



Increasing Vaccinations in Baltimore City

Aug 20 - Covid-19 vaccine clinics and outreach sessions targeting those living in underserved communities are successfully getting residents vaccinated.

In its first pop-up clinic held at the SEED School of Maryland Aug. 14, community health workers talked with 75 individuals about getting the vaccine, and 25 people received their first shot.

Outreach sessions and vaccination clinics will continue to be held throughout Baltimore City. Community health workers will offer listening sessions and Covid-19 vaccine education virtually August 21, and in-person at the New Waverly United Methodist Church August 25.

The initiative is part of collaborative effort with community leaders and area health educators to bring information and shots directly to the populations that need them. Residents living in communities near Carroll, Upton, Waverly, or south of Gwynn Falls Parkway have not had easy access to trusted medical information and vaccines, said Paula Blackwell, executive director of the Central Maryland Area Health Education Center (AHEC). In talking with residents, it is important that medical information comes from professionals who live and work in the area and are familiar to the residents. Blackwell also knows that many residents in underserved communities don't have transportation to large vaccine sites, child-care available, or time to take off from jobs.

The outreach programs and upcoming Covid-19 vaccine clinics are designed to address the vaccine disparity in the city by bringing the vaccine clinics right to the residents by setting up in churches, mosques, and area schools where families congregate. The initiative is funded in part by the Health Resources & Services Administration, the University of Maryland, Baltimore in partnership with the Central Maryland AHEC.

Blackwell also noted the importance of listening to local residents' specific concerns about the vaccine and addressing those concerns with simple, targeted messaging. Central Maryland AHEC wants residents to know that in order to be safe, they need to be vaccinated, and wear face masks to be protected against the virus.

Residents can access vaccination appointments by visiting Central Maryland AHEC's website https://centralmarylandahec.org/vaccine. Contact Paula Blackwell at paula.blackwell@umm.edu





Scheduled outreach and vaccine clinics sponsored by CMAHEC are listed below:

August 21, 9am-11am

New Waverly United Methodist Church, 642 E 33rd St, Baltimore, MD 21218 Vaccine Outreach

August 25, 6:30-1:30

Listening Session & Vaccine Education (Virtual)

August 28, 12pm-2pm

Trinity Presbyterian Church 3200 Walbrook Ave, Baltimore, MD 21216 Back to School Supplies & Food Distribution Vaccine Clinic

August 28, 10am-12pm

New Waverly United Methodist Church Back to School Supplies & Food Distribution Vaccine Outreach

Aug. 28, 11:00am -2pm

Church of Jesus the Christ Back to School Supplies & Food Distribution Vaccine Outreach

September 10th, 12pm-4pm

SEED School 200 Font Hill Ave, Baltimore, MD 21223 Vaccine clinic

September 25th, 11am-3pm

Masjid Ul Haqq 514 Islamic Way, Baltimore, MD 21217 Vaccine Clinic





About Central Maryland AHEC

The Central Maryland Area Health Education Center (CMAHEC), a 501(c)3 organization, is one of three community-based Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) in Maryland and one of more than 250 AHEC's throughout the United States. The Maryland AHEC Program, located at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, provides technical support and guidance to CMAHEC for the delivery of evidence-based programming. CMAHEC leverages educational partnerships, community linkages, and support from federal, state, and local agencies to accomplish its mission. Area Health Education Centers are funded in part by the Health Resources and Services Administration national network that focuses on recruitment, training, and retention of a diverse healthcare workforce for medically underserved communities.

Our Mission

The Central Maryland Area Health Education Center (CMAHEC) works to increase health equity by educating and strengthening the healthcare workforce. CMAHEC provides interdisciplinary educational programs that bridge academic, healthcare, and community settings to transform the healthcare delivery and outcomes for residents in medically underserved communities in Central Maryland.

Leadership in Central Maryland AHEC's Vaccine Campaign

Contact: Paula Blackwell, Executive Director, Central Maryland AHEC paula.Blackwell@umm.edu, ph: 410-804-0868

Dr. Niharika Khanna, MBBS, MD, D.G.O.

Dr. Richard Colgan, MD

Other Nationally Recognized Central Maryland AHEC Programs

<u>Faith-based Outreach Program Addresses Opioid and Stimulant Use Disorders in Maryland,</u> Reaches Thousands