



Roberts, William <wcroberts@smcm.edu>

Data

20 messages

Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com> Mon, Mar 1, 2021 at 4:03 PM
Reply-To: Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>
To: "alexis.zoss@maryland.gov" <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>
Cc: "wcroberts@smcm.edu" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>

Hello Alexis.

Hope you are staying well . FSM continues to work toward developing a plan to measure results relating to food insecurity and our impact in the community. We are looking for data. The ALICE data for St. Mary's County, as shown on the health departments web site, dates back to 2014 and is higher than we expected. I believe the information is provided by United Way. Bill was able to locate more recent data for Central Maryland.

Question: Does your department have current or more recent ALICE data, SNAP data, or any additional data relating to food insecurity in St. Mary's County.

Bill is on the FSM team to assist with this task so I have copied him on this email. Should we contact Charles, your data contact at DSS, for assistance . I hope I have the correct name. Any assistance you are able to give is greatly appreciated. Please advise

Thanks,
Linda

Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov> Mon, Mar 1, 2021 at 6:41 PM
To: Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>
Cc: "wcroberts@smcm.edu" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>, Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>

Hi Linda, staying well here and hope the same for you and your FSM colleagues.

I can reach out to the ALICE author - Michael Bellis and see what kind of data refresh he has done since 2014. I believe I heard him mention he'd done an update in 2019. I will reach out to him via email and copy you on it.

We also recently put together a few data slides on SNAP in St. Mary's County - much of it to highlight the rise as a result of the pandemic. Charles Wood did indeed put it together and he is the most eloquent when it comes to speaking about it. I've copied him here so you can connect.

Alexis

Alexis Zoss, LCSW-C
Director
St. Mary's County Department of Social Services
240.895.7172

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Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Mon, Mar 1, 2021 at 9:13 PM

Reply-To: Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

To: "alexis.zoss@maryland.gov" <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>

Cc: "wcroberts@smcm.edu" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>, "charles.wood2@maryland.gov" <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>

Thank you so much Alexis ! We are doing well and forging ahead. I think we have added three pantries, including the student pantry at St. Mary's College, since our last meeting..

It will certainly be helpful to have the 2019 ALICE data. We appreciate your help. We will connect with Charles regarding the SNAP data.

Best,
Linda

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Roberts, William <wcroberts@smcm.edu>

Thu, Mar 4, 2021 at 4:45 PM

To: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>

Cc: Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>, Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>

Good afternoon Alexis, Charles, and Linda,

This is Bill Roberts, and I'm writing to you as I read the 2020 ALICE Maryland report. I've gone to the ALICE website and looked at the breakdown for information for [St. Mary's county](#). Very interesting. You all probably know that the % of ALICE households in the county decreased from 2014 to 2016 (the number of households in the county increased by just over 2000 in this 2 year period), but then increased between 2016 and 2018 (the number of households in the county decreased by just over 1000 in this 2 year period). So part of the explanation could be that more affluent households moved out of the county, resulting in an increase in the percentage of ALICE households remaining in the county. Just running the numbers on the most recent St. Mary's county ALICE data available it looks as if we have 2800+ households in poverty and 9700 ALICE households, with 27,900 (69%) above the ALICE threshold.

The county level data is interesting on the website, and I will be sure to share with folks on the appropriate action team for the Healthy St. Mary's Partnerships. But what would really be helpful is to have access to the data used to prepare these graphs and charts for the county by zip code, so that we can map this info and compare with where pantries or other food sources exist. Do either of you, Alexis or Charles, have the contacts to inquire about whether these data are available by zip code or some other geo-reference point for mapping?

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) profile for St. Mary's is something I need to familiarize myself with, and I have to admit that I haven't searched the DSS website yet. Whenever Charles has time I would try and make myself available, or, if easier and probably more productive initially, if you could share any slides or report that provides an overview of the current situation in the county, this will help me get a more comprehensive overview of the picture of food insecurity and how SNAP is helping address that issue.

I appreciate your time and any assistance you can provide. My cell phone is 202-257-5257 if anybody would care to talk with me.

Many thanks,

Bill

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Bill Roberts

Professor, on sabbatical leave 8/1/20 - 7/31/21

Department of Anthropology

St. Mary's College of MD

(240) 895-4387

Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>

Sun, Mar 7, 2021 at 12:29 PM

To: "Roberts, William" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>

Cc: Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Hi Bill-

Delighted you were able to find the 2020 ALICE report! Michael Bellis hasn't yet responded to my inquiry yet ... he's a brand new father and somewhat preoccupied these days:-)

I'd like to suggest Charles and I schedule a Google meet to continue the data dialogue- we can present the slides on SNAP and respond to questions.

Are there any days/times that work best for you? And Linda, want to jump in too?

Alexis

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Alexis Zoss, LCSW-C

Director

St. Mary's County Department of Social Services

240.895.7172

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Roberts, William <wcroberts@smcm.edu>

Sun, Mar 7, 2021 at 12:51 PM

To: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>

Cc: Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Hello Alexis,

Thanks for taking time to respond to a late Friday afternoon email on a beautiful, sunny, Sunday afternoon.

Congrats to Michael Bellis and his family! What exciting news (the reports are the US had 300,000 fewer births than usual in 2020), and I wish the family all the best.

I think your suggestion for a google meet is excellent. Tuesday, March 9 from 11 - 1:30pm, or 2:30 - 5pm is good for me, or Wednesday, March 10 from noon - 4pm would be good for me.

I look forward to our meeting, and await confirmation.

Enjoy your Sunday!

Bill


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Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>

Sun, Mar 7, 2021 at 12:52 PM

To: "Roberts, William" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>

Cc: Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

we'll confirm something tomorrow 

Alexis Zoss, LCSW-C

Director

St. Mary's County Department of Social Services

240.895.7172

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lindalymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Sun, Mar 7, 2021 at 3:31 PM

To: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>, "Roberts, William" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>

Cc: Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>

Yes, I am happy to join in. Waiting for date and time and will try to join. However I am not available on. March 9th 2:00 - 3:00 pm.

Happy Sunday!

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
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Roberts, William <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
To: Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>
Cc: "alexis.zoss@maryland.gov" <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>, "charles.wood2@maryland.gov" <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>

Wed, Mar 10, 2021 at 1:23 PM

Good afternoon Everybody,

Thanks so much, very informative and useful. Building the broader context is always helpful.

If those slides are available in a PDF format to have as notes for my work with Feed St. Mary's, I would appreciate a copy.

The book I referenced in our call is *Deaths of Despair*, which I highly recommend if you have time. I listened to it as an audible book, and if you don't listen to audible I can send it to you and you can listen for free - I think they offer a 30 day trial period.

I look forward to reconnecting and to reciprocate at some point in the future when I can share slides about the results and impact of the work that Feed St. Mary's and its partners are having on the issue of food insecurity in St. Mary's county.

Enjoy the rest of this beautiful day.

Bill

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Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>
Reply-To: Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>
To: "wcroberts@smcm.edu" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
Cc: "alexis.zoss@maryland.gov" <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>, "charles.wood2@maryland.gov" <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>

Wed, Mar 10, 2021 at 1:35 PM

All,

It is a pleasure to have great people and great partners working together to *feed St. Mary's* ! THANK YOU for your amazing support.

Take care,
Linda

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Roberts, William <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
To: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>
Cc: Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 12:44 PM

Good afternoon Alexis, Charles, Linda,

I hope you all are well and ready for the Easter weekend.

I wanted to reiterate my request for a copy of the PPT we reviewed during our zoom meeting on March 10, please. I did take notes but would like to check my numbers and make sure my notes are accurate.

I have in my notes that SNAP data are recertified every six months, and those data can be aggregated by zip code. Is it possible to request those aggregate data by zip code for the most recent SNAP recertification?

Thanks very much, look forward to continuing to work with you.

Enjoy your holiday this weekend.

Peace,
Bill

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Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov> Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 1:25 PM
To: "Roberts, William" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
Cc: Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Bill, sorry 'bout that- we'll get it to you shortly. Happy Easter to you too. Alexis

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Roberts, William <wcroberts@smcm.edu> Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 1:30 PM
To: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>
Cc: Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Thanks so much Alexis and Charles, we are grateful for your collaboration and partnership.

Bill

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Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov> Mon, Apr 26, 2021 at 8:37 AM
To: "Roberts, William" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
Cc: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>, Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Hi Bill,

I'm so sorry. I thought I had sent this some time ago. My apologies, I know that you asked for this a while back.

Hope this is what you need. Please tell me if you need anything else.

Charles

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 **SMC SNAP Data 2020.pdf**
562K

Roberts, William <wcroberts@smcm.edu> Mon, Apr 26, 2021 at 10:05 AM
To: Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>
Cc: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>, Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Good morning Charles,

Thanks for sending this as requested, much appreciated.

Can you please tell me what year (2019?) and what the N is for slide 3?

Finally, I understand you recertify SNAP twice yearly, so does that mean that every month you are recertifying all the households/cases/clients who were certified six months earlier in addition to the new applicants?

Thanks again.

Bill

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lindalymas <lindalymas@aol.com> Mon, Apr 26, 2021 at 3:06 PM
To: Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>, "Roberts, William" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
Cc: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>, Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>

Charles

Thank you so much for taking time out of your schedule to assist . We appreciate your help.

All the best
Linda

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>
Date: 4/26/21 8:37 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Roberts, William" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
Cc: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>, Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>
Subject: Re: Data

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Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov> Mon, Apr 26, 2021 at 5:15 PM
To: "Roberts, William" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
Cc: Sasha Seenath <sseenath@threeoakscenter.org>

Hi Bill~

When we last spoke, I might have mentioned the upcoming \$4.5m coming into St. Mary's County for Emergency Rental Assistance. DSS, with the Housing Authority and Three Oaks Center, are gearing up our existing infrastructure to be able to accomodate what is anticipated to be significant interest from our citizens. Part of the needed infrastructure will include support of the Three Oaks case managers with such things as follow-up contact with applicants around documentation, as well as other tasks

I am writing to see if you know of any students who might like to work in these roles. It will be a several month position and the hourly wage will be \$18.

If there is other information that will help advertise this, we can put something together.

Alexis

Alexis Zoss, LCSW-C
Director
St. Mary's County Department of Social Services
240.895.7172

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Roberts, William <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
To: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>
Cc: Sasha Seenath <sseenath@threeoakscenter.org>

Tue, Apr 27, 2021 at 5:53 AM

Hello Alexis,

Thanks for the reminder about the incoming funds to support rental assistance - do you have a point of contact or outline of a job position? I can think of students who graduated last year and some who are graduating this year who would be interested.

I will be glad to help get the word out to recent or upcoming grads who would be good for this work. A brief description as understood now, anticipated start date and length of position, and what application materials are required and who to address and submit them to is a good start.

Many thanks for thinking of me to get this info out.

Bill

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Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>
To: "Roberts, William" <wcroberts@smcm.edu>
Cc: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>, Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Thu, Apr 29, 2021 at 5:33 PM

Answers below:

On Mon, Apr 26, 2021 at 10:05 AM Roberts, William <wcroberts@smcm.edu> wrote:

Good morning Charles,

Thanks for sending this as requested, much appreciated.

Can you please tell me what year (2019?) and what the N is for slide 3?

This was pulled using our older system, and it was a point in time - around Fall 2019. I'm not sure that I kept the n for the report. But from conversations with supervisors, we haven't seen a huge shift in our population centers. From slide 5, we have about 6,500 cases as of Dec YTD. This should give you a sense of the approx numbers by zip.

Finally, I understand you recertify SNAP twice yearly, so does that mean that every month you are recertifying all the households/cases/clients who were certified six months earlier in addition to the new applicants?

That is correct. Using the 6,500 again, we certify roughly 1,000 + cases per month in some form: timely recertifications or late recertifications that become new applications. But yes, twice per year on each case in addition to the new applicants.

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Charles Wood
St. Marys Co. Dept. Of Social Services
Assistant Director - Local Government Operations
Phone 240-895-7171
Fax 240-895-7099

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**Roberts, William** <wcroberts@smcm.edu>

Thu, Apr 29, 2021 at 5:41 PM

4/29/2021

St. Mary's College of MD Mail - Data

To: Charles Wood -DHS- Saint Marys County <charles.wood2@maryland.gov>

Cc: Alexis Zoss -DHS- Saint Marys County <alexis.zoss@maryland.gov>, Angela Sacks -DHS- Saint Marys County <angela.sacks@maryland.gov>, Linda Lymas <lindalymas@aol.com>

Good afternoon Charles,

Thanks so much for finding time to respond to my questions, I appreciate your support on behalf of DSS for Feed St. Mary's and their efforts to support the work being done by pantry volunteers to address food insecurity in the county.

I hope to share some preliminary ideas for the Feed St. Mary's monitoring and evaluation plan in the coming weeks and will appreciate any feedback you can provide.

Thanks again, and hope you have a good end of the week and weekend.

Best wishes,  
Bill

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