



STATE OF MARYLAND

## Community Health Resources Commission

Temporary Physical Address: 100 Community Place, Room 4.507, Crownsville, MD 21032

Temporary Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2347, Annapolis, MD 21404

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Larry Hogan, Governor; Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor;  
Edward J. Kasemeyer, Chair; Mark Luckner, Executive Director

August 11, 2021

### POTENTIAL HERC/PATHWAYS ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEES

#### #1 PATHWAYS RFP/DESIGN SUBCOMMITTEE

**First potential meeting:** August 23-25, as the CHRC prepares to issue the first Pathways RFP in early October. It is likely that a second meeting will be scheduled in September (before the RFP is released).

**Mission:** Provide assistance to the CHRC as it prepares to issue the first Pathways RFP in early October.

##### Initial goals and activities:

1. Determine eligibility criteria for the Pathways RFP- should these be aligned/identical to the entities eligible for the HERC RFP under the bill?
2. Should Pathways grantees be encouraged or required to focus on chronic diseases or some other goals, beyond the broader goals stated in the bill?
3. Should Pathways and HERC programs be encouraged to adopt clinical/medical (i.e., healthcare related factors) and non-medical strategies (i.e., social, economic, and environmental factors)?
4. Issue recommendations on how the Pathways RFP could provide grant support for geographic areas that received prior Health Enterprise Zone (HEZ) designations. This should also include a discussion of supporting new geographic areas that did not receive the initial/prior HEZ designation; and
5. What should be the review or selection criteria for the Pathways RFP, as the grants will be evaluated on a competitive basis?
6. How might overall “success” be determined for the two-year Pathways grantees, and how should the performance of Pathways grantees be factored into the selection of applicants for the HERC RFP?

#### #2 DATA AND PROGRAM EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE

**First potential meeting:** August 23-25, as the CHRC prepares to issue the first Pathways RFP in early October. It is likely that a second meeting will be scheduled in September (before the RFP is released).

**Mission:** Provide assistance to the CHRC to ensure that the data collected by Pathways grantees demonstrate program impact and that the data collected by the grantees will enable the CHRC to demonstrate progress and outcomes achieved that are aligned with the overall policy goals of the Health Equity Resource Act.



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### **Initial goals and activities:**

1. Review currently available data sources that Pathways and HERC grantees could access to demonstrate the impact of their intervention strategies;
2. Identify existing health disparities in the state and offer recommendations regarding which disparities are measurable and could be impacted by the activities of Pathways and HERC grantees;
3. Make recommendations regarding the specific data sets that Pathways grantees should be required to collect to demonstrate the impact of the grantees in terms of health outcomes, health disparities, service utilization, and potential cost savings/reductions; and
4. Offer recommendations how to benchmark the activities of Pathways and HERC grantees to assess program impact, including local/grantee-specific data metrics and metrics that could be standardized and consistent/uniform, across the Pathways and HERC grantees.

### **#3 CONSUMER OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

**First potential meeting:** in mid-September, as the CHRC prepares to issue the first Pathways RFP in early October.

**Mission:** Promote a robust and diverse pool of candidates who apply to the Pathways RFP and ensure that residents who live in the communities with Pathways grants access the new services that are made available.

### **Initial goals and activities:**

1. Issue recommendations to promote overall awareness of the HERC Initiative among the general public;
2. Sponsor forums across the state to inform communities about the Pathways RFP to ensure a diverse pool of grant applicants and solicit input from members of the affected communities, promoting genuine consumer engagement; and
3. After Pathways grants are issued by the CHRC, issue recommendations to promote awareness of the grant-supported activities in local communities to ensure robust participation and utilization of new programming.