

Maryland Community Health Resources Commission Policy Retreat Notes

June 16, 2006

President's Conference Room
4th Floor UMBC Information Technology Building

MCHRC Role in Improving Health Care in Maryland

Secretary Anthony McCann

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Secretary McCann outlined the following issues for the Commission to consider:

- Assuring progress/improving quality
- Health Disparities
- Public Health and the Role of Local Health Departments
- Mental Health Integration
- Relationship to the Medicaid Program

Panel Presentations: Overview of the Maryland Healthcare Landscape

The Uninsured in Maryland, Who Are They and Where do They Live?

Linda Bartnyska

Maryland Health Care Commission

Ms. Bartnyska provided an overview of the uninsured in Maryland using data from the Current Population Survey, the Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, and the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. She noted characteristics of the uninsured in Maryland and compared Maryland to national averages.

Health Disparities in Maryland

Dr. Carlessia Hussein

Dr. David A. Mann

Office of Minority Health and Disparities

Dr. Hussein and Dr. Mann presented statistics to the Commission regarding the racial/ethnic composition of and health disparities in Maryland. Dr. Hussein also made the following suggestions to the Commission regarding its grant criteria:

- Address/quantify health service needs for ethnic/racial population groups
- Utilize measurable outcomes for each population group
- Partner with local community/minority groups in the program interventions
- Utilize best practices with each minority and population group
- Allocate at least 70% of budget to direct service delivery & require reporting
- Identify methods for collaborative work among partners

Public Coverage

Stacey Davis

Office of Planning and Finance, DHMH

Ms. Davis provided an overview of the coverage and services of Public Programs in Maryland, including the following: Maryland Medical Assistance Program, MCHIP, EID, Primary Adult Care Program, Pharmacy Assistance, Kidney Disease, Women's Breast and Cervical Cancer Health Program, Maryland Primary Care Program, Children's Medical Services, and other public safety net programs.

Program Perspectives

Maryland Medicaid

Paul Gurney

Deputy Secretary for Finance, DHMH

Mr. Gurney described four areas where the Commission could provide assistance to DHMH:

- Substance Abuse Hotline, which could reduce ER use for drug addiction care

- Crisis Beds for ER patients with dual diagnoses
- Outreach Programs to Pregnant Mothers
- Outreach Programs to improve child dental care and access

Public Health/Local Health Officers

Rodney Glotfelty

Maryland Association of County Health Officers

Mr. Glotfelty provided an overview of the functions and roles of public health departments and discussed some local grant initiative success stories in Garrett County. He also made the following suggestions to the Commission regarding grant awards:

- Local Health Departments should be recipients of funding awards
- Work with local health departments for programs to add infrastructure to initiate new services or expand existing networks to enroll more people
- Possible Program Initiatives: Adult Dental services, Prenatal Care, Continued Support for Pharmacy Assistance, Obesity, and Chronic Disease Prevention Programs

Immigrant Health Initiative

Audrey Reagan

Family Health Administration

Ms. Reagan provided the Commission with an overview of the Immigrant Health Initiative. She noted that the initiative focuses on pregnant women and children, and she described some of the programs that are available to this population. The following suggestions were made to the Commission regarding grant awards:

- Address Federal/Medicaid funding shifts in providing care to this population
- Funding for Interpreter services and programs to certify medical translators

Rural Health Administration

Doug Wilson

Maryland Rural Health Administration

Mr. Wilson provided an overview of the rural population in Maryland and the major health issues this population faces. Then, he made the following suggestions to the Commission regarding grant awards:

- Assistance to rural areas for Telemedicine
- Assistance for the development of Community Health Networks
- Assistance to enhance the human resource capacity of rural communities
- Assistance to improve access to dental, mental health, addiction, and specialty service.

Integrating Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment with Primary Care

Maryland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration

Dr. Peter Cohen, Medical Director (Substitute for Peter Luongo, Ph.D.)

Dr. Cohen reviewed the Maryland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration's annual report, *Outlook & Outcomes*, for the Commission and stressed the need for adequate screening in primary care for alcohol and drug abuse. He made the following recommendation to the Commission regarding grant awards:

- Funding for Buprenorphine Induction Centers (Set-up, physician education, and technical assistance)

Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration

Gail Jordan-Randolph

Dr. Jordan Randolph provided the Commission with an overview of the Mental Hygiene Administration and made the following requests for grant awards:

- Housing for the chronically mentally ill
- Funding for mental health training of case managers
- Facilitating mental health screening in managed care organizations
- Medical, somatic, and social services for transient youth.

Summary/Adjourn

Chairman Lin thanked the attendees for their time and adjourned the meeting at 3:33 PM.