



AGENDA

HEAL Work Group Meeting

November 16, 2023 | 12:00 – 1:15 pm

Attendance

Mizetta Wilson (co-chair), Partnership for Children, Youth and Families
Ann Heiser Buzzelli (co-chair), Anne Arundel County Department of Health
James Merritt, Merritt Health Clubs
Bill Martin, Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks
Jodi Risse, Anne Arundel County Public Schools Leah
Temi Oshiyoye, Luminis Health, Anne Arundel Medical Center
Marcus Hockaday, Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities
Leah Paley, Anne Arundel County Food Bank
Kelly Koorey, UM, Baltimore Washington Medical Center
Deborah Hammond, Anne Arundel Community College
Angel Woodall, Anne Arundel County Food Bank
Jill Foster, Public Health Professional
Louise Thomas, The Tennis Alliance of Anne Arundel County
Debbie Wood, Chesapeake Children's Museum
Healthy Anne Arundel staff and support from Department of Health:
Mindi Garrett, Donna Perkins, Kristin Coleman

Workplan Updates

Goal 1: Sharing Resources and events

Status	Objective	Notes
In Progress ▾	Develop materials to promote the new HEAL resource platform	Rack card, FB post drafts created.
In Progress ▾	Healthy Anne Arundel Day	Planning committee formed; 1st planning meeting in December
In Progress ▾	Partner presentations	Bi-monthly meetings will be 75 minutes to accommodate one presenter at the end.

HEAL resource platform (FindHelp)

HAAC now has a contract with FindHelp to provide a custom, branded website for social support resources in Anne Arundel County. After a brief overview about the FindHelp platform, we asked that each organization submit their programs, services, and events to be added to the database through the [google form](#). The deadline to submit resources for the website launch is November 30.

We then conducted a poll to find the best option for a “home message” on our custom page. The message chosen is:

Working together as a community to promote the health and wellness of Anne Arundel County residents.

Action Items

- Partners are asked to submit programs and resources through the [google form](#) by **November 30, 2023** for the official website launch.
- If your organization has more than 10 resources to submit, please contact Mindi at hdgarr01@aacounty.org.

Healthy Anne Arundel Day (April 7)

Remember that World Health Day is also Healthy Anne Arundel Day. Planning will begin with the first meeting during the month of December.

Action Items

- Mindi will send a doodle poll to those interested in planning to set the first meeting date.

Goal 2: Promoting policies that support healthy living

In Progress ▾	Federal PHIT Act 1-pager	Approved, being distributed
In Progress ▾	Field/ facility use and rental 1-pager	1st draft info sheet, reviewed by county and city rec & parks
In Progress ▾	Disability Inclusion Project	meeting monthly, planning for grant release

Federal **PHIT** Act

Personal Health Improvement Today. This federal bill would expand the use of Flexible Spending Accounts and Health Savings Accounts to include fitness-specific costs and activities. A HEAL subcommittee developed an informational flier to promote the bill. James has pitched the PHIT Act to Northern Anne Arundel Chamber of Commerce and other organizations. HAAC has shared the flier with several health clubs and promoted PHIT through social media. Since this is a federal bill, we would like to see it more widely distributed.

Action Items

- Distributing the PHIT flier:
 - ◆ James will share with health clubs and personal trainers
 - ◆ Leah will share with Green Hornets (sports league in Severna Park)
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- ◆ Jodi will share with school PTA leaders
 - ◆ Other suggestions included sporting equipment stores, and local sports leagues.
 - Social media promotions through HAAC
 - ◆ Follow <https://www.facebook.com/HealthyAAC>
 - ◆ Like, share, and comment to expand the post reach
 - ◆ Repost on your organization's page

Info sheet for facility/ [field rental](#) and use

Information has been collected from both the county and Annapolis Rec & Parks. More work needs to be done to produce an easy-to-read and understand document.

Action Items

- Mindi will follow up with both the county and Annapolis Rec and Parks for feedback once the flier is ready.

Disability inclusion committee

The committee has met twice to prepare for the MD Department of Health Disability Inclusion grant, which we hope will be released for applications soon. In the meantime, Mindi has attended disability-focused meetings for other jurisdictions, including CODI (the Commission on Disability Issues) for Anne Arundel County. CODI has an interest in having a representative to advise our committee. Louise Thomas mentioned that the Tennis Alliance has several programs that make tennis accessible to those in wheelchairs.

Action Items

- The next committee meeting will be scheduled in December.
- Louise Thomas will be included in future activities for this committee.

WIC funding

Current proposed funding would require states to turn away an estimated 600,000 eligible postpartum women and children; the current amount per month per child of \$26 would return to prior levels of \$9-11. Funding for WIC must be authorized by congress every year.

Action Items

- To keep up with the increasing caseload and rising food costs, HEAL members are urged to contact the [House Appropriations Committee](#) in support of full funding for the WIC program.

Partner Showcase: Merritt Health Clubs

James Merritt shared a presentation about the programs and classes offered through Merritt Health Clubs. This presentation, along with future partner presentations, will be featured on the HEAL page of HealthyAnneArundel.org.

Much thanks to Jodi Risse, Food and Nutrition Services, AACPS, who will be sharing a presentation at the March HEAL meeting.

Action Items

- Please contact Mindi at hdgarr01@aacounty.org if you would like to present your program at the January 18 meeting or a future meeting!
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