



Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Welcome! Please sign in

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

10:00 - 11:00 AM

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Partner Spotlight
3. Advocacy Agenda
4. Partner Updates
5. 2026 Project
6. Community Forum
7. Meeting Close
 - Contact HSMP
 - Submit your flyers

Introductions

- View the attendee [list](#)
- As a reminder, please remember to mute yourself when you are not talking

Action Team Co-Chairs

- **Christine Delise**, Community Development Coordinator at Aetna Better Health of Maryland
- **Tytiana Snyder**, Environmental Health Admin Specialist at SMCHD

Partner Spotlight

- Lauren Arney, Local Health Improvement Coordinator
 - Healthy St. Mary's Partnership Outreach Training
 - Share the CHA with community members! Learn more and download flyers at healthystmarys.com/cha2026
 - View the [slides](#)



Community Health Survey

Open to all who live, work, or play in St. Mary's County, Maryland

Let us know what health topics are important to you in this 5-10 minute survey

Complete to be entered into a random drawing for ALDI gift cards and wellness items



Survey Closes June 30, 2026

Learn more at healthystmarys.com/cha2026



Scan to take the survey!



Encuesta de salud comunitaria

Abierto a todos los que viven, trabajan o disfrutan de su tiempo libre en el condado de St. Mary, Maryland.

Haznos saber qué temas de salud son importantes para ti en esta encuesta de 5 a 10 minutos.

Completa la encuesta para participar en un sorteo de tarjetas de regalo de ALDI y artículos de bienestar.



La encuesta se cierra el 30 de junio de 2026

Para más información, visita a healthystmarys.com/cha2026



Escanear para llenar la encuesta

TIPS FOR OUTREACH

MAKE THE TABLE APPROACHABLE



- Use the HSMP tablecloth
- Mix in fun outreach items with resources
- Remember to smile and say hello to everyone who walks by
- Stay off your phone.

CUSTOMIZE YOUR TABLE FOR EACH EVENT

Use items that make sense for the event. If there will be families there, you can offer coloring books. If it is adults only, think about what items and resources make sense. HSMP will typically give you all the items and resources you need for the event. You can bring some relevant items and resources from your organization as well.



WORK ON YOUR PITCH

Practice a 1-2 sentence summary of HSMP to share with people. The general public may not be interested in attending meetings, but may be interested in resources. You can also direct them to sign up for the newsletter through the membership form.

Pick 2-3 items on the table to direct people to based on their demographics. Families may be directed to park resources, while adults may be directed to food pantry information.



MAKE ATTENDEES COMFORTABLE

Some resources may carry a stigma, which can deter people from picking up items, such as food pantry information or parenting classes. You can direct them to the information by saying, "If you know anyone who may be interested. Some people are very comfortable sharing their struggles with you. Be compassionate and direct them to the best resource, even if it isn't HSMP."



RECORD THE EVENT

- Take photos of you at the table to be shared on social media
- Do not take photos of the general public without a completed social media release form!
- Use your clicker to count how many people come to the table - children count!

BE COMFORTABLE NOT KNOWING

It's okay to not have all the answers! If someone asks a question you don't know, write down their information & question and let them know that HSMP staff will reach out to them with an answer. You can also give them a business card.



Advocacy Agenda- Period Equity

- **HR 6212 Good Samaritan Menstrual Products Act**
 - Last year EHAT approved supporting menstrual equity bills. With approval from the HSMP steering committee, Amanda wrote a LOS. This has been submitted to the MD delegate on this federal bill.
- **HB 457 Institutions of Higher Education- Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products**
 - Requires colleges and universities in Maryland to provide menstrual products in bathrooms by August 1, 2028
 - Passed steering committee. LOS will be submitted
- **HB 541/SB307 Public Schools- Restocking Menstrual Hygiene Products**
 - Requires public schools in Maryland to restock period products. This builds off of previous legislation that requires schools to provide product dispensers.
 - Passed steering committee with the amendment of advocating for more funds to be provided to schools to support this. LOS will be submitted for HB 541 and SB 307

Advocacy Agenda- Environmental Health

- **Transportation and Climate Alignment Act** (TCA): Requires the MDOT to assess greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled for major highway projects and fund offsets in transit, walking, and biking to meet state climate goals.
 - Vote: Passed 7 to 1 in EHAT. Passed steering committee. LOS to be written.
- **Strategic Energy Investment Fund** (SEIF): a state fund managed by the MD Energy Administration (MEA) to boost clean energy, reduce costs, create jobs and improve energy efficiency. This would stop the diversion of funds from SEIF to other projects.
 - Vote: Passed 8 to 1 in EHAT. Did not pass steering committee due to no bill being attached to it

Partner Updates

Please type out your update, including any links or contact information, and put them in the chat. This ensures the minutes are correct.

- **HSMP** has launched a [survey](#) for all community members. Please help us share these as they help us determine the **HSMP** priority areas for the next 6 years! The survey will be open to all who live, work, or play in SMC until June 30, 2026. Learn more and download the flyers at healthystmarys.com/cha2026
- **SMCHD** offers free virtual [Food Safety Classes](#)! The next class is April 15 from 5 - 8 PM. You can register by calling 301-475-4321!
- **LUGM** continues their [St. Mary's 2050](#) project with the 3rd community engagement window! Review the [draft](#) and submit [feedback](#). [March dates](#) have been announced! Share the [flyer](#)!
- **Recreation and Parks** is starting their 2027 Land Preservation [Plan](#) (5 year plan for the county). Public input, meetings, and surveys to come!
- The **SMC Commission on the Environment** (COE) will have the SMC Earth Day on April 25 and are accepting vendor registrations! Email coestmarys@gmail.com for an application.
- **St. Mary's County Commission on the Environment** is seeking nominations for their Annual Sustainability Awards. [Nominations](#) are due February 28!
- The **LMPP Community Garden** will offer Gardening 101 and Community Garden Orientation on 2 dates, February [21](#) and [22](#), at the **Lexington Park Library**.
- **LMPP Community Garden** has figured out the planting plan! They plan to start in March but will put out a call for help in preparing the beds in March.

Partner Updates

- **HB 474:** bill to create fines from people not removing snow from vehicles. Several accidents have occurred because of lack of snow removal. George will be testifying for this bill.
- The **Southern Maryland Consolidated Transportation Plan** will be done at end of month and can be shared in the future. This will identify gaps in transportation and independent living.
- **Lexington Park Business Association** will be starting an open air market on parking lot near FDR and Great Mills Road. It will not offer food but will be a great opportunity for outreach. It will begin in May, and will run throughout the year. More information to come!
- **Save the Date:**
 - Cherry Blossom Festival on March 21
 - Airport ribbon cutting event on March 24
 - Easter Egg festival will be on March 28
 - Crab Festival on June 13
 - Juneteenth Celebration on June 20
 - Community Culture & Cuisine at St. Mary's Square on June 27
 - HSMP Annual Meeting will be on September 24

2026 Projects

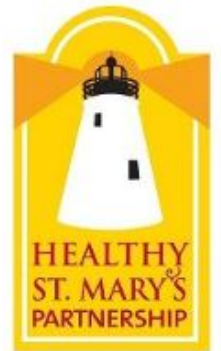
- Text system (435 subscribers!)
 - Ideas for future texts:
 - Food safety classes (April)
 - Mobile food bank (Ridge VFD and CH Library)
 - California farmers market
 - Homegrown market is open throughout the year
 - The barns at New Market (vendors every day, most produce not on Sundays)
 - Church of the Ascension Fellowship on 3rd Saturday- free meals, showers, haircuts, laundry. Cecelia to send flyer
 - Email any other ideas to stmaryspartnership@gmail.com

Community Forum

- Cannabis funds will be released soon. Is there a plan for this money? We could start to think of ideas if we are able to apply for grants.
- Could we advocate for people to spend their FSA funds on items to be donated? What other items besides period products could we advocate to be donated. Hygiene kits to the schools/shelters/soup kitchen?
 - Collect toiletries when you visit hotels to be donated
 - Cecelia often gets requests for toilet paper- this may be a good thing to advocate for donations
- The **SMC COE** got approval from Neighborhood Trees for kids to pick up a free tree on Earth Day!
- HB 239: subdivision regulations changing and could impact plans for Recreation and Parks and St. Mary's 2050

Meeting Close

- Contact HSMP
- Next meeting



CONTACT HSMP



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Upcoming Meetings

- Interested in being a partner spotlight for 2026? Sign up [here](#).
- We will meet next on March 18, 2026

