



STATE OF MARYLAND

# DHMH News Release

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

*Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary*

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **Maryland Health Care Commission announces 2 public meetings** *Rural Health Care Delivery Workgroup to gather in Chestertown; Public hearing on the health care system to be held in Kent County*

**Baltimore, MD** (May 16, 2017) – The Maryland Health Care Commission today announced two meetings: the fifth meeting of the Rural Health Care Delivery Workgroup, and a public hearing on the health care system in Kent County.

#### **Rural Health Care Delivery Workgroup to gather in Chestertown.**

The Rural Health Care Delivery Workgroup will gather in Chestertown to hold its fifth meeting. During the 2016 Legislative Session, Senate Bill 707 Freestanding Medical Facilities- Certificate of Need, Rates and Definition (SB 707), passed into law and was signed by the Governor on May 10, 2016. The legislation established a workgroup on rural health care delivery to oversee a study of health care delivery in the Middle Shore region and to develop a plan for meeting the health care needs of the five counties -- Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot.

Date: Wednesday May 24, 2017

Time: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: Washington College, Hynson Lounge, Hodson Hall, 300 Washington Ave., Chestertown, Md. 21620

#### **Public hearing to be held on the health care system in Kent County.**

The Maryland Health Care Commission and the Rural Health Care Delivery Workgroup seek to gather input from residents about health and health care in their communities. The Workgroup will use community input from these hearings to develop an approach to improve health and well-being for the Mid-Shore and other rural communities in Maryland. Members of the Rural Health Work Group, staff of MHCC, and our research team will attend the hearings.

Date: Wednesday May 24, 2017

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Location: Washington College, Norman James Theatre, Smith Hall, 300 Washington Ave, Chestertown, Md. 21620

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For more information, visit <https://goo.gl/yIIUNV> or contact Commission spokeswoman Erin Dorrien at [443-615-1338](tel:443-615-1338).

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**About the Maryland Health Care Commission**

*The Maryland Health Care Commission is a 15-member, independent regulatory agency whose mission is to plan for health system needs, promote informed decision-making, increase accountability, and improve access in a rapidly changing health care environment by providing timely and accurate information on availability, cost, and quality of services to policy makers, purchasers, providers and the public. The 15 Commissioners are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Maryland Senate. The Commission's vision for Maryland is to ensure that informed consumers hold the health care system accountable and have access to affordable and appropriate health care services through programs that serve as models for the nation.*

*The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is the state government agency that protects Maryland's public health and also works to help Marylanders make better health decisions for better health outcomes. Stay connected: [www.twitter.com/MarylandDHMH](http://www.twitter.com/MarylandDHMH) and [www.facebook.com/MarylandDHMH](http://www.facebook.com/MarylandDHMH).*