



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Laura Herrera Scott, MD, MPH, Acting Secretary

January 20, 2015

The Honorable Martin O'Malley
Governor
State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
H-107 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House
H-101 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Senate Bill 234 (Ch. 3 of the Acts of 2012), the Maryland Health Improvement and Disparities Reduction Act of 2012 and Health – General Article § 20-1407 – 2014 Legislative Report of the Health Enterprise Zones Initiative

Dear Governor O'Malley, President Miller, and Speaker Busch:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 234 (Chapter 3 of the Acts of 2012), the Maryland Health Improvement and Disparities Reduction Act of 2012 (the "Act"), the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission submit this 2014 report on the progress and accomplishments of the Maryland Health Enterprise Zones Initiative in calendar year 2014.

The Act requires the Department and the Commission to submit an annual report to the Governor and Maryland General Assembly that includes: (1) Number and types of incentives utilized in each HEZ; (2) Evidence of the impact of tax and loan repayment incentives in attracting practitioners to the HEZs; (3) Evidence of the impact of incentives offered in HEZs in reducing health disparities and improving health outcomes; and (4) Evidence of the progress in reducing healthcare costs and hospital admissions and readmissions in HEZs. This information is addressed in the report.

If you have questions or need more information about this report, please contact Allison Taylor, Director of Governmental Affairs, at (410) 767-6481, Mark Luckner, Executive Director, Community Health Resources Commission, at (410) 260-7046 or Michelle Spencer, M.S., Director, Prevention and Health Promotion Administration, at (410) 767-1454.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting Secretary

John Hurson
Chairman, Community Health Resources Commission

Enclosure

cc: Michelle Spencer, M.S.
Mark Luckner
Maura Dwyer