

**48th Meeting of the
Maryland Community Health Resources Commission
Telephone Conference Call
Wednesday, March 28, 2012
1:30 PM- 2:00 PM**

Chairman Hurson called the conference call meeting to order at approximately 1:35 PM.

In addition to Chairman Hurson, Commissioners Boyer-Patrick, Hunter, Li, McLellan, Murray and Tildon participated in the conference call. Also attending the call were DHMH Secretary Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D.; Frank Kirkland, Director of the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA); and Patrick Dooley, Chief of Staff. DHMH AAG Josh Auerbach and CHRC AAG Sondra McLemore also participated in the call. This conference call was an open to the public.

The purpose of the call was to consider the request by DHMH leadership that the CHRC collaborate with Department's Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) to issue a targeted and expedited Call for Proposals, to award \$6 million in one-time only infrastructure grants to DDA licensed providers this fiscal year (FY 2012). The Call for Proposals would be open only to DDA licensed providers.

Secretary Sharfstein described the Department's goal of providing grant resources, on a one-time only basis, to enable the providers to make capital infrastructure improvements. The Secretary then thanked the Commission for its continued partnership with DHMH. As part of the issuance of the Call for Proposals, the Department would transfer funds from DDA's budget (\$6 million) to the CHRC's budget in FY 2012. (Following today's conference call, the funds have been transferred and are now in the CHRC's budget). The Commission would then issue a Call for Proposals and award the one-time infrastructure grants to applicants that submit proposals. In addition, DHMH has agreed to provide the necessary administrative resources that will enable the CHRC to hire a part-time contractual staff to help review the proposals and conduct post-award grant-monitoring activities. Following today's call, the CHRC posted the recruitment for the position on its and the Department's websites, and is currently in the process of reviewing applications.

A motion was presented, seconded and approved unanimously, approving the Chairman's and CHRC staff recommendation to proceed in issuing the Call for Proposals, with the stipulation that the CHRC and DHMH will work to develop a clear legal path to include DDA providers as "community health resources" in the Commission's regulations. Following the conference call, DHMH and CHRC staff consulted with the AAGs, and this conversation resulted in the CHRC preparing draft regulations to add "DDA licensees" as a specific type of provider recognized as a "community health resource" in the CHRC's regulations. CHRC staff will present the regulations to the full Commission for approval at the next meeting, on Thursday, April 12, at 3 pm in Annapolis.

Based on the action taken in today's conference call, the CHRC issued the formal Call for Proposals on Monday, April 2, and proposals are due to the Commission on April 23, 2012. DHMH and CHRC staff conducted a follow-up call on Thursday, April 5 to answer any questions from the potential applicants.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m.