

Craig P. Tanio, M.D.
CHAIR

STATE OF MARYLAND



Ben Steffen
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

4160 PATTERSON AVENUE – BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215
TELEPHONE: 410-764-3460 FAX: 410-358-1236

August 5, 2016

Dear Members of the Rural Health Care Work Group:

Welcome! As you know, our group has been tasked with developing an integrated, sustainable health care system for Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot counties. We hope that efforts will serve as a model for the State of Maryland and rural areas across the nation. Thank you for your commitment to this critical and exciting endeavor to deliver quality care to residents and visitors of Maryland's mid-shore.

Over the course of the next year we will be working closely together to evaluate and make recommendations on the health care delivery system, how best to attract and retain physicians and other health professionals into our area, the needs of vulnerable populations and the role health institutions play in our local economies. This is a major undertaking and we are pleased to have so many caring citizens, activists and community leaders involved.

In order to create an accessible health care system that provides timely delivery of the caliber of care our citizens, neighbors and families deserve, we must be willing to work together, to set aside any biases and cultivate an open mindness to unique and innovative solutions that will achieve the optimum of health care and wellness in our region, and to serve as a leader for other rural areas of Maryland to follow.

To that end, let our work together always be in concert with these words from Theodore Roosevelt, "The high road to service is traveled with integrity, compassion and understanding.... people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."

If you are available, please join us for a tour of Chesapeake College's Health Professions and Athletic Center at 11:30 AM on August 30th, just before the start of the first meeting. If you are able to attend this tour, please RSVP to Erin Dorrien (erin.dorrien@maryland.gov) by August 22.

We look forward to seeing you at our first meeting on August 30. Please feel free to contact us at the email addresses below if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Deborah Mizeur
deborahmizeur@gmail.com

Joseph A. Ciotola, Jr., M.D.
jaciotola@gmail.com