

Harford County Health Department

The Health of Harford County

Board of Health

May 17, 2022

Marcy Austin, Acting Health Officer



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Harford County
Health Department**



Agenda

- Harford County Health Rankings
- Additional County Funding
- HUD Update
- Program Highlights
- Minority Health Spotlight
- Peach Bottom Spotlight

2022 County Health Rankings: *By Maryland Jurisdiction*

County Health Rankings provides a revealing snapshot of how health is influenced by where we live, learn, work, and play. They provide a starting point for change in communities.

2022 County Health Rankings for the 24 Ranked Counties in Maryland

For 2022, Harford County ranks 10th of 24 for health outcomes and 5th of 24 for health factors, the same ranks as 2021.

County	Health Outcomes	Health Factors
Allegany	21	19
Anne Arundel	7	7
Baltimore	14	11
Baltimore City	24	24
Calvert	5	6
Caroline	17	20
Carroll	4	3
Cecil	18	15

County	Health Outcomes	Health Factors
Charles	13	13
Dorchester	23	22
Frederick	3	4
Garrett	15	14
Harford	10	5
Howard	2	1
Kent	16	12
Montgomery	1	2

County	Health Outcomes	Health Factors
Prince George's	12	17
Queen Anne's	6	9
Somerset	22	23
St. Mary's	8	10
Talbot	11	8
Washington	20	16
Wicomico	19	21
Worcester	9	18



2022 County Health Rankings: *Harford County Indicators*

Health Indicators	Harford County	Maryland	Top U.S. Performers
<i>HARFORD COUNTY DOING BETTER</i>			
Child Mortality (per 100k)	30	50	40
Teen Births (per 1k)	9	15	11
Uninsured (%)	5%	7%	6%
<i>HARFORD COUNTY DOING WORSE</i>			
Adult Obesity (%)	16%	13%	15%
Poor Mental Health Days	4.3	4.0	4.0
Adult Smoking (%)	16%	13%	15%



Additional County Funding

Thank you County Executive Barry Glassman!

- For approving an additional \$200,000 of federal funds to assist in meeting additional needs in the health department's Environmental Health Bureau.

Thank you Council President Pat Vincenti and Councilmen!

- For advocating on the health department's behalf for additional funding.



Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Grant

HUD Grant Update

- Funding of \$1,000,000 over a **three-year period** was officially granted to the health department on February 11, 2022.
- Health department worked with county procurement to post the Request for Proposal.



Program Highlights

Dental Clinic and School-Based Dental Program

- The Dental Clinic strives to improve the oral health of children ages 1 -20 on Medicaid and pregnant and postpartum women who are Medicaid eligible.
- The School-Based Oral Health Program, in partnership with HCPS, has resumed its services in 10 Title I Schools. Dental education is provided to all classes and direct dental services are provided with parental consent.



Program Highlights

WIC at 1 N. Main

- The 1 N Main Family Health Center has had approximately 300 WIC participants receive nutritional services since its opening in July.
- This program will start seeing children in the new dental clinic within the next month when we welcome our new tri-lingual Pediatric dentist, Dr. Carolina Rojas.



Follow me to our new
WIC location at
1 N. Main St.
in Bel Air!

To make an
appointment call:
410-939-6680



Program Highlights

Medical Assistance Transportation

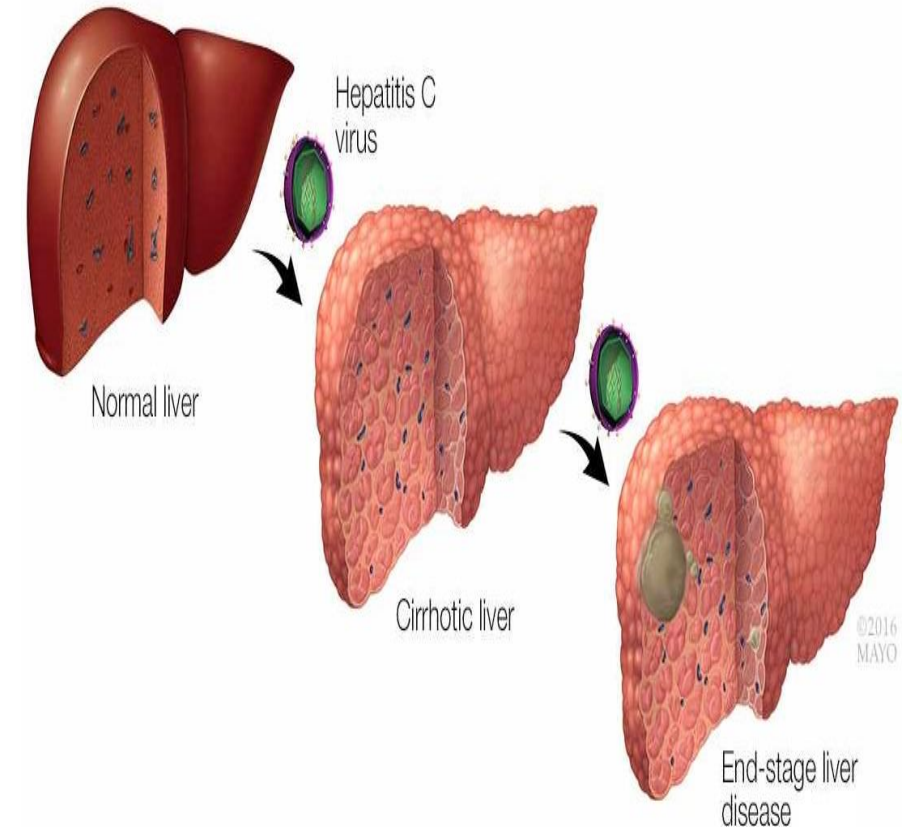
- Assures eligible Medicaid participants access to care by providing non-emergency ambulatory, wheelchair, and ambulance transportation to health care appointments.
- Additionally, the program covers return trips from hospital emergency visits, return trips from hospital stays, and medically necessary inter-hospital transfers.



Program Highlights

Clinical Health and Hepatitis C

- Hepatitis C is a leading cause of liver cancer.
- **47,000 – 73,000 Maryland residents will contract Hepatitis C in their lifetime.**
- 1 in 3 young people who inject drugs have Hepatitis C.
- Reaching more people with hepatitis C and offering testing and treatment is critical to saving lives and preventing transmission of this deadly, but curable, infection.



Program Highlights

Clinical Health and Hepatitis C

- Over 70 individuals enrolled in care in our Clinical Services Bureau.
- **35 have been cured.**
- 14 currently receiving treatment, close to cure.
- 22 lost to follow up (Prevention and cure are low priorities if other issues are going on.)
- Strong relationships with local treatment centers for testing and referrals to our services.
- Once engaged in Hep C treatment, clients utilize other HCHD services such as immunizations, sexual health, behavioral health, drug user health, and family planning.



Program Highlights

Healthy Families Harford County

- A free program that provides home visiting services, including prenatal development, parenting, child development, health care, and local resources support, by trained Family Resource and Support Specialists until children reach 3 years of age.
- Healthy Families Harford County holds monthly parenting support groups to share information and provide socialization opportunities for parents.
- All pregnant women and families with children under three months of age, living in Harford County are eligible to be screened for service.



Program Highlights

Healthy Families (continued)

- Preparing for 2nd Accreditation which is due in July.
- Our home visiting “pilot” program is preparing to end and its success has **led to a statewide expansion for all home visiting sites to now bill Medicaid directly for home visiting services that use Healthy Families America or Nurse Family Partnership models.**
- We will begin the expansion in FY23.
 - The goal is to continue to expand our services to more families in Harford County with this funding



Program Highlights

Healthy Families (continued)

- We had 8 families graduate from our program in 2021!
 - 11 families (12 target children) graduating in June 2022.
 - Graduation will take place at MEGAN's Place on 6/16/22.
- We have monthly groups with topics including time management, mindfulness, networking, yoga, and health education.

Congratulations to our October 2021 Graduates!



Program Highlights

Lead and Asthma

- Home visiting program led by nurses and community health workers.
- Conduct 3-6 visits in-person or virtually with the family depending on preference. We provide information, education materials, and tools/supplies consisting of:
 - Mattress and pillow covers
 - Medicine containers
 - HEPA Vacuum cleaners
 - Doormats
 - Green Cleaning supplies
 - Pest Management Kits

Qualifications:

- Resident of Harford County
- Enrolled in/meet eligibility for Medical Assistance
- Ages 0-18
- Have a Blood Lead Level of 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or higher and/or
- Moderate to severe Asthma diagnosis



Program Highlights

Environmental Health

- Three Program Areas
 - Inspections
 - Permits and Plan Review
 - Land and Water Resources
- All EH inspectors must have at least a Certificate of Eligibility from the Board of Environmental Health Specialists for employment at a local Health Department
 - Bachelor with at least 30 science credits
 - At least 12 month training period
 - Must pass national licensing exam before In-Training Certificate expires (3 years from date of hire)



Program Highlights

Inspections

- Food Service Facility Inspections
- Public Swimming Pools
- Nuisance Complaints
 - Solid Waste
 - Stagnant Water
- Septic Complaints
- Rodent Complaints
- Rabies Investigations

Permits & Plan Review

- New Food Service Facilities
- New Homes
- Additions
- Garages
- Pools
- 1,821 Permits reviewed in 2021
 - Accurate Site Plan helps
 - Accurate Floor Plan helps

Land & Water Resources

- Percolation Testing
- Subdivision of Land
- Well Permitting
- Septic Permitting
- 310 Percolation Tests in 2021
- 328 Septic Permits in 2021



Program Highlights

Behavioral Health

- Includes Behavioral Health Services for Adults, Behavioral Health Services for Youth & Adolescents, and the Local Addictions Authority.
- Services for adults and youth are direct clinical services.
- Our Local Addictions Authority monitors county-wide initiatives and grants related to the provision of treatment and recovery support services.



Minority Health Program Spotlight

Spotlight: Minority Health

Minority Health Program: Community health workers dedicated to addressing minority health in Harford County!

- Care Coordination Services: Linking individuals to services at the health department and in the community
- “Let’s Talk About It” bi-weekly live stream: Can be viewed on Harford County Health Department Facebook and YouTube
- "A Time to Heal: Focus on the Family Series" Events: Monthly healing events to discuss important health topics



Peach Bottom Spotlight

Spotlight: Peach Bottom

Constellation Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station Exercises

- The Health Department participates in radiological FEMA graded exercises every two years to demonstrate our partnership with various county and state agencies in the event that there is a release of radioactive material.
 1. Participate in **Emergency Operations Center** exercise to demonstrate actions we would be taking during various stages of a possible radioactive release and how we would be utilizing our partnerships to accomplish these tasks.
 2. Participate in a **Radiological Monitoring and Decontamination** exercise that demonstrates how we would operate Community Reception Centers.



Spotlight: Peach Bottom

Potassium Iodide (KI)

- A salt of stable iodine in pill form. This can be ordered by the County Health Officer for protective action.
- **What is iodine?** Iodine is essential for proper function of the thyroid gland, which uses it to make the thyroid hormones.
- **What is it used for?** The FDA has approved it as a nonprescription tablet for use as a “blocking agent” to prevent the human thyroid gland from absorbing radioactive iodine (radioiodine).
- **What is the thyroid gland?** Largest gland in the neck and secretes metabolic hormones important to the growth of the human body.
- **What is radioactive iodine?** One of the most abundant substances in the cloud of radioactive steam released by a failing nuclear power plant.



Spotlight: Peach Bottom

Maryland Risk County

- Receives automatic ring-down call into the 911 Center reporting G.E.
 - Contact the County Emergency Manager
 - Activates the EOC to a level-1 (Full)
 - First responders alerted to report to Staging Area for RAD Briefing
 - Reception centers and initial mass care shelters are opened
 - Join conference call with MEMA and MDE
 - Activate the siren system and provide appropriate EAS message



Thank you!

410-838-1500

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