in a facility and where an attending clinician was not present during the birth.

Lead Poisoning Follow-Up

The Lead Poisoning Follow-Up program provides tracking and follow-up for children, up to age 6, with elevated blood lead tests and provides the parent with health education regarding lead risk reduction. The program also coordinates follow-up care with health care providers. If the patient was exposed in a rental property, the property owners are notified of elevated lead levels.



Maternal and Child Health Services

Maternal and Infant Home Visiting

The goal of the Maternal and Infant Home Visiting program is to reduce infant mortality by linking families with certain risk factors to community services, health care providers, assessing the safety, and promoting safe sleeping environments for the infant. The program also assesses mothers for postpartum depression and ensures the mother returns to her obstetrician for a postpartum exam for family planning. Infants are followed for the first three months of life.

WIC

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is a public health nutrition program under the USDA providing nutrition education, nutritious foods, breastfeeding support, and healthcare referrals for income-eligible women who are pregnant or post-partum, infants, and children up to age 5. Clients who are eligible must live in Maryland, meet income guidelines, and have a nutritional need.

Maryland **WIC**

1-800-242-4942 • www.mdwic.org

Better Nutrition for a Brighter Future

Preventive Health Services

Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program provides no-cost screening gynecological exams and mammograms to Maryland women between the ages of 40-65 and those over 65 without Medicare Part B, who financially qualify. The program also provides navigation services through contracted providers for clients with insurance that covers screening costs but do not know where to go or have difficulty navigating the health care system, as long as they financially qualify.

Colorectal Cancer Screening Program

The Colorectal Cancer Screening Program provides no-cost colonoscopies to Maryland residents, both men and women, who are 50 years and older, who are at increased risk for colorectal cancer because of personal or family histories of colorectal cancer, polyps, or colitis, and financially qualify.

Injury Prevention

The purpose of the health department Injury Prevention program is to reduce the rates of injuries at home, at school, in the community, on the road, and at play. Health department staff collaborates with a host of public and private sector partners and service providers to improve the health and safety of those living and working in the county



Social Work Services

Infants and Toddlers

The Harford County Infants and Toddlers program provides early intervention services to children, ages 1-5, who have delays in development or who are at risk for developmental delay. Services are provided at no cost to children living in Harford County. Participating public agency partners include Harford County Health Department, Harford County Public Schools, and Harford County Department of Social Services.

School- Based Health Centers

In partnership with Harford County Public Schools, the School Health Readiness program provides health care, mental health care, and preventive services to students who may lack access to health care. These services are provided at four Title I elementary schools in Harford County and the Alternative Education Program.

Teen Diversion

Teen Diversion is a psychiatric rehabilitation day program operating under the health department and housed within the Harford County Public School system. Treatment is focused on diverting adolescents, ages 13 through 17, from a more restrictive therapeutic or educational placement and reintegrating them back into the community. Adolescents typically participate in outpatient treatment for a minimum of 12 weeks, although the length of treatment may be longer, or shorter, based on treatment progress.



Vital Records Services

Birth Certificates

The health department's Birth Certificate program provides certified copies of birth certificates to eligible individuals who were born in Maryland and are in the State of Maryland Online System. Applications can be completed at the health department. The cost of the birth certificate is \$20.00, cash or credit card only.

Death Certificates

The health department's Death Certificate program provides certified copies of death certificates to a surviving relative of the deceased, authorized representative of a surviving relative of the deceased, a funeral director who was in charge of the final disposition of the body of the deceased, an individual who has proven legal need, or the court of law. The fee for the first copy is \$16.00. Additional copies are \$20.00 each.

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The services and facilities of the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) are operated on a non-discriminatory basis. This policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin and applies to the provisions of employment and granting of advantages, privileges, and accommodations.

The Department, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, ensures that qualified individuals with disabilities are given an opportunity to participate in and benefit from MDH services, programs, benefits, and employment opportunities.

All persons with limited English proficiency receive equal access to health department services in accordance with State and federal law. Interpreting services are available free of charge to all persons receiving Harford County Health Department services.



NOTES

Health Department Locations

ABERDEEN

253 Paradise Rd.
Aberdeen, MD 21001
Phone: 410-273-5681
Services: School Health
Readiness, Teen Diversion

BEL AIR

120 South Hays Street
Bel Air, MD 21014
Phone: 410-838-1500
Services: Administration,
Behavioral Health, Environmental
Health, MA Transportation, & Vital
Records

EDGEWOOD

1321 Woodbridge Station Way
Edgewood, MD 21040
Phone: 410-612-1779
410-612-1776 (WIC)
Services: Cancer Prevention,
Family Planning, Infectious
Disease, Public Health
Education, Tobacco, WIC

1 North Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014
Phone: 410-638-3060
Services: HIV Testing &
Healthcare for the Homeless

HAVRE DE GRACE

2027 Pulaski Highway, Suite 107
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
Phone: 410-939-6680
Services: WIC

2015 Pulaski Highway
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
Phone: 410-942-7999
Services: Care Coordination

