



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 Mid-Shore public hearings *Rural health care group seeks Dorchester, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline input*

Baltimore, MD (May 22, 2017) – 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.

County	Date	Time	Location
Dorchester County	Thursday, June 1 st	6:00pm-8:00pm	Hurlock Volunteer Fire Department 300 Charles Street Hurlock, MD 21643
Queen Anne's County	Tuesday, June 6 th	6:00pm – 8:00pm	Queen Anne's County Complex Planning Commission Room 110 Vincit Street Centreville, MD 21617
Talbot County	Monday, June 12 th	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Talbot County Community Center Wye Oak Room 10028 Ocean Gateway Easton, Maryland
Caroline County	Tuesday, June 13 th	6:30pm-8:30pm	Denton Elementary School 300 Sharp Road Denton, Maryland

For more information, contact Erin Dorrien at 410-764-3284 or visit: <https://goo.gl/3zdSO6>.

About the Rural Health Care Delivery Workgroup

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

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legislation establishes 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.

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.

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Marylanders who need help finding substance-use-disorder treatment resources should visit <http://goo.gl/nIfGm0> or call the Maryland Crisis Hotline, which provides 24/7 support, at 1-800-422-0009. For information on many of the policies currently implemented to fight addiction and overdose in Maryland, see <http://goo.gl/KvEzOw>. If you know of someone in need of treatment for a substance use disorder, treatment facilities can be located by location and program characteristics on our page at <http://goo.gl/rbGF6S>.

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is the State agency that protects Maryland's public health. We work together to promote and improve the health and safety of all Marylanders through disease prevention, access to care, quality management, and community engagement. Stay connected: www.twitter.com/MarylandDHMH and www.facebook.com/MarylandDHMH.