



STATE OF MARYLAND

Community Health Resources Commission

4201 Patterson Avenue, Room 315 • Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – John A. Hurson, Chairman
Grace S. Zaczek, Acting Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Governor Appoints Members to Community Health Resources Commission

Mission is to improve access to care for un- and underinsured

BALTIMORE, MD (July 6, 2007) -- Governor Martin O'Malley today announced five new appointments and six re-appointments, including John A. Hurson as chairman, to the 11-member Maryland Community Health Resource Commission.

"I am proud that we are bringing professional, competent leadership to Maryland's Community Health Resource Commission," said Governor O'Malley. "This commission has important work to do to improve health care access for all Marylanders, and I look forward to their guidance as we expand medical coverage to more of Maryland's working families."

Through operating and information technology grants, the commission assists community clinics that often serve as safety nets for un- and underinsured Marylanders in need of health care services.

"Accessible and affordable care in the community not only makes for better outcomes for the patients, it also reduces demand for crowded hospital emergency rooms," said John M. Colmers secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. "Already the commission is collaborating with the department to provide significant grants to support access to dental care for the uninsured."

Under the leadership of commission chair, John A. Hurson, former chair of the House of Delegates Health and Government Operations Committee and principal sponsor of the legislation that established the Commission in 2005, the Governor has appointed five new members: Stanley Goldman, Ph.D., Paula McLellan, Margaret Murray, Douglas Wilson, Ph.D. and John L. Young, M.D.

(more)

Dr. Goldman is program director for Health, Disabilities, and Addiction with The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation; Ms. McLellan is chief executive officer for Family Health Centers of Baltimore, and Ms. Murray is executive director of the Association of Community Affiliated Plans. Dr. Wilson serves as director of Planning/Business Development and Government Relations at Peninsula Regional Medical Center and Dr. Young is a board-certified obstetrician and vice president of the Montgomery County Medical Society.

In addition to Chairman Hurson, the five reappointed commission members are Jude L. Boyer-Patrick, M.D., M.P.H., a child and adolescent psychiatrist with a non-profit mental health clinic in Hagerstown, MD; Yvette J. Benjamin, P.A., M.P.H, physician's assistant and former technical advisor to the World Health Organization; Leon Kaplan, C.P.A., M.B.A., executive vice president – Operations CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield; Kendall Hunter, chief operations officer of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan – Mid-Atlantic States, and Karla R. Roskos, B.S.N, M.P.H., retired chief executive officer of Greater Baden Medical Services in Southern Maryland.

The commission's next meeting will be a teleconference scheduled for Thursday, July 19 at 12 Noon. Dial-in information will be available on the commission's Web site (listed below) under 'Meeting Information.'

More information about the commission is available on the Internet at <http://dhmh.state.md.us/mchrc/> <http://dhmh.state.md.us/mchrc/> or by contacting Grace Zaczek, acting executive director of the commission, at 410-764-4661 or by e-mail at zaczekg@dhmh.state.md.us.

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