



# Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Walkable Neighborhoods
3. Transportation
4. Food Security
5. Updates in Healthcare Transportation
6. Earth Day Celebration
7. Partner Updates

# Introductions

- Shan Chen - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Ashlyn Dishman - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Michelle Turkaly - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Ben Cohen - Land Use & Growth Management (LUGM)
- Yolanda Hipski - Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland (TCCSMD)
- Brenda Wolcott - MedStar St. Mary's Hospital (MSMH)
- Ali Wohlgemuth - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Christine Delise - Aetna Better Health of Maryland
- Courtney Jenkins - Land Use & Growth Management (LUGM)
- Courtney Lacey - St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS)
- Jacquie Wells - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Derek Adams - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Sue Veith - Department of Economic Development (DED)
- Lily Riesett - Community member

# Walkable Neighborhoods

- The following suggestions were added to the [HSMP Comprehensive Walking Page](#) draft
  - Plotting each map into an interactive Google Map and organizing by region or neighborhood
  - Get local trails and recreational maps added to All Trails
    - Ashlyn will look into the feasibility of this
  - Potentially linking with economic development
- Coordinating “Walk with a Doc” event on September 2023
  - Providers available?
    - MSMH provider - Brenda will follow up
    - Tying in behavioral health: Dr. Gayle Jordan-Randolph, psychiatrist & Chief Medical Doctor at Aetna Better Health of Maryland
  - Two event dates:
    - September 30 at MedStar St. Mary’s Hospital from 10am-11am
    - October 14 (hosted by Aetna Better Health of Maryland) at Lexington Manor Passive Park - more info to come!
  - In the next few months, we will discuss coordinating with community partners to support and/or sponsor by providing water or snacks

# Transportation

- Bike Share Program
  - No updates at this time
  - Will continue to seek funding to support project

# Food Security

- The team will be reaching out to local partners this month
  - Farmer's Feeding St. Mary's to start a produce donation and/or food waste program
    - Jacquie will reach out to Sara Miller
  - SMADC - Yolanda will reach out, Shan & Jacquie to assist
- Hosting (and promoting) healthy food drives
  - Creating a list of events to communicate and coordinate with event organizers to host their own food drive
    - Upcoming events to consider: Southern Maryland Spring Festival (May 4-7), St. Mary's Crab Festival (June 10), Juneteenth (June 17), Beerfest (June 24)
    - View and contribute to the list [here!](#)

# Updates in Healthcare Transportation

- Yolanda Hipski provided an update on the recent healthcare transportation roundtable meetings project and HB596/SB511 (Health and Human Services Transportation Improvement Act of 2023).



[View presentation](#)

# Earth Day Celebration

- Commission on the Environment is hosting its 2023 Earth Day Celebration on April 22, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Summerseat Farm (26655 Three Notch Road, Mechanicsville, 20659).
- We will have our own EHAT table with the following volunteers:
  - Sue 11am-1pm
  - Nicholas and Jessica (from LUGM)
- Items to bring
  - Walk SMC booklets
  - Lexington Manor Passive Park Community Garden information
  - Healthy Food Drive Flyer
  - Food Asset Map postcards
  - For kids - coloring pages (MyPlate)
  - Tomato and carrot seeds

# Partner Updates

- Welcome Derek Adams, our new Community Health Outreach Worker (CHOW) at St. Mary's County Health Department!
- MedStar St. Mary's Hospital will begin their Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) this summer. This assessment is done every 3 years and helps to better understand local health needs in the community!
- MedStar St. Mary's Hospital's Food Pantry program is piloting a program that helps clients make healthy food choices when shopping and cooking food. It is currently in its early stages. The 2nd week of may is Hospital Week and they are doing a food drive to support their food pantry
- Lexington Manor Passive Park Community Gardens has received funding by the county commissioners and construction is set to begin soon! Funding will go to provide fences, raised beds, tables for handicap-accessible beds, sidewalks, water and more!
- Minority Health Coalition is hosting Community Conversation: Exploring Diversity of Health & Community Issues on April 26 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm at Hickory Hills Community Center.

# Communications

- Submit event and news updates/information at:  
[healthystmarys.com/newsletter](http://healthystmarys.com/newsletter) or email [stmaryspartnership@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryspartnership@gmail.com)
- Follow HSMP on Social Media
  - Facebook: [Healthy St. Mary's Partnership](#)
  - Twitter: [@HealthyStMarys](#)

# Upcoming Meetings

- **Wednesday, May 17, 2023 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**
- Interested in being in our Partner Spotlight? [Sign up here!](#)