MARYLAND PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
Welcome to the 2024 Legislative Wrap-Up!
PROGRAM AGENDA

1. Ice breakers
2. Introduction
   ○ Brief intro to MdPHA
   ○ Summary of legislative priorities and corresponding bills supported by MdPHA
   ○ Student highlight
   ○ Thank you to partners
1. Presentation by our partners/Guest Speakers
   ○ Brooke Torton: University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
   ○ Stephanie Klapper: Maryland Health Care for All
   ○ Melanie Bolden: Health Table
1. Jonas Nguh: MdPHA
   ○ Closing remarks and thanks
Public Health Happy Hour Game

Rules of Play: In the next slides, we will prompt you to answer a few questions for a quick ice breaker to get you all mixing and mingling.
Find 1 partner that you do not know and introduce yourself [include name, pronouns, what you do]. Share a hobby or interest of yours. [Spend about 5 minutes]
ICEBREAKER SLIDE #2

Find 2 new partners and introduce yourself briefly [different folks from the last question] and share a public health advocacy issue that you're passionate about and why it's important to you.

[Spend about 5-10 minutes]
ICEBREAKER SLIDE #3

Stay in your groups and share a public health advocacy or equity statistic or fact that you find surprising or alarming.

[Spending about 5-10 minutes]
ICEBREAKER SLIDE #4

Find 2 new partners [different folks from the last question], introduce yourselves briefly and discuss the role you believe individuals can play in promoting public health in their communities.

[Spend about 5-10 minutes]
Welcome!

From your Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs!
INTRODUCTION

ILONA ARGIRION, PHD, MPH

• Epidemiologist

• Assistant Professor at Georgetown University School of Health and Epidemiology graduate program

• National Cancer Institute, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics

• At-large board member of MdPHA (year 3)

• Advocacy Committee Co-Chair (year 2)
INTRODUCTION

OLUWATOSIN OLADEJU, DRPH, MSN-CPHN, BSN, RN

- Assistant Professor of Nursing at Coppin State University
- Adjunct Professor of Public Health at Morgan State University
- Founder and Executive Director, Food and Care for All Inc.
- Commissioner and Co-Chair of the Maryland Commission on Public Health
- Advocacy Committee Co-Chair (year 2)
WHAT IS THE MARYLAND PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION (MDPHA)?

- One of the oldest and most vibrant state affiliates of the American Public Health Association (APHA)
- Maryland’s leading professional organization for those working in the field of public health
- Committees:
  - Student Section of Maryland Public Health Association (SMdPHA)
  - Advocacy
  - Finance
  - Program
  - Membership
  - Communications
Advocacy: Stronger Through Partnership
Academic Partners of MdPHA’s Advocacy Cmte.
2024: Legislative Year in Review

• MD Legislative Session: Jan 10th-April 8th

• Legislative Priorities
  • Environmental Health
  • Health Equity (including prescription affordability)
  • Mental Health
  • Nutrition, Food Access, and Safety
  • Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse
Committee Structure

- **Committee Co-chairs**
  - Final Approval and Submission

- **Legislative Priority Lead**
  - Aid in identifying relevant bills, testimony assignments and review

- **Advocates**
  - Learning, drafting written and oral testimony, giving testimony

* Can aid in identifying relevant bills
Legislative Priority Leads

Environmental Health
Melanie Bolden, MPH
Climate and Health Coordinator and PhD Candidate at Johns Hopkins SPH
(Mdphe.climate@gmail.com)

Mental Health
Andrea Kalfoglou, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology/Anthropology/Public Health
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Health Equity (including Rx affordability)
Stephanie Klapper, MSW
Deputy Director for Maryland Health Care for All! Coalition

Nutrition, Food Access, and Safety
Oluwatosin Olateju, DrPH, MSN, BSN, RN
Nursing Professor, Coppin State University and Commissioner & Co-Chair, Maryland Commission on Public Health
Glenda Lindsey, DrPH, MS, RDN, LDN
Professor of Practice, Family and Consumer Sciences

Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse
Ilona Argricion, PhD, MPH
Assistant Professor, Georgetown University School of Health and NCI
MdPHA Advocacy Committee Member Stipends for Legislative Year 2024
The APHA Advocacy Cohort Grant is sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Grant

Activities covered for Advocacy Committee Members

- **Transportation Costs** to Maryland General Assembly for Hill Days or other legislative advocacy efforts
- **Partnership building** (engaging new and existing partners) - Cover organizational/student chapter membership costs for at least 5 Maryland schools, particularly HBCUs looking to join the student chapter of Maryland Public Health Association (SmDPHA) if they cannot afford it. This will help promote equity in school affiliates' membership. For example, Organizational (*1-20 Employees) - $150.00 (USD); Organizational (*21-100 Employees) - $250.00 (USD).
- **Testimony stipends** - A maximum of $25.00 will be paid to each Advocacy Committee member (student members and non-student members) for drafting a testimony and presenting it virtually or in person.
KEY 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Health Equity (including prescription affordability)
- Nutrition, Food Access, and Safety
- Environmental Health
- Behavioral Health/ Substance Abuse
- Violence Prevention/Mental Health
## Key 2024 Legislative Priorities and Bills Supported by MdPHA

### Health Equity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Name</th>
<th>Associated House and/or Senate Bill</th>
<th>MdPHA Position</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Health - Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP)</td>
<td>HB0127/SB0246</td>
<td>Support with amendments</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Order Program - Establishment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program (Access to Care Act)</td>
<td>HB0728/SB0705</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment</td>
<td>HB0691/SB0119</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – State-Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program – Amount of Annual Subsidies</td>
<td>HB0953/SB0701</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for All Marylanders Act of 2024)</td>
<td>HB0340/SB0338</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Key 2024 Legislative Priorities and Bills Supported by MdPHA

**Nutrition, Food Access, and Safety**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Name</th>
<th>Associated House and/or Senate Bill</th>
<th>MdPHA Position</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary and Secondary Education - Breakfast and Lunch Programs - Universal Expansion Report</td>
<td>HB0696/SB0579</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Supplement Benefits – Students – Eligibility (SNAP for Students)</td>
<td>HB0407</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Advocating for adequate WIC funding in FY 2024**
## 2024 Legislative Priorities and Bills Supported by MdPHA

### Environmental Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Name</th>
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<th>MdPHA Position</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Health – Clean Indoor Air Act – Revisions</td>
<td>HB0238/SB0244</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans</td>
<td>HB0864</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment – Impact of Environmental Permits and State Agency Actions</td>
<td>HB0024/SB0096</td>
<td>Support with Amendments</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Highway Capacity Expansion Projects – Impact Assessments and Mitigation Plans (Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2024)</td>
<td>HB0836/SB0681</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Name</td>
<td>Associated House and/or Senate Bill</td>
<td>MdPHA Position</td>
<td>Result</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responding to Emergency Needs From Extreme Weather (RENEW) Act of 2024</td>
<td>HB1438/SB0958</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticides – PFAS Chemicals – Prohibition</td>
<td>HB1190</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commemorative Weeks – Maryland Climate Education Week</td>
<td>HB0993</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Behavioral Health/ Substance Abuse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Name</th>
<th>Associated House and/or Senate Bill</th>
<th>MdPHA Position</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services – 9 – 8 – 8 Trust Fund Fees</td>
<td>HB0933/SB0974</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances</td>
<td>HB0548/SB1009</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigarettes, Other Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices – Revisions (Tobacco Retail Modernization Act of 2024)</td>
<td>HB1180/SB1056</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health – Opioids and Opioid Overdose Reversal Drugs – Information</td>
<td>HB1121</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### KEY 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND BILLS SUPPORTED BY MdPHA

**Violence Prevention**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Name</th>
<th>Associated House and/or Senate Bill</th>
<th>MdPHA Position</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use of Nuclear Weapons</td>
<td>HJ0003/SJ0002</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Tessa Cone, UMBC undergraduate social work student, and Andrea Kalfoglou, PhD, UMBC Association Professor of Public Health, testified on behalf of HB407 SNAP for students.
STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Morgan and University of Maryland students with Dr. Glenda Lindsey

Students attending Advocacy Summit for the Maryland Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics in Annapolis, February 7, 2024
Public Health students supporting Emmanuella Osei’s poster “Food insecurity among college students.” Faculty mentor: Sameera Nayak

Maya Hunn and faculty mentor Andrea Kalfoglou, campus food insecurity at Maryland’s 2- and 4-year Colleges
Guest Speaker

Brooke Torton, J.D.

Deputy Director, Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy
Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy

Brooke Torton, Managing Director

Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy

May 10, 2024
# Legislative Tracking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill #</th>
<th>Crossfile</th>
<th>Prior Session History</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Hearing &amp; Voting</th>
<th>Lead Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB 587</td>
<td>SB 561</td>
<td></td>
<td>Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages - Manufacturer's Limited Beer, Wine, and Liquor Permit</td>
<td>Creates a manufacturer's limited beer, wine, and liquor permit in Frederick County.</td>
<td>In the House - Hearing 2/19 at 1:00pm Economic Matters</td>
<td>Frederick County Delegation</td>
<td>In favor:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alcoholic Beverages – Sale or Delivery for Off-Premises Consumption</td>
<td>Provides that establishments authorized to sell alcoholic beverages can deliver alcohol when the beverage is purchased with prepared food and the purchaser is at least 21 with a valid ID to prove age. The license holder must be registered with the local licensing board to sell alcohol for off-premises consumption and must not sell or deliver after 11:00 pm. The licensing board may not charge an additional fee for selling or delivering alcohol, and they may limit the amount of alcohol sold or delivered.</td>
<td>In the House - Hearing 2/19 at 1:00pm Economic Matters</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>In the Unfavorable Report: Financial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Introduced in a</td>
<td>Creates a tax rate for ready-to-drink cocktails at $4.40 per gallon, or 10.57 cents per liter. It also defines “ready-to-drink cocktails” as beverages with a BAC of 0.3% or less.</td>
<td>In the House - Hearing 2/19 at 1:00pm Economic Matters</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>In the Unfavorable Report: Financial</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legal Resource Center(s) and Academic Institutions: Key Considerations

- Existing legal clinics;
- Strengthening partnerships/relationships;
- Subject matter overlap/expansion;
- Funding???
Other Centers and Networks

• Network for Public Health Law
  – Provides technical legal assistance to public health agencies and officials, legislators and regulators, and community organizations across the country on any public health law issue.
  – LRC Director Kathleen Hoke leads the Network’s Eastern Region

• Public Health Law Center formerly Tobacco Control Legal Consortium (TCLC)
  – LRC was a founding member of TCLC
  – Assisted other states in launching their tobacco legal resource centers

• Public Health and Tobacco Policy Center
  – Works with governments and organizations seeking public health policy support

• ChangeLab Solutions
  – Works with governments, community organizations, advocates, and anchor institutions across the country to improve public health
Questions?

btorton@law.umaryland.edu
(410) 706-5993
Guest Speaker

Stephanie Klapper, MSW
Deputy Director for Maryland Health Care for All! Coalition
2024 Policy Update

Stephanie Klapper, Deputy Director
Maryland Health Care for All! Coalition
Legislation

- Passed:
  - HB 728/SB 705: Access to Care Act
  - HB 953/SB 701: Young Adult Subsidies
  - HB 933/SB 974: 988 Trust Fund
  - SB 119: Legally Protected Gender-Affirming Treatment

- Did not pass:
  - HB 340/SB 388: Prescription Drug Affordability Board Authority Expansion
  - HB 1438/SB 958: RENEW Act
Additional State Achievements

► More than 24,000 have gained health coverage from the unemployment insurance form Easy Enrollment Program and more than 13,500 through the tax return Easy Enrollment program

► Over 60,000 young adults have benefitted from the young adult subsidy program

► Over 6,000 pregnant Marylanders enrolled in coverage through the Healthy Babies Equity Act

► Over 179,000 automatically renewed their Medicaid coverage by remaining in the SNAP program
Federal Achievements

- The Inflation Reduction Act extended enhanced subsidies to make private health plans available on the federal and state based marketplaces more affordable.

- The Inflation Reduction Act for the first time allows Medicare to negotiate with drug corporations and in 2025 sets a $2k/year cap on Medicare Part D out-of-pocket costs for medications.

- Over 100,000 more DACA residents are eligible to enroll in quality, affordable health coverage across the United States.
The Prescription Drug Affordability Board has announced 8 drugs it is considering for cost review.

Submit written comments by COB May 15 to the Prescription Drug Affordability Board at comments@pdab.maryland.gov

Learn more at pdab.maryland.gov/Pages/2024-Board-Meeting.aspx
On the Horizon

► Continue to fight for expanded authority of Prescription Drug Affordability Board

► Health Equity Resource Community grant announcements

► Advocate for continuation of young adult subsidies

► Advocate for RENEW Act
Questions?

www.healthcareforall.com

(410) 235-9000

stephanie@healthcareforall.com

X: @healthymaryland

Facebook.com/MDHealthCareForAll

Instagram: @MarylandHealthCareForAll
Guest Speaker

Melanie Bolden, MPH
Climate and Health Coordinator, MdPHA
Co-Lead, Maryland Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate (MHPHC)
Maryland Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate (MHPHC)-2024 Legislative Recap
# 2024 Legislative Session Highlights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Name and Numbers</th>
<th>Health Table Position</th>
<th>2024 Legislative Session Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MDE Permitting Bill (HB24 / SB 96)</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EmPower Reform Legislation (HB 864)</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Passed!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2024 (HB 836 /SB 681)</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Did Not Pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sign-ons provided for:
- Reclaim Renewable Energy Act (HB 166 / SB 146)
- Better Buildings Act (SB1023) / HB1279
Climate Ambassador Training Workshop and Networking event
NPHW/WCJEW Webinar event

Perspectives in Climate Change: A panel discussion with local experts and students on Climate Change in Maryland
Written Works and Outreach

Climate Change is Dangerous to Our Health: A Maryland Overview

Climate change is impacting our health here and now. Harmful effects aggravated by climate change include: increases in heart and lung diseases, adverse pregnancy outcomes, heat-related illness, infectious diseases, food borne illnesses, and mental health issues. Additionally, access to care can be disrupted during increasingly frequent severe weather events and power outages.

CLIMATE IMPACTS & VULNERABILITIES

More than 2,000 miles of coastline
4th most vulnerable state to sea level rise

Written Works and Outreach

Perspectives In Climate Change: Event Resource List

Thank you again for attending our panel

Maryland’s Environmental Puzzle: Seeking Justice for All

Environmental Justice Challenges Persist in Maryland

Despite concerted efforts to combat climate change and improve environmental conditions in Maryland, the state continues to grapple with pressing environmental justice issues. The Chesapeake Bay and other waterways in Maryland face consistent pollution and access challenges, and the concentration of polluting facilities in low-income communities and communities of color continue to cause health disparities in pockets throughout the state.

Despite the state’s significant efforts to improve environmental conditions, certain communities like Curtis Bay in Baltimore, Brandywine in Prince George’s County, and areas outside of Salisbury in Wicomico County continue to bear a disproportionate burden of pollution and environmental hazards. With the passage of the Climate Solutions Now Act in 2022, the state has turned its focus to definitions of “overburdened” and “underserved” communities to build resources and support for communities who experience high environmental pollution and health burdens and who have historically been excluded from decision-making authority and other resource opportunities. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) launched the EJ Navigating Fund and has since seen legislation that includes specific benefits for overburdened and underserved communities. In 2021, legislation targeting transit equity for Marylanders (SB 271) and equitable green spaces for Marylanders (HB 1515/SHB 1516), went passed and in 2024, a bill to increase the funding for the state’s Comprehensive Flood Management Grant Program and allocate 40% of it to projects in overburdened or underserved communities passed, while others have yet to take progress, including attempts to build a cumulatively impacts assessment or EJ analysis into MDDE’s regulatory process. These challenges are not just environmental but also tied to historical neglect and socio-economic disparities. This article briefly explores environmental justice concerns in Maryland, shedding light on the impacts on communities and the urgent need for equitable solutions.
WEBINAR FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

A Perfect Storm:

How climate change and its impacts on water affect your health

Wednesday, May 15, noon

Register:
bit.ly/mdhealthpros

Featuring:
Natalie Exum, PhD
Johns Hopkins University
Water Institute
Thank You!

For more information on Maryland Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate, please email: mdpha.climate@gmail.com
Guest Speaker

Jonas Nguh, PhD, MSN, FACHE, NEA-BC, RN

MdPHA President
Policy Chair, Men's Health Caucus of the American Public Health Association