

BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# ANNUAL REPORT

# FY2024

JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024

BALTIMORE COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



# 1000

YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



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# DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The Baltimore County Department of Health is thrilled to present our fiscal year 2024 annual report. Public Health continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, it's incredibly refreshing to return to promoting all our public health activities. This report highlights our many achievements and showcases the dedication and resilience of our staff. They not only worked tirelessly through the pandemic but emerged stronger than ever, both individually and as a team.

We invite the public to review our report, sign up for our [electronic newsletter](#), participate in our community engagement programs, and follow us on [Facebook](#)!

## VISION

Healthy people living, working, and playing in Baltimore County.

## MISSION

To promote health and prevent disease through education, advocacy, linkage to resources, and treatment to improve the quality of life of Baltimore County residents.

## ACCREDITATION

The Baltimore County Department of Health earned accreditation from the Accreditation Committee of the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) in February of 2023.

The public health accreditation process evaluates the performance of state, territorial, and local health departments against a national set of evidence-based public health standards. The Department's services, values, and accountability were reviewed using standards across 12 domains and more than 100 measures.

Accreditation is valid for five years.



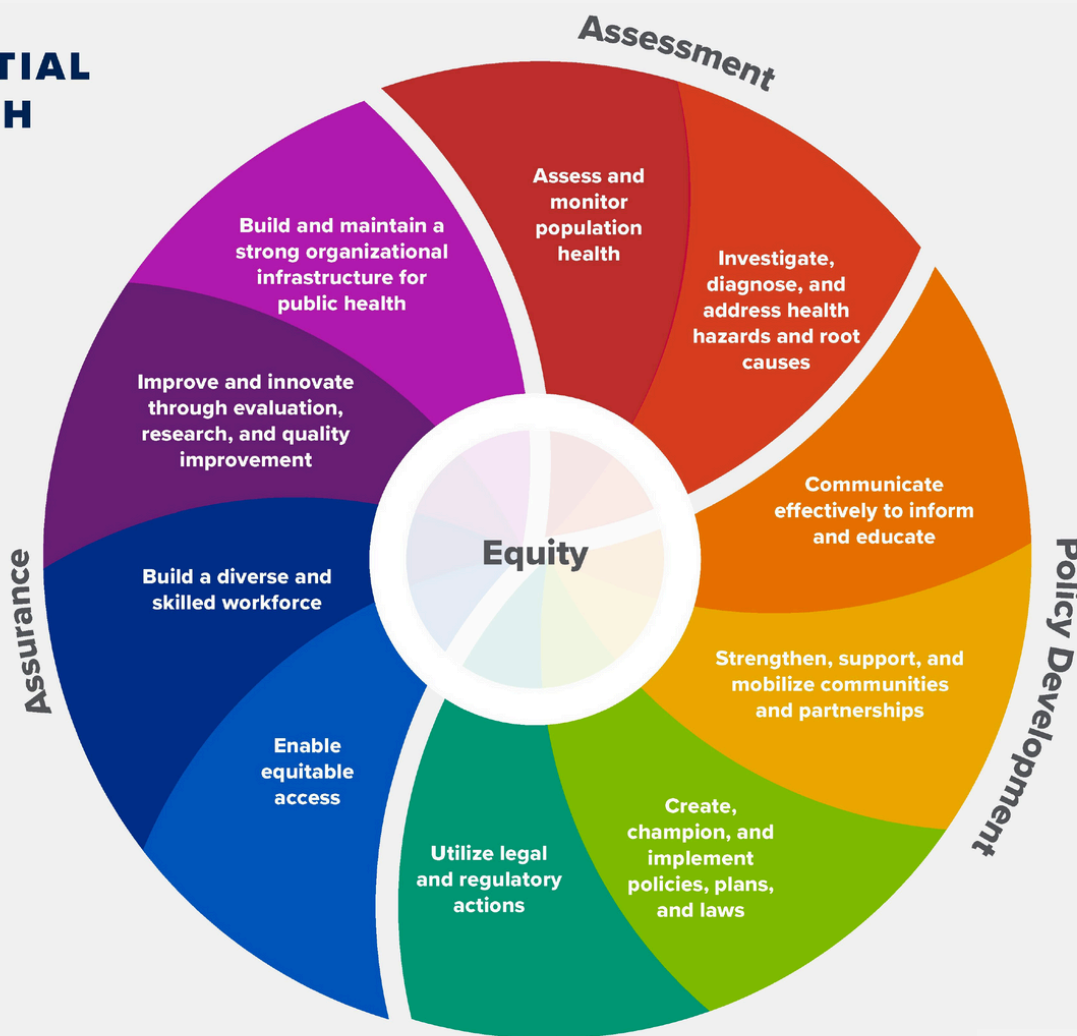
# BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES:

### THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

*To protect and promote the health of all people in all communities*

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities. To achieve optimal health for all, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and services that enable good health and seek to remove obstacles and systemic and structural barriers, such as poverty, racism, gender discrimination, and other forms of oppression, that have resulted in health inequities. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve good health and well-being.



The Baltimore County Department of Health (DOH) applies the 10 Essential Public Health Services across the following Bureaus and DOH units.





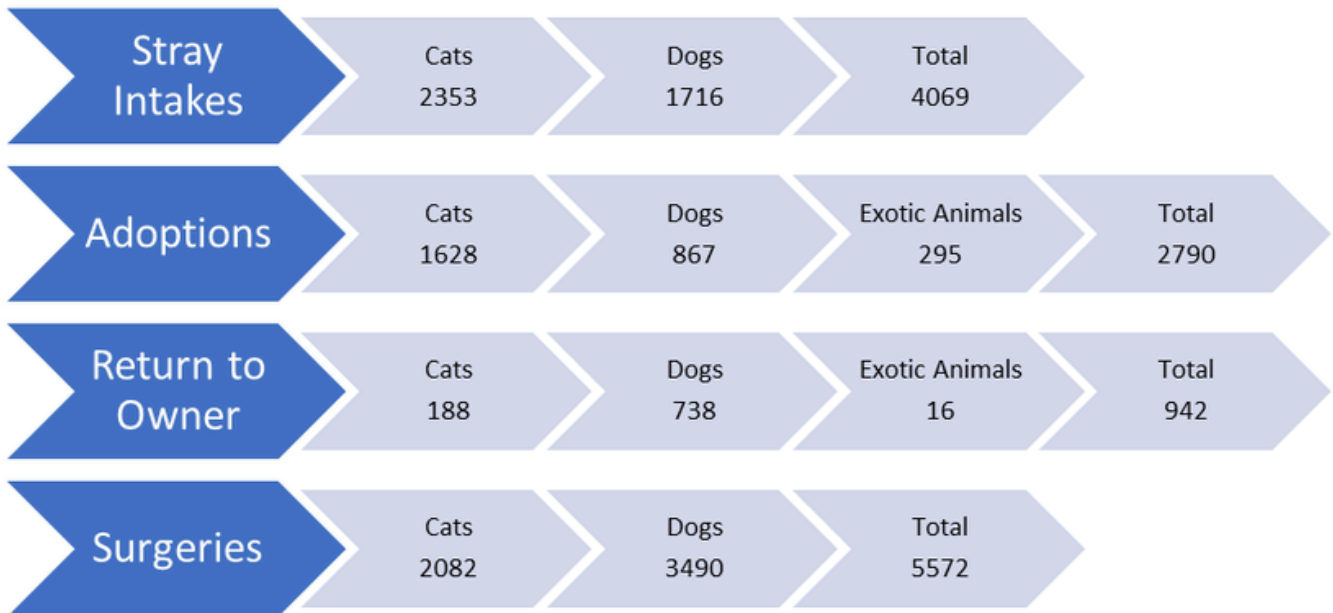
# BUREAU OF ANIMAL SERVICES

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Adoption - Microchip stations - Shelter - Rabies - Enrichment Programs - Volunteer

## SUCCESSFULLY UTILIZING OUTREACH EFFORTS

Animal services has made significant strides in enhancing our presence with the launch of our Instagram account and the establishment of a weekly feature on WMAR TV2, bringing attention to our animals in need of forever homes. We have introduced our innovative “Pitstops” initiative - a series of pop-up adoption events designed to bring our animals directly to the public. These events have been met with enthusiasm and have successfully increased adoptions. This year we proudly introduced our first spokesdog, Hank, and our first spokescat Muffin. Both Hank and Muffin have become beloved ambassadors helping to promote our mission of animal adoption.



We have made significant strides in promoting public health and animal welfare within our community. Our dedicated team administered a total of 1,485 rabies vaccines, ensuring that pets remain protected, assigned 615 animal licenses, implanted 588 microchips, attended 8 community adoption events, took proactive steps to enhance our community's resources by installing 5 community microchip scan stations (making it easier for citizens to check for lost pets), and observed an encouraging 8% decrease in calls regarding stray animals. The success of these programs would not be possible without the support of our 99 active volunteer members, who contributed approximately 12,000 hours of service in total.

# BUREAU OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The Bureau of Behavioral Health serves as the Local Behavioral Health Authority for Baltimore County, overseeing mental health, substance abuse, and prevention and recovery services. Our social workers and peer recovery support specialists offer information, treatment, referrals, connections, and

support for individuals facing mental health and substance use challenges. We also provide education and preventive programs focused on opioids, cannabis, and alcohol. Our initiatives aim to prevent opioid-related deaths and enhance access to medication for treating opioid use disorder in both the community and the detention center. Additionally, we offer harm reduction services and supplies to individuals at health centers and in the community through partnerships with local organizations.



14,136 Crisis Hotline Calls Processed



114,050 Syringes Distributed



2,433 Mobile Crisis Requests Dispatched



1,324 Naloxone Kits Distributed



655 Mental Health Calls Made



605 Reach Calls Processed

# BUREAU OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



**Mpox Vaccination Clinics**

Please note that Flu vaccinations will also be offered at every Mpox vaccination clinic

2/28 **Woodlawn Health Center**  
6901 Security Blvd  
Baltimore, MD 21207  
Tuesday | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Register by visiting: <https://bit.ly/3lJv4PS>

Please be aware of the symptom for mpox as shown below:

Skin rash \*      Fever

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The Communicable Disease Prevention Program serves as the cornerstone of public health initiatives. Our programs are critical for preventing and managing outbreaks of infections and are essential to the health and well-being of communities. Our roles include managing exposures to lethal diseases such as rabies and meningitis. We investigate food, water, and mosquito-borne outbreaks such as Listeria, Legionnaire’s disease, and West Nile Virus. We Coordinate mitigation efforts with local and state agencies. We investigate and manage diseases that have plagued humans for millennia, such as tuberculosis and typhoid. We also address diseases, including Zika and conduct outreach and testing for bloodborne pathogens, including HIV and Hepatitis C. The program is composed of multiple teams, including Communicable Disease (CD), Partner Services, TB, HIV, Hepatitis C, and Emerging Infectious Diseases. These teams work collaboratively to ensure a comprehensive approach to disease prevention and management.

Distributed 35,000 COVID-19 Test Kits

698 HIV Tests Conducted  
- 26 Linked to Care

552 Tuberculosis Referrals  
Made for Diagnosis and  
Treatment

171 Targeted Outreach  
Events Conducted

137 Individuals Referred  
for Syphilis Testing and  
Treatment

20 Pregnant Women Treated for Early Intervention to  
Prevent Congenital Syphilis





# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Environmental Health Services is a multidisciplinary group that monitors and enforces various laws, regulations, and policies that help safeguard the general health and well-being of the public. Our performance is measured by the percentage of mandated inspections that are completed each year.

Mandated Food Service Facilities Inspections

6,503



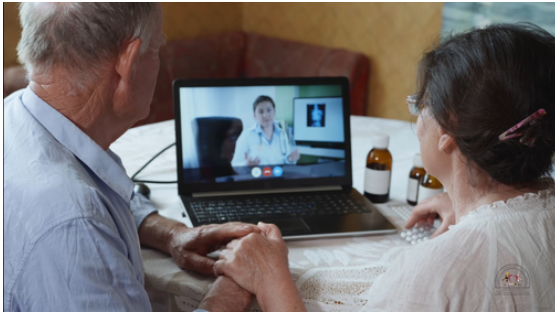
Responded to 879 Food Facility Complaints



Responded to 311 Community Hygiene Complaints

# BUREAU OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

Adult Evaluation and Review Services (AERS) - Community First Choice - Medicaid Transportation - Cancer and Chronic Disease - Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP)



**AERS** helps disabled adults by assessing their needs and finding services that allow them to stay independent in their homes and communities.

Provided 3800 Assessments for Older Adults & Individuals with Disabilities



Provided 541 Supervisory Visits In-Home Aide Clients



93% of Clients Identified as Fall Risk Remained Fall-Free



Nurse  
Monitoring  
Service

- >2000 vulnerable adults received services
- 92% overall success rate for measures met



## MEDICAID TRANSPORTATION

Program coordinates transportation services for Medical Assistance (MA) recipients who reside in Baltimore County, and who are in need of transportation to access medically necessary services. This program provides "last resort" transportation for ambulatory, wheelchair, and stretcher-bound recipients who have no other means available of transport to get to and from medical appointments.

### Medicaid Transportation

- 141,000 Rides Provided
- 5,200 Clients Served

### Maryland Children's Health Program

- 35,162 Verification Checklists Completed
- 4,750 New Applications were Processed

### Tobacco

- 3,658 Tobacco Compliance Checks
- 1,678 Tobacco Education Sessions
- 196 Individuals Received Cessation Support

### Cancer

- 414 Breast Cancer Screenings
- 200 Colorectal Screenings
- 164 Cervical Cancer Screenings

### Chronic Disease

- 750 Prediabetes Risks Tests Completed
- 270 Blood Pressure Screenings Completed
- 35 New Clients Joined Taking Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS)

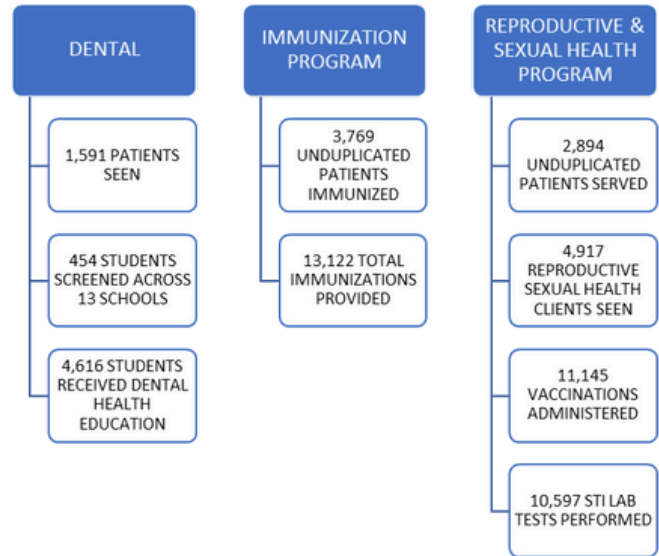
**MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM (MCHP)** is a state-mandated program, which provides assistance to functionally and chronically disabled adults who are at risk of institutionalization. AERS staff conduct a comprehensive evaluation to identify home and community-based services that will meet the individual's needs, enable them to avoid institutionalization and remain as independent as possible in the least restrictive environment



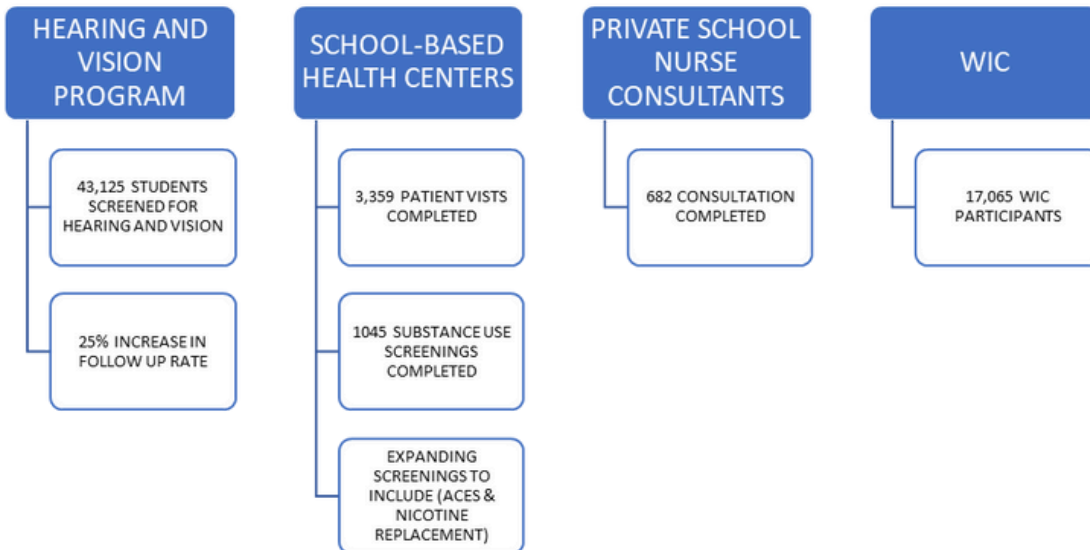
# BUREAU OF CLINICAL SERVICES

Center-Based Services - School Based Health Services - WIC - Maternal Child Health Shelter Nurse Program

**Center-Based Services** CBS includes Dental, the Immunization Program, and Family Planning Services. They provide general dentistry care to low-income individuals and those with Medicaid, as well as dental sealant programs in Title 1 schools. The Immunization Program offers vaccines primarily to eligible children and select vaccines for adults. Family Planning Services deliver comprehensive care, including STI screening and treatment, to everyone regardless of their ability to pay.



**School-Based Health Services** offers hearing and vision screenings to students in public and private schools, providing follow-up care for those who need it. They also consult with non-public schools on health guidelines and regulations. Additionally, school-based health centers in 13 Baltimore County Public Schools provide primary and urgent care, including immunizations, well child checks, and behavioral health screenings.



**WIC** offers nutritional help, education, and food benefits for low-income pregnant women, nursing mothers, and kids under 5. We also support breastfeeding and organize summer Farmers' markets for WIC recipients.



**Maternal Child Health** provides comprehensive support through various divisions, including care coordination, nursing case management, and audiology services. Programs focus on improving health outcomes for pregnant women, infants, and children by offering medical, social, and educational resources, as well as support services for those at high risk. Collaborations and community outreach initiatives ensure that families receive the necessary care and assistance they need.

4,577 referrals received / 3,590 individuals assisted

285 Audiology Screenings Completed

285 screenings completed

311 Safe-Sleep Items Distributed

12 FIMR Cases Reviewed and 24 CAT Activities Implemented

128 Families enrolled in Health Families

666 Infants and Toddlers Home Visits Completed

182 Homes Visited with elevated Lead Levels

704 Individuals Served

**Shelter Nurse Program offers** Nursing Case Management to residents of Baltimore County Shelters. We work with programs to improve residents' wellbeing and help them find stable housing

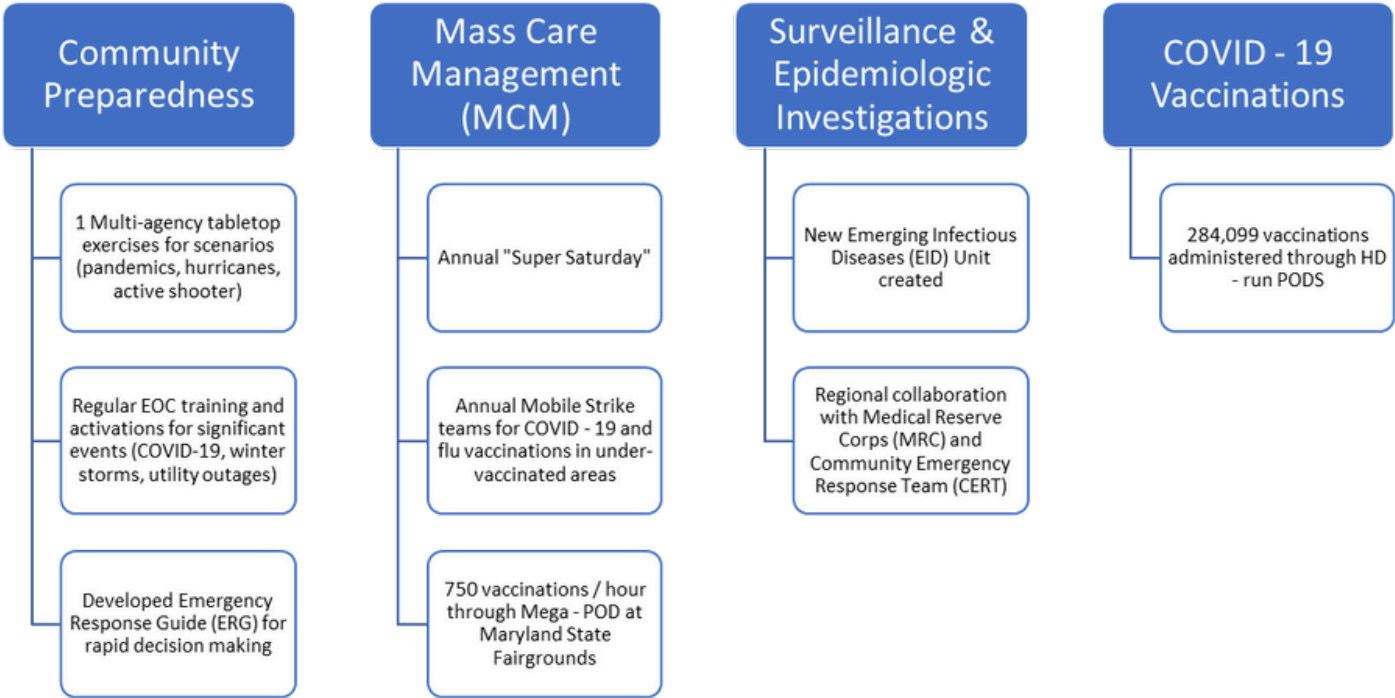
# POPULATION HEALTH

Community Outreach - Community Engagement - Local Health Improvement Coalition

**Population Health** is devoted to enhancing the health of marginalized communities through proactive and responsive outreach efforts. We engage with community leaders to provide education and resources while participating in health fairs and events requested by the community. We address health disparities, including physical and behavioral health, and ensure access to care. We collaborate with local health leaders through a quarterly Health Improvement Coalition to discuss issues and work on joint initiatives. Internally, the department strengthens its infrastructure to support ongoing initiatives across every bureaus. Our holistic approach aims to improve overall health outcomes by leveraging community trust and fostering collaboration.



# PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP)



The PHEP Program in Baltimore County aims to strengthen community resilience by enhancing emergency preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the program showcased its strong capabilities in emergency preparedness and response. PHEP emphasizes community outreach, collaboration among multiple agencies, and continuous improvement through drills and exercises, establishing Baltimore County as a leader in public health emergency management.



BALTIMORE COUNTY  
Department of Health

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Baltimore County Department of Health  
Healthy people living, working, and playing in Baltimore County  
Lucy E. Wilson, M.D., Sc.M., Health Officer  
County Executive Katherine A. Klausmeier and the Baltimore County Council