The Role of the Institute for a Healthiest Maryland in Transforming Harford County into a Healthier Community Through Partnerships at all Levels

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• **Mission**

To measurably improve the health of Maryland citizens, the Institute will support community transformation efforts, translate public health research into practice, and provide technical assistance to local health departments and community organizations.

• **Vision**

Be a guiding resource for transforming Maryland communities into healthy environments for all.
Initial Funding for IHM

• Funding from DHMH via CDC Community Transformation Grant (CTG) from the Public Health Trust Fund of the ACA.
  – address obesity, tobacco use, hypertension and health disparities
• Long Term Goal: Self-sustaining through external funding.
• MOU from DHMH to UMB
  – Provide Technical Assistance to Local Health Departments through Academic Partners
    • UMB Law, Pharmacy, Medicine and Nursing
    • UMBC Tobacco Cessation Program
    • UMCP SPH
    • JHU Bloomberg School of Public Health
Institute for a Healthiest Maryland

Academic partners providing evidence based research and support
- Growth & Nutrition (UMB)
- Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (UMB)
- Legal Resource Center (UMB)
- Maryland Healthy Stores (JHU)

Major Stakeholders
- Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH)
- Local Health Departments (LHDS)
- Local Health Improvement Coalitions (LHIC)

Obesity Prevention/Active Living/Healthy Eating

Tobacco Cessation

Hypertension/High Cholesterol Management

Goal: Improve the health of Maryland’s population.
Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) Information

("Additional local health planning information can be found by clicking on a jurisdiction below")

Maryland State Health Improvement Process (SHIP) Regions
- Lower Shore
- Mid Shore
- County Level Coalitions
2012/2013 Coalition Priorities

• Local Action Priorities
  – Obesity (16)
  – Health Care Access (10)
  – Tobacco (9)
  – Behavioral Health (9)
  – Cardiovascular Disease (8)
  – Birth Outcomes/Reproductive Health (8)
  – Diabetes (7)
  – Other (1-6) Cancer, Safe Environments, Immunizations, Health Literacy, Infectious, Chronic, & Respiratory Disease
IHM Role in CTG

• Conduct Local Health Departments’ needs assessment.
• Compile, develop, disseminate resources and best practices.
• Communicate strategies.
• Provide technical assistance.
• Use evidence based interventions.
• Contribute to the knowledge base.
• Coordinate and facilitate access to experts.
• Bridge the gap between academic grants and public health needs and practices.
IHM Goals and Strategies: Background

• Based on mission and vision, focus on the strengths of the institutions represented in the Institute, needs of DHMH and the jurisdictions and communities.

• Triple Aim: Goals of better individual health care, better population health and lower costs.

• Decrease disparities in Maryland.
Foci

• Focus on our strengths
  – State’s academic institutions: UMB, UMBC, UMCP, JHU, Morgan, others.
  – DHMH
  – Other state agencies, i.e. MSDE.
  – Maryland is a leader in the country for the implementation of the ACA.
  – Primary prevention in children leads to long term sustainable improvements in health of Marylanders. By focusing on improving health of children, also get potential benefits for all age groups.
IHM Primary Foci

• Prevention of childhood obesity and food insecurity.
• Tobacco
  – Prevention of youth tobacco use
  – Second hand smoke/ Smoke free Multi Unit Housing
  – Tobacco cessation
• Healthy/Active Living
  – Healthy stores
  – Built environment
  – School wellness
Next Steps

- **Raising visibility of Institute:**
  - Develop networking connections throughout the State with key stakeholders.
  - Work with State Legislature
  - Collaborate with other State agencies; MSDE etc.
  - Work with our Maryland delegation in Washington.
  - Make connections with:
    - Federal agencies that are involved with health.
    - UMB Campus Schools.
    - Through existing connections of our academic partners in communities throughout Maryland.
Next Steps

• Expand our portfolio of collaborators/funding

• Examples of possible collaborations:
  – UMCP PRC UMSOM Pediatrics small grant from CDC, National Obesity Prevention Research Network (NOPrN).
  – Work with UMCP School of Agriculture Collaboration with Extension for Childhood Obesity and Nutrition Education.
Next Steps

• **Long term**
  – Sustainability though collaborations and external funding.
  – Continued collaboration with DHMH to improve health of all Marylanders.
  – Become the “go-to” source for the State in our areas of expertise.
  – Academic excellence/National prominence of Institute by focusing on our strengths and those of our academic partners.
  – Incorporate inter-professional education of the healthcare workforce at all levels, undergraduate, graduate and continuing education across disciplines.
Questions/Comments?

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Thank you!