

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
HEAL Action Team
October 23, 2019 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Health Connections, MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Stephanie Freeman – St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD), Stephanie Scharmen – SMCHD, Kathy Faubion – St. Mary's County Library (SMCL), Christi Bishop – Recreation & Parks, Cindy Tomlinson – St. Mary's County Government (SMCG), Erin Jewell – University of Maryland Extension (UME), Linda Fry – Ascension Food Pantry, Jacquie Heaney – SMCHD, Sue Veith – Department of Economic Development (DED)
2. **More to Explore**
 - a. Jacquie pulled the names for prizes in September (5 big prize winners for completing the program and 2 Chick-fil-A gift card winners for participating). The booklets were very popular this year at all of the libraries. The team discussed reviewing the booklet to make it as generic as possible so that leftover books at the libraries can be reused each year. We already have a budget for next year. The team discussed using this budget as well as any donations received next year to pay for printing more books and replacing the signs at parks with something more durable.
3. **Healthy Meeting Toolkit**
 - a. The [toolkit](#) is posted online. The team discussed submitting the toolkit to the NAS Pax River PIO, The Navy Tester, and the Chamber of Commerce newsletter to increase awareness. There was discussion around how to get caterers to commit to offering healthy menu items and being included as a resource with the toolkit and the team decided that we should include a link on the website for caterers to contact the team to be included, and to include the request when submitting the toolkit to the above resources.
4. **Walk St. Mary's**
 - a. The [Get Out and Walk!](#) booklets are done! They will be delivered to the health department tomorrow! Copies will be available at the health department, all 3 libraries, and at the Recreation & Parks office. Look for a press release to go out announcing the booklets next week.
5. **Complete Streets**
 - a. John Deatrick from the Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW&T) is willing to champion the policy to the commissioners as he would like to fold it into the 2020 Transportation Plan. The team reviewed previous actions taken to promote complete streets (including watching [this webinar](#)). The team also discussed including bringing the Leonardtown Town Council into the conversation. Sue will talk with John about attending a meeting in the new year to discuss the process of bringing the policy to the Commissioners and how the HEAL team can support.
6. **HSMP Elections**



- a. Nominations are now closed, electronic voting will be open from November 4 – November 22, 2019.

7. Partner Updates

- a. DED and DPW&T are working with state highway about bike signs. Sue is currently mapping the routes so that they intersect – if you have any thoughts or experiences on places to ride in the county, please let her know.
- b. All County parks [went tobacco and vape free](#) on September 1.
- c. R&P has new Therapeutic Recreation programs coming in the winter/spring including special needs nights at county museums and a sensory mash up program.
- d. New playground announcements:
 - i. The new Hollywood Rec Center Playground is officially open.
 - ii. The new St. Andrews Estates Playground is opening in the next few days.
 - iii. The new Dorsey Park Playground is coming in the spring.
 - iv. Lancaster Park is set to get a new playground next fiscal year.
- e. The County Government currently has 80 employees participating in their fall health challenge. They are offering biometric screenings in November and are looking into offering gym membership reimbursement next year.
- f. Stephanie is an Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) master presenter. Let her know if you are interested in her doing a [training](#) for your organization.
- g. Church of Ascension is having an event this weekend that will include a jacket giveaway, food distribution, and a lightbulb distribution by SMECO.
- h. Feed St. Mary's is opening soon. Sign up for their [newsletter](#) for updates.
- i. UME is hosting a [webinar](#) on November 8 which will provide an update on the Dining with Diabetes project.
- j. Please take a moment to update your HSMP membership via [this form](#).
- k. DED is working on the site design for the Northern Farm Market as well as the trail connection from the market to Three Notch Trail. The goal is to have the market completed by Thanksgiving 2020.
- l. The Regional Ag Center is moving forward under DPW&T. The building will house SMADC offices, a training kitchen, a conference room, and the meat processing plant.

8. Communications

- a. Share events and news with HSMP partners through the HSMP Newsletter, calendar & social media outlets! Submit information at: <http://healthystmarys.com/newsletter/> or email stmaryspartnership@gmail.com

9. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. HEAL team: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. at Health Connections, MedStar St. Mary's Hospital.

