

Welcome, new members!

We are pleased to announce the following new members of the Guiding Coalition:

- Leah Paley, Anne Arundel County Food Bank
- Karissa Kelly, Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities
- Jessica Leys, Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks
- Jenny Jarkowski, Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning

Building a Healthier Maryland

Maryland Department of Health is updating their state health improvement plan and have requested survey participation:

Community Survey

Please share the community survey to the public. It is open to Maryland residents 18 years and older. The [survey](#) and fliers are available in English, Spanish, Korean, and Chinese.

Organizational Assessment

Please complete the [Public Health Systems Assessment](#) for your organization. Only one assessment is needed per organization.

Our Shared Work to Improve Community Health: Workgroup Updates

Mental Wellness Workgroup

Goal 1: Sharing of mental wellness resources

Objectives	Discussion and action steps
Ongoing Bi-weekly email digest	Find out about upcoming events pertaining to mental wellness. ➡ Sign-up to receive the email: Community Health Alerts
Ongoing Social Media Promotion	➡ Follow HAAC at: Healthy Anne Arundel Annapolis MD
Ongoing Warmline youth flier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There may be a budget for printing fliers and rack cards through the Opioid Intervention Team • Ideas for distribution include community health ambassadors, waiting rooms at the Department of Social Services, Department of Juvenile Justice, Food Bank distribution centers, Rec & Parks • The Department of Aging and Disabilities will edit for the older adult population. ➡ Print/ distribute to youth audiences, as appropriate
In Progress Mental Health Awareness Month	➡ Early participation is appreciated by contributing photos based upon the weekly focus topics and sharing the campaign with your networks. ➡ Look for details about submitting photos beginning February 12.

(May)	Email Mindi hdgarr01@aacounty.org with your submissions or questions.
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Goal 2: Sharing of mental wellness policies

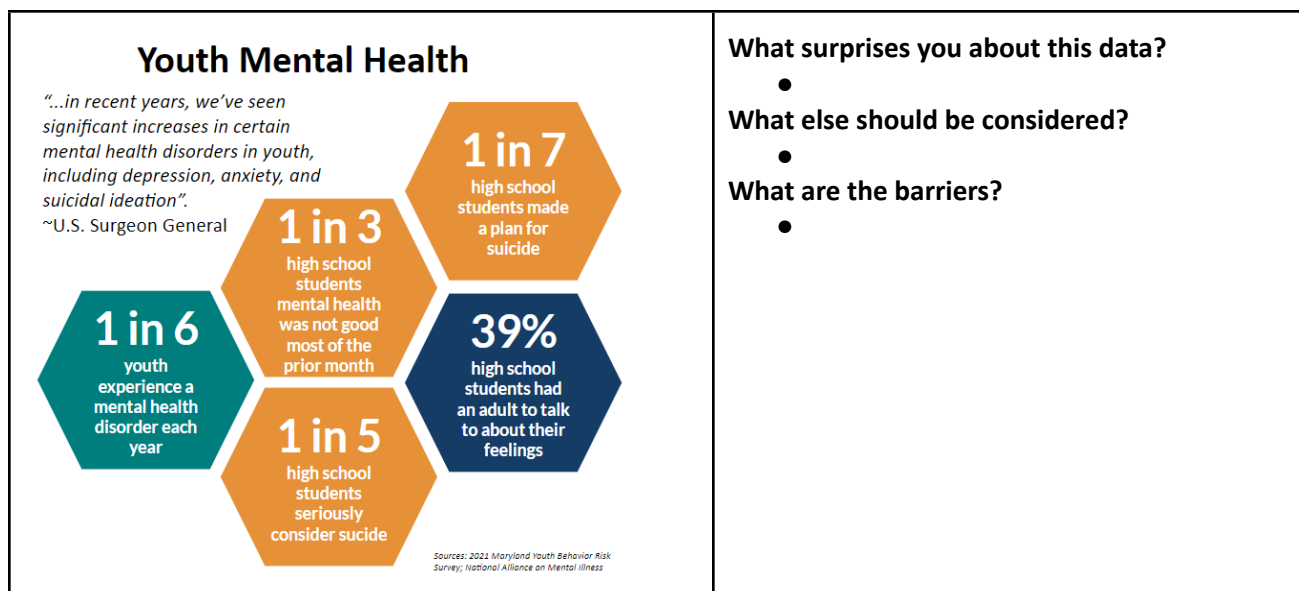
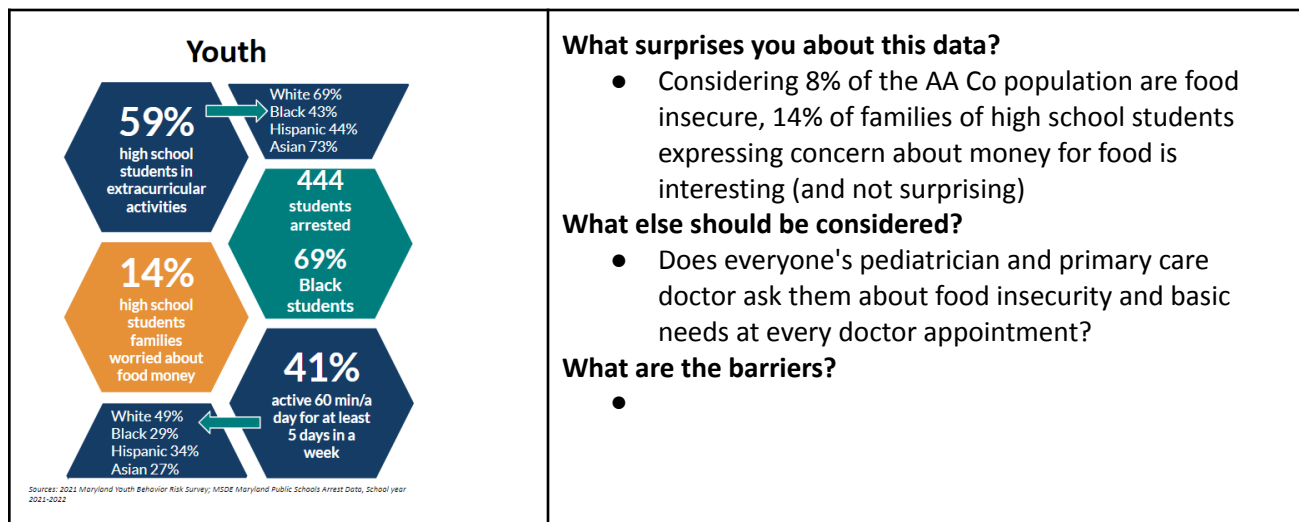
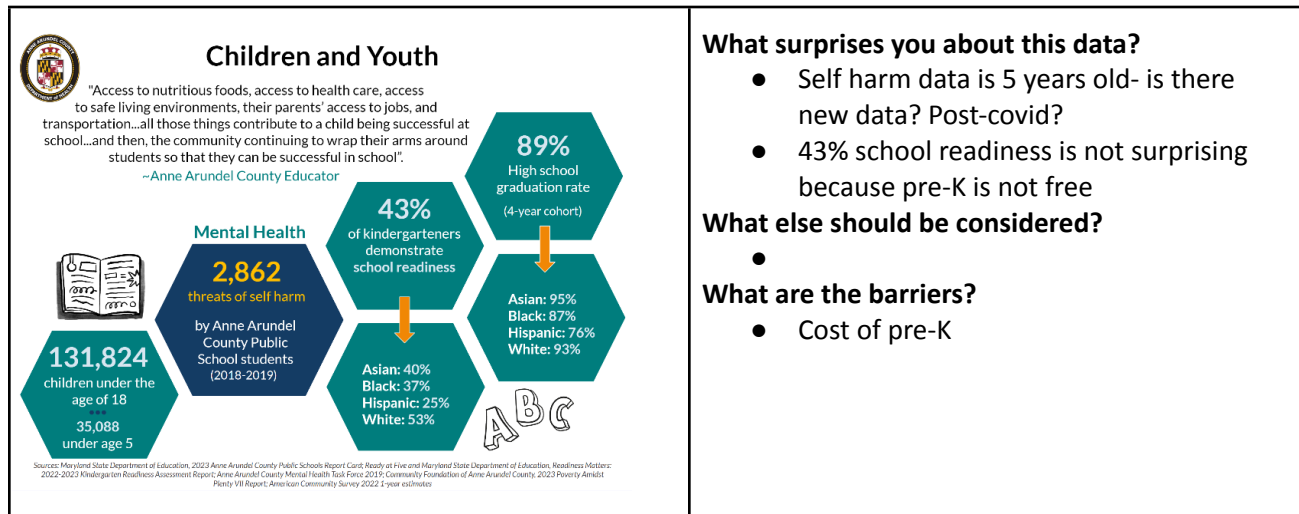
In Progress Legislation email updates	Find out about upcoming legislation regarding select mental health topics during the 2024 Maryland General Assembly. ➡ Sign-up to receive weekly emails here: Mental Health Legislative Roundup
Complete Presentation for HAAC partners on the impact of cannabis legislation	Cannabis legislation presentation for HAAC partners was provided by the Department of Health Behavioral Health Bureau; a collection of presentations is available to HAAC members. If you'd like access to the cannabis presentations contact Mindi Garrett hdgarr01@aacounty.org

Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Workgroup

Goal 1: Promote sharing of HEAL resources and events.	
Ongoing Find Help resource platform	➡ Access the website to ensure your organization's services are included. HealthyAnneArundel.findhelp.com ➡ Add your organization's programs, services, and resources to the database using the Google form: https://forms.gle/MDQkZ4U1e8WBeS7J6
In Progress Healthy Anne Arundel Day, April 7, 2024	➡ Hold a healthy event or activity for your organization between Friday, April 5 and Sunday, April 7. ➡ If your organization would like to assist with planning, contact Mindi Garrett (hdgarr01@aacounty.org)
Ongoing Partner Presentations	Brief (10-15 minute) presentations are shared at the end of the HEAL bimonthly meeting. They will be recorded, and featured on the HEAL web page. The upcoming schedule is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2024: AACPS, Food and Nutrition Services • May 2024: Department of Planning and Zoning • July 2024: ➡ this spot is available • September 2024: Food Bank • November 2024: ➡ this spot is available Contact Mindi Garrett (hdgarr01@aacounty.org) to schedule a presentation about your organization and be featured on the HAAC website.
Goal 2: Promote policies that support healthy living.	
Ongoing The Federal PHIT Act	The PHIT Act (Personal Health Investment Today) is a federal bill which would expand flexible spending accounts (FSAs) and health savings accounts (HSAs) by allowing the funds to pay for equipment and activities used for physical fitness.. ➡ Distribute the printable flier (attached to this email) and share digitally through email and social media.
In Progress Disability Inclusion Project- grant application	➡ If your organization would like to have a representative with this group, contact Mindi Garrett (hdgarr01@aacounty.org)

Data Walk

➡ Please take a moment to consider the questions for the corresponding data and provide feedback to Mindi at hdgarr01@aacounty.org.



Attendees/ Guiding Coalition Members

- Dr. Charlestine Fairley (Anne Arundel County Community Action Agency) Co-chair
 - Julie Snyder
- Dr. Tonii Gedin (Anne Arundel County Department of Health) Co-chair
- Adrienne Mickler (Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency)
 - Ann Hoyt, Mental Wellness Co-chair
 - David Foster
- Jenny Jarkowski (Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning)
- Rhonda Pindell Charles (Alderwoman, Annapolis Ward 3)
- Amanda Fiedler (County Council, Board of Health)
- Chief Edward Jackson (Annapolis Police Department)
- Jennifer Harrington (Luminis Health, Anne Arundel Medical Center)
 - Danny Watkins
- Diane Croghan (University of Maryland, Baltimore Washington Medical Center)
- Jill Donaldson (MedStar Health)
- Juanita Tryon (Bay Community Health)
- Kevin Simmons (Annapolis Office of Emergency Management)
- Monique Jackson (Anne Arundel County Public Schools)
- Pastor Karen Johnson (Anne Arundel Connecting Together)
- Pamela Brown (The Partnership for Children, Youth and Families)
 - Mizetta Wilson, HEAL Co-chair
- Leah Paley (Anne Arundel County Food Bank)
- Karris Kelly (Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities)
- Rachael Maconachy (Maryland Department of Human Resources)
- Danny Bellamy (Total Healthcare)
- Pastor Jose Torres (Heritage Community Church)
- Jill Seamon (Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation)
- Skip Auld (Anne Arundel County Public Libraries)
- Kevin Hachuza (Arundel Lodge)
- Patrick Mutch (Chase Brexton)
- Chief Trisha Wolford (Anne Arundel County Fire Dept)
- Chief Amal Awad (Anne Arundel County Police Department)
- Jessica Leys (Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks)

DOH Staff

Donna Perkins - Director, Office of Assessment and Planning

Mindi Garrett - Health Policy Analyst, Healthy Anne Arundel Coalition

Kristin Coleman - Health Policy Analyst, Office of Assessment and Planning

Ann Heiser Buzzelli - HEAL Co-Chair