



STATE OF MARYLAND

# Community Health Resources Commission

45 Calvert Street, Annapolis, MD 21401, Room 336

Office (410) 260-6290 Fax No. (410) 626-0304

Larry Hogan, Governor — Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor Elizabeth Chung, Chair — Mark Luckner, Executive Director

## Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) CHRC Grant Application

1. Local Health Department Name:	Garrett County Health Department
2. Local Health Department Address:	1025 Memorial Drive Oakland, MD 21550
3. Name, Telephone # and email address of Health Officer:	Robert Stephens, 301-334-7700, Robert.stephens@maryland.gov
4. Name, Telephone # and email address of LHIC Contact:	Shelley Argabrite, 301-501-6161, Shelley.argabrite@maryland.gov
5. Additional Contact Person (if applicable):	Beth Brenneman, 301-334-7715
6. LHIC Tier Level & Jurisdiction	1 & Garrett County
<p>7. Describe current condition of LHIC: (e.g., LHIC staffed and meeting w/community partners regularly):  Our LHIC is a fully mature, responsive, multi-sector collaborative coalition that's been meeting monthly since 1997 as the Health Planning Council complete with Bylaws, and rotating key positions filled by partner agency representatives. The HPC meets concurrently with the Board of Health semi-annually. The Population Health, Innovation &amp; Informatics Unit helps to direct the focus of the APC utilizing the community processes based around the data collected from the responsive Community Health Improvement Plan that is dynamically generated from community members, agency partners, and health department staff utilizing the model practice engagement platform found at mygarrettcountry.com. Agency updates, special funding announcements, and vital happenings are also discussed at every meeting.</p>	
<p>8. Describe the project, including any changes to the structure and operations of the LHIC, programming and services to be added, and strategies for implementing the priorities of the Diabetes Action Plan in the community (maximum 500 words):  Since Garrett County has a number of initiatives that address diabetes prevention and treatment that are currently underutilized the HPC opted to focus on supporting those efforts by improving engagement and participation in the existing resources and programs. A percentage of the funding will be utilized to support two key positions in the Population Health, Innovation, &amp; Informatics Unit that will design and manage the new population based well-being initiative designed to be a feeder for existing resources. The director of the unit also serving as health strategist and the Informatics Administrator. They are instrumental in maintaining PHAB reaccreditation efforts, maintaining digital services to engage community, and lead population based initiatives that invigorate agency partners and keep community members engaged.</p> <p>With favorable input and support from key partners like Garrett Regional Medical Center, Mountain Laurel Medical Center, The University of Maryland Extension Service, and AHEC West at the September LHIC/ Health Planning Council meeting the Garrett County Health Department has embarked upon the creation of a county-wide, well-being initiative. Providing the people in Garrett County more opportunities to live healthy, productive lives by designing a synergistic program that educates about existing resources, optimal practices, and a way to earn points toward prizes that support local resources and businesses. The incentives offered will be a range of localized offerings designed to support local businesses that eventually lead to more positive health outcomes. An example is using a local restaurant to do blind taste testing with healthy substitutions- this video content will be on the website and the points you earn from watching could go toward getting the meal you just watched being made at the local restaurant. This evergreen approach to well-being is a way to galvanize our collective efforts, consistently delivering vetted health messages that</p>	

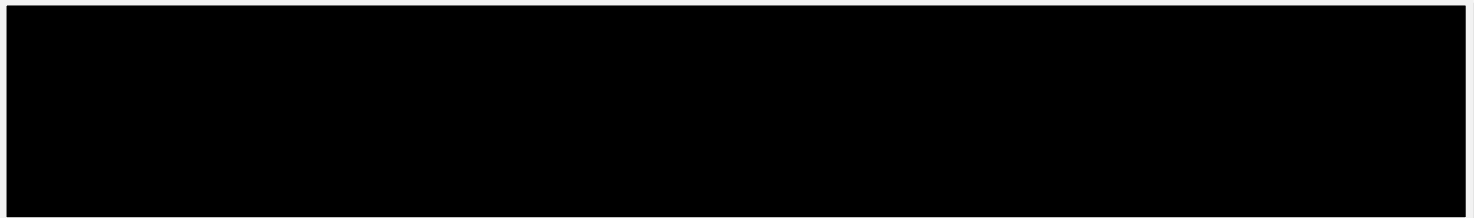
are fun and acting as a feeder for existing resources and programs in the county. It incorporates several strategies in the diabetes action plan and has solid support from partners. Gogarrettcountry.com is currently under construction with advanced data collection capabilities that will enable us to report aggregate population based well-being metrics. Participants will be required to complete a baseline survey and then follow-up surveys relating to knowledge, personal changes in well-being, habits, and community involvement. All incentivized! The two main diabetes management programs in the county will be highlighted throughout the initiative and referrals will be tracked to demonstrate value toward Maryland's action to combat diabetes.

9. Provide a list of other organizations currently participating or partnering in the LHIC and their role, and describe if there are changes you plan to make in the partnership strategy:

Our Bylaws ensure there are representatives from multi-sector agencies and community members present and serving at every monthly meeting. Since March of 2020, the meetings are held virtually with 20-40 people in attendance. The meeting minutes, agenda, and attendance can be found on-line at mygarrettcnty.com in the Health Planning Council Action Group. Representatives from the following fields: Health, Education, Manufacturing, County Government, Community Support Organizations, Non-Profits, Chamber of Commerce, Local Business, and Community Members are active participants. Community engagement is something we continue to seek out and improve. We are hopeful the new initiative will raise awareness that the HPC exists and more people will want to actively participate in the decisions that affect the health of the county.

10. Does the LHIC plan to employ Technical Assistance offered by the team from the University of Maryland School of Public Health to assist in achieving the MDH Competencies and Standards defined in the LHIC Redesign Plan? If YES, briefly describe.

Yes, we began working with the Technical Assistance team last month. Our Health Strategist is working closely with Rya Lotze Griffis to design the large scale population based well-being initiative mentioned above designed as a feeder for existing diabetes related programs in the county. Rya attended our virtual LHIC in September and has been working on collecting well-being instruments, data collection methodology, and health content.



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