

FY 25 Annual Report

HARFORD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Harford County
Health Department**



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Letter from the Health Officer

Dear Community Members and Partners,

I am honored to present the Harford County Health Department's Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report, highlighting our work from July 2024 through June 2025. Although I only recently joined the department, I have been truly inspired by the dedication, resilience, and achievements of our staff throughout this past year.

This report reflects the Health Department's ongoing commitment to advancing the health and well-being of all Harford County residents. Guided by our goal to make Harford County the healthiest community in Maryland, our team continued to deliver high-quality, comprehensive care while navigating evolving challenges.

Among the year's accomplishments:

- Our **Clinical Health Bureau** expanded services through a newly acquired Mobile Health Van, offering rapid HIV and Hepatitis C screenings at community events including Pride, Walgreens HIV Testing Day, and Project Connect. In FY25, we recorded 2,352 HIV case management encounters.
- The **Minority Health Program** successfully hosted its annual "I You We Matter" Youth Symposiums, engaging 132 young women in November 2024 and 48 young men in May 2025, in partnership with the Ward Y in Abingdon.
- Our **Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)** program served an average of 3,298 clients monthly, while the Dental Clinic completed 5,928 visits.
- The **Behavioral Health Bureau** provided 3,265 psychiatric visits and 1,611 appointments for substance use disorder treatment, supporting residents' mental and emotional health.
- The **Environmental Health Bureau** conducted 790 animal bite investigations and 1,250 food service inspections, protecting public health across our community.
- We also expanded services to individuals with Limited English Proficiency, providing 5,770 interpretation and translation services across programs.

These achievements are a direct result of our team's dedication and the support of our community partners. As we look ahead to Fiscal Year 2026, we remain focused on improving access, promoting equity, and delivering innovative public health solutions to meet the evolving needs of Harford County. Thank you for your continued trust and collaboration in building a healthier future for all.

Sincerely,

LAUREN LEVY

Health Officer

Harford County Health Department

About the Health Department

The Harford County Health Department is the local operating arm of the Maryland Department of Health. The health department employs more than 190 committed professionals to deliver a vast array of services in Bel Air, Edgewood, and Havre de Grace.

- **Mission:** To protect, promote, and improve the health, safety, and environment of Harford County residents.
- **Vision:** To make Harford County the healthiest community in Maryland.
- **Values:** Teamwork, Leadership, Collaboration, Integrity, Commitment, & Cultural Sensitivity

Board of Health:

- Patrick S. Vincenti, President
- Nolanda Robert
- Alison Imhoff
- Tony Giangiardano
- James Reilly
- Jessica Boyle-Tsottles
- Jacob Bennett



Local Health Improvement Coalition

HCHD directs the Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) and hosts the coalition's annual meeting each year. During the December 2024 meeting, our Director of Population Health, Epidemiologist, and Health Policy Analyst presented data on the health of Harford County. LHIC members also shared individual work group plans to address behavioral and mental health, family health and resiliency, and chronic disease prevention and wellness priorities within Harford County.

Behavioral Health

- The Behavioral Health workgroup focuses on addressing mental and behavioral health needs in the community, including overdose prevention.

Family Health & Resiliency

- This work group's primary focus is connecting pregnant and postpartum women experiencing substance use disorders (SUD) to essential services, treatment, and resiliency resources.

Chronic Disease Prevention & Wellness

- This workgroup has three main areas of focus: healthy eating and active living, cancer prevention and screening, and tobacco use prevention. Additionally, the workgroup is dedicated to improving health literacy within each focus area. The group's recent efforts have included a specific focus on tobacco and diabetes prevention.



Harford County Health Department FY25 Snapshot of Programs

Administration

8,418

Birth Certificate
Copies Issued

8,691

Death Certificate
Copies Issued

2,126

New MCHP
Applications

Behavioral Health

3,265

Psychiatric Visits
Completed

13,671

Total Services
Provided

1,611

Substance Use
Appointments Held

Care Coordination

1,225

New CC+
Referrals

915

Navigated Through
Health Care System

695

Total Adult Evaluation
Health Assessments

Clinical Health

346

Tobacco Sales
Compliance Checks

1,829

Family
Planning Visits

2,352

HIV Client Case
Management Encounters

Environmental Health

1,250

Total Food
Inspections

790

Animal Bite
Investigations

1,066

Total Building
Permit Reviews

Family Health

5,928

Dental Clinic
Visits

3,298

WIC Client Visits
Monthly (Avg)

329

Family
Home Visits

25,115

Medicaid
Transportation Rides

Population Health

5,770

Limited English
Proficiency Services

410

Total Attending
Minority Health Events

9,499

Educated on
Tobacco Prevention



Spotlight: Firearm Safety Event

In June 2025, the Harford County Health Department conducted a Firearm Safe Storage Campaign that received strong support and positive feedback from Harford County residents, community partners, and County Council members. As part of the campaign, the HCHD Population Health Bureau hosted a Drive-Thru Gun Vault Giveaway on Tuesday, June 17, at the health department's Bel Air location. Residents registered in advance via Google Forms by providing their name, email, phone number, ZIP code, and race/ethnicity (optional) to receive a vault. Due to overwhelming interest, registration closed just one week after registration began, as all available slots were quickly filled. The event ran smoothly, with participants remaining in their vehicles as they moved through check-in and proceeded to receive their gun vault and educational materials. For those unable to attend on June 17, a second opportunity to pick up a vault was offered on June 29. In total, 200 individuals participated in the drive-thru event, and an additional 80 attended the follow-up distribution.

Key partners in this initiative included:

- o Harford County Local Health Improvement Coalition
- o Harford Veterans Collaborative
- o Harford County Office on Mental Health Core Service Agency
- o Bel Air Police Department
- o Harford County Council

Gun violence continues to be a pressing public health concern, and we are proud to contribute to prevention efforts through community-based safety initiatives like this campaign.



Spotlight: Immigration Health

In FY25, the Harford County Health Department launched its Immigration Health/Civil Surgeon Program in collaboration with Dr. Frank Sparandero, a USCIS-designated Civil Surgeon. This program is designed to assist individuals applying for lawful permanent residency (green cards) by offering the required immigration medical examinations.

As part of the adjustment of status process, applicants must complete a comprehensive medical evaluation that includes screening for tuberculosis (TB), syphilis, and gonorrhea, as well as the administration of any required vaccinations not previously received in childhood or adulthood. The program is available to Harford County residents ages 19 and older. While the medical exam itself is provided at no cost, clients without insurance may be responsible for lab work and vaccine fees. Services are offered one Friday per month, with an initial nurse visit scheduled in advance for preliminary testing and vaccination. In FY25, we provided services to 16 clients through this new and growing program.



Administration

The Bureau of Administration supports all HCHD programs and is committed to providing excellent customer service to the public. Administration collaborates with each HCHD program to ensure that their administrative needs are met, enabling programs to provide clinical and preventive community health services throughout Harford County.

Administration services include:

Internal Support Services:

- Budget & Procurement
- Facilities Management
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Billing & Compliance

Public Services:

- Birth Certificates
- Death Certificates

Highlight: MCHP

In FY25, the Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP) received 2,126 new applications for health insurance, a 48% increase from FY24. Although applications are no longer accepted over the phone, MCHP has worked hard to assist individuals and families with eligibility determinations and reauthorizations, as evidenced by a 51% increase in walk-in encounters from FY24 to FY25. In FY25, MCHP helped to enroll 21,652 children in a health insurance plan. MCHP continues to serve clients at its three locations in Bel Air, Edgewood, and Havre de Grace.

The Administration office is looking forward to working under the direction of the new Health Officer, Lauren Levy, JD, MPH, who brings a wealth of experience in both public health practice and research to her new role.



Behavioral Health

The Bureau of Behavioral Health provides comprehensive mental and behavioral health services to Maryland residents, serving individuals of all ages through both in-person and telehealth options. The Bureau also houses the Local Behavioral Health Authority, which is responsible for planning, managing, and overseeing the delivery of mental health and substance use disorder services throughout Harford County.

Behavioral Health services include:

- Substance Use Disorder Resources and Treatment
- Mental Health Resources and Treatment
- Medication Management
- Peer Recovery, Community Outreach & Support
- Integrated Behavioral Health and Primary Care Treatment
- State Care Coordination
- Harm Reduction Case Management, Education and Naloxone Distribution

Highlight: Geriatric Program

Behavioral Health continues to expand its Geriatric Program, which was launched in March 2024 to deliver specialized services to older adults. The program offers comprehensive neurocognitive evaluations, ongoing psychiatric assessments, medication management, individual and group therapy, and a dedicated mental health support group for women aged 60 and older.

Looking Ahead

The Bureau is continuing to provide alternative and innovative treatment modalities by offering specialty group therapy sessions and facilitating staff development. The Local Behavioral Health Authority will seek to strengthen existing community partnerships through expansion of our peer recovery outreach.



Care Coordination

The Care Coordination Bureau is committed to ensuring that Harford County residents have access to comprehensive preventive health services to improve and maintain their health and wellness.

Care Coordination services include:

- Administrative Care Coordination (ACCU)
- Adult Evaluation Review Services (AERS)
- Care Coordination Plus (CC+)
- Nurse Monitoring (NM)
- Lead Case Management
- Lead & Asthma Program (LAP)

Highlight: Nuestra Comunidad

In FY25, the Nuestra Comunidad (“Our Community”) program was integrated into the Care Coordination Bureau. Led by a team of bilingual staff committed to serving Harford County’s Latino community, the program provided support to 459 clients, including 200 children under the age of 18.

Nuestra Comunidad offers a wide range of services, such as connecting individuals with healthcare providers (including doctors, dentists, and mental health professionals), assisting with access to food programs like WIC, and helping clients obtain health insurance, among other supports. The program also provides culturally and linguistically appropriate support groups and community events, all tailored to meet the needs of clients.

In FY26, the Care Coordination Bureau aims to increase awareness and outreach for its Lead & Asthma program, given the increase in asthma-related hospital visits among children under 18. This program offers home visits to educate families about maintaining a healthy home.



Clinical Health

The Bureau of Clinical Health encompasses direct clinical services, preventive clinical and educational services, infectious disease, and emergency preparedness.

Clinical Health services include:

- Family Planning
- Health Services
- Immunizations
- STI/PrEP Services
- Infectious Disease
- Cancer Prevention
- Tobacco Use Prevention

Highlight: Mobile Health Van

In FY25, the Clinical Health team acquired a Mobile Health Unit, enhancing our ability to bring services directly to the community. The unit has been used for rapid HIV and Hepatitis C screenings at drug treatment centers and community events such as Pride, Walgreens HIV Testing Day, and Project Connect. In the coming months, we plan to expand outreach efforts to the LGBTQ+ community, as HIV rates have been increasing in this population. The mobile unit has also supported Cancer Prevention outreach efforts in Harford and Cecil counties.

Looking Ahead

In FY26, the Clinical Health team plans to enhance HIV prevention efforts by expanding access to PrEP through injectable medication options. This approach will require only two visits a year, improving medication adherence and encouraging more at-risk individuals to initiate therapy to prevent HIV.



Population Health

The Population Health Bureau is responsible for assisting HCHD programs and external partners in improving health outcomes and factors in the groups that they serve. This is done by creating unique events, providing presentations in the community, assisting with data analysis, creating health education campaigns, advocating for health equity, and much more!

Population Health Programs:

- Communications/ Public Information
- Epidemiology
- Health Policy
- Minority Health
- Tobacco and Diabetes/ Chronic Disease Prevention
- Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC)

Highlight: I You We Matter Youth Symposium

In FY25, the Harford County Health Department Population Health Bureau's Minority Health Program held its annual I You We Matter Youth Symposium for middle and high school girls on November 22, 2024. In partnership with the Ward Y in Abingdon, the event welcomed 132 students from across Harford County for a night filled with fun, inspiration, and empowerment. The event featured an incredible lineup of speakers and activities. Participants enjoyed making affirmation bracelets and boards, engaging in rock climbing, and receiving intricate henna designs from talented volunteers at the Harford County Health Department. Each attendee left with a thoughtfully curated swag bag containing hygiene items, self-care products, and menstrual kits with detailed instructions, emphasizing health and wellness.

The Population Health Bureau will be focusing on Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Reaccreditation in FY26.



Environmental Health

The Bureau of Environmental Health is responsible for Land & Water Resources, Permits and Plan Review, and Inspections in the county.

Environmental Health services include:

Land & Water Resources:

- Perc Testing
- Septic System Inspections
- Septic System & Well Complaints
- Well Permits & Water Quality

Permits & Plan Review:

- Building Permits & Review
- Food Facility Plan Review

Inspections:

- Food Service Facility Inspections
- Rabies, Vector Control, & Zoonotic Diseases
- Nuisance Complaint Investigations
- Public Pool & Spa Inspections

Highlight: PFAS Task Force

In FY25, the Environmental Health Bureau began participating in the PFAS Task Force, established by an executive order of County Executive Cassilly. The task force meets regularly to discuss the complex challenges posed by PFAS contamination in public water systems. The Bureau also partnered with the Harford County Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits to support the enforcement of specific provisions of the County's Rental Livability Code 162. This collaboration focuses on issues such as rodent and insect infestations, as well as deficiencies related to water supply and onsite wastewater disposal systems. In addition, as of January 1, 2025, Environmental Health staff started utilizing newly adopted sections of Harford County Code 157 which include 2nd reinspection fees for food service facilities and swimming pools, aimed at encouraging greater compliance and improving public health standards.



Family Health

The Bureau of Family Health provides comprehensive wraparound services to support families throughout Harford County. Services include preventive health services, recovery support, home visiting programs, and help connecting families to community and health resources that support their overall well-being and long-term success.

Family Health services include:

Family Services

- Dental Care
- School-Based Health Centers
- Medicaid Transportation

Maternal Child Health

- Healthy Families and Home Visiting
- Helping Families Recover
- MEGAN's Place
- WIC

Highlight: WIC

On August 20th, 2025, the Harford County WIC program hosted a Breastfeeding Celebration Luncheon at the Havre de Grace office in honor of National Breastfeeding Month. The event featured a luncheon, educational materials, and giveaways designed to celebrate and support breastfeeding families.

Several community partners played a key role in the event's success by offering resources and support, helping families access valuable information and connections. The luncheon was a great success, with attendees enjoying the opportunity to celebrate their breastfeeding journeys while learning about the wide range of available resources. Events like this highlight WIC's ongoing commitment to empowering breastfeeding families in Harford County and strengthening the community partnerships that help them thrive.



DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

Bel Air

**120 S Hays Street
Bel Air, MD 21014**

Phone: 410-838-1500

Services: *Administration, Behavioral Health, Environmental Health, MA Transportation, Walk-in Health Insurance Assistance (MCHP) & Vital Records, Minority Health, Diabetes Prevention*

**1 North Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014**

Phone: 410-638-3060

Services: *Dental, WIC, Nuestra Comunidad, Nutrition Services*

Havre de Grace

**2015 Pulaski Highway
Havre de Grace, MD 21078**

Phone: 410-942-7999

Services: *Care Coordination, MCHP*

**2027 Pulaski Highway
Suite 107, Havre de Grace,
MD 21078**

Phone: 410-939-6680

Services: *WIC*

Edgewood

**1321 Woodbridge Station
Way Edgewood, MD
21040**

Phone: 410-612-1779

410-612-1776 (WIC)

Services: *MEGAN's Place, Family Planning, Immunizations, Infectious Disease, PrEP, STI Testing, WIC, Walk-in Health Insurance Assistance (MCHP), HIV Testing, Hepatitis C testing, Tuberculosis Services, Cancer Prevention, Tobacco*

2204 Hanson Rd.

Edgewood, MD 21040

Phone: 443-922-7670

Services: *Dental*



THANK YOU!

The Harford County Health Department would like to extend a special thank you to its employees, our valued community partners, frontline workers, and to all Harford County stakeholders who contributed to advancing the health of Harford County residents in Fiscal Year 2025. Your efforts, insights, and innovative ideas are an essential part of our success as a county. Thank you to Harford County community members who shared their voices with us throughout the past year. We look forward to sharing progress with you again next year.



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