

# Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Walkable Neighborhoods
3. Transportation
4. Food Security
5. HSMP Walking Group
6. September EHAT Meeting
7. Partner Updates

# Introductions

- [Click here](#) to access the list of meeting attendees!

# Walkable Neighborhoods

- Introducing [HSMP's Monthly Walking Group](#)! All are welcome!
- The HSMP [Walking Maps & Resources webpage](#) is under construction!
  - Shan and Sue are continuing to develop the interactive Google Map
- “Walk With A Doc” event this fall
  - Event dates (Built in rain date: October 28)
    - September 30 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital from 10am-11am
    - October 14 at Lexington Manor Passive Park from 10am-12pm
      - Aetna Better Health of Maryland has officially reserved LMPP!
      - We will need to confirm attendance from the following vendors: Seedco, St. Mary's CDC (Sue), R&P, Lifestyles of MD (Christine), Tri-County Council, Minority Outreach Coalition (Shan), SMCHD (Jacquie)
  - Providers are being secured for MSMH (Stephenie Gutridge-Snode) and Aetna Better Health of Maryland (3 providers - Dr. Gayle Jordan-Randolph, a pediatrician & a PCP)
  - Water and snacks will be provided by Seedco and Aetna Better Health of Maryland. If your organization is able to help, [email Shan](#)!
  - Shan will be developing event flyers and adding them to the Walking Resources webpage
- October is [WALKTOBER](#) and [Walk Maryland Day](#) is October 4!

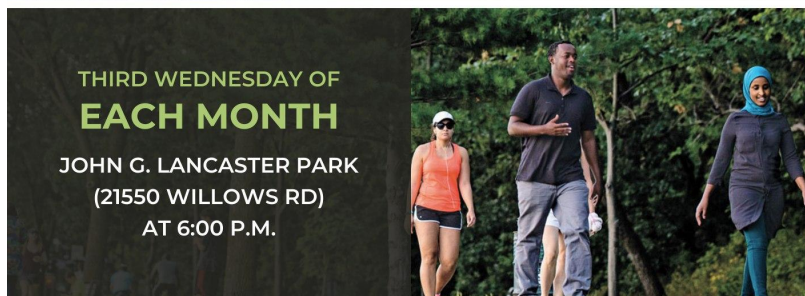
# Transportation

- SMC Bike Share Program Interest Subcommittee
  - Ashlyn will be scheduling another subcommittee meeting and invite Emma Gillet, the owners of Patuxent Adventure Center, and the following EHAT members: George, Jessica, Ben, Michael Blackwell, Ashlyn & Shan
- **Action item:** Email Nate Evans the State Bicycle Coordinator; invite him to the next subcommittee meeting to discuss bicycle plans in Southern Maryland and St. Mary's County, get input on what criteria would make a bike infrastructure project more likely to be funded.
  - CC BIAC Tri-County Council and SMART Alliance in the discussion
- The team will review St. Mary's County projects meeting the eligible projects guideline that will likely be funded and push them forward for next year. This will be a long-term project for EHAT that will span several months.
- EHAT members will attend the next BIAC Meeting on September 14. There will be a hybrid meeting option.
- There will be a Secretary Tour on October 17. The Secretary will be meeting with the St. Mary's County Commissioners and the Delegation (delegates and senators) at 10:00 am.

# Food Security

- The team continued discussing ways to expand food pantry donations and storage
- Starting a SoMD Fridges program in St. Mary's County
  - Ideas for potential fridge sites: St. Mary's Caring, The Mission, The Church of The Ascension, The Barns at New Market
    - EHAT members will continue to follow up with these organizations to them to the next Food Security Subcommittee meeting Sept 7.
    - Funding sources for refrigerator
- Bag Hunger SoMD on September 23
  - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is looking for volunteers to help prepare packaged meals across 3 locations in St. Mary's County. [Click here](#) for instructions on how to sign up to volunteer! Contact [Mike Martines](#) with any questions.
  - HSMP will do a call for volunteers/email blast later this week
- Promoting healthy food drives
  - We will continue reaching out to event organizers to encourage them to organize their own food drives using [HSMP's Healthy Food Drive toolkit](#).
- The Food Pantry Platform contract has been approved! We will be holding demonstrations and training sessions with the local food pantries soon.

# HSMP Walking Group



In partnership with  
the HSMP Chronic  
Disease Action Team

Hosted by **Peaktop  
Wellness & WARcycle**

For more information on HSMP's  
walking group, please email  
[stmaryspartnership@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryspartnership@gmail.com)

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership is pleased to introduce its monthly walking group! Join us for an evening walk on the **third Wednesday of each month!** Our first walk will be August 16 at Lancaster Park at 6pm. We hope to see you there!

This event is hosted by Peaktop Wellness and WARcycle, in partnership with HSMP's Chronic Disease Action Team! For more information on HSMP's Walking Group, please email HSMP.

Share the flyer!



## September EHAT Meeting

- September's EHAT meeting has been cancelled to accommodate the time commitment for team members to attend the [2023 HSMP Annual Meeting](#) on September 28.
- The next EHAT meeting will be Wednesday, October 18.



# Partner Updates

- Registration is now open for the 2023 HSMP Annual Meeting! [Click here](#) to register for free! For more information, visit the HSMP Annual Meeting [webpage](#).
- Maryland Dept of Health has released its new [Environmental Public Health Data Tracking Portal!](#)
- St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) has many events coming up! Be on the lookout for an upcoming drive-thru flu vaccine clinic, in partnership with MedStar St. Mary's Hospital. There are also free [Back-To-School Vaccine Clinic appointments](#) available at the School-Based Health Centers. The [St. Mary's Goes Purple Walk for Recovery](#) event is September 9. Check out more SMCHD news [here!](#)
- SMCHD's [Beaches](#) and [Pool](#) Monitoring Programs are wrapping up! There have been zero advisories for beaches this summer! In preparation for the upcoming school year, the environmental health team will be meeting with school kitchen staff to review food safety protocol and holding inspections.
- St. Mary's County Public Library reports that libraries in neighboring counties (Calvert, Cecil and Kent) have reached out and expressed interest in implementing their own [telehealth booths](#) in their library!
- Tri-County Council is holding its 1st Annual TCCSMD [Family Resource Day](#) on August 23 from 10am-4pm at Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department!
- [St. Mary's County Community Development Corporation](#) signed the contract with Recreation & Parks to officially take over the [Lexington Manor Passive Park Community Garden](#) and they are ready to break ground! There will be a volunteer work day coming soon. St. Mary's CDC is continuing to look for [sponsors!](#)
- The first of two [Farmers Feeding St. Mary's](#) events is tomorrow at Bay District Volunteer Fire Department.
- St. Mary's County Employee Association is organizing a Healthy Food Drive at their annual Health & Wellness Day on October 4 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at the College of Southern Maryland's [Wellness & Aquatics 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, October 18, 2023 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**
- Interested in being in our Partner Spotlight? [Sign up here!](#)