



**ANNE ARUNDEL
COUNTY**
MARYLAND

Anne Arundel County Commission on HIV/AIDS

**Annual Report for Period
January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019**

**Dr. Craig N. Coates, Chair
Pastor, Fresh Start Church, Inc.**

**Kristy Frashure, R.N., B.S.N., Vice Chair (Resigned 10/19)
Program Manager, HIV/STI Prevention and Care
Anne Arundel County Department of Health**



I. Anne Arundel County Commission on HIV/AIDS Overview

Mission

- A. Review available services and activities for persons with HIV/AIDS, gather data regarding their needs, and review reports and publications of governmental agencies that provide services and support to persons with HIV/AIDS.
- B. Review County, State, and Federal legislation that may impact public health initiatives and services for persons with HIV/AIDS and make recommendations to the County Executive, County Council, and the County Delegation to the State Legislature regarding legislation.
- C. Recommend ways of maximizing the use of facilities and services available to prevent HIV/AIDS and provide resources for persons with HIV/AIDS.
- D. Provide direct communication among individuals, private and public organizations, and the general public regarding programs and services for persons with HIV/AIDS.
- E. Assist interagency planning groups and special task forces to identify and assess needs of persons with HIV/AIDS and the needs of communities for the prevention of HIV/AIDS.
- F. Identify barriers to service delivery and advocate for services to persons with HIV/AIDS.
- G. Promote the coordination of services among all public and private agencies, departments, and organizations which provide services and programs to persons with disabilities.
- H. Identify and recommend to the County Executive sources of state and federal financial assistance available for the purpose of expanding or improving services and programs for persons with HIV/AIDS and for community outreach efforts on the prevention of HIV/AIDS.

Goal

To promote and enhance the quality of life for persons living with HIV/AIDS through the coordination and development of government policies, programs, services, and allocation of resources for education and prevention, diagnosis and treatment, and community support for persons living with HIV/AIDS.

II. Meeting Information

From January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019, the Commission met three times including the observance of World AIDS Day on Saturday, December 1, 2019 at Fresh Start Church in Glen Burnie, Maryland. The Commission struggled in 2019 (as well as previous years) with poor meeting attendance and member participation. Agendas were established for each meeting; during proceedings, rules and regulations governing the Commission's procedures and activities were observed. To comply with the Maryland Open Meetings Act, all meeting dates, agenda items and meeting minutes have been posted on the Commission's website, <http://www.aacounty.org/boards-and-commissions/HIV-AIDS-commission/>.

III. Accomplishments

As with the nation and the state, HIV and AIDS disproportionately affect certain communities within Anne Arundel County. Approximately three quarters of living HIV cases in Anne Arundel County are male. Non-Hispanic Blacks constitute 56% of living adult/adolescent cases, followed by Non-Hispanic Whites (27%) and Hispanics (8%). Among the adult/adolescent living cases with a known exposure category, men having sex with men (MSM) was the most common exposure (46.7%), followed by heterosexual (34.7%) and injection drug use (13.1%). Half (~52%) of the living adult/adolescent HIV cases reside in five of Anne Arundel County's roughly forty zip codes: Annapolis – 21401, Eastport – 21403, Glen Burnie West – 21061, Glen

Burnie East – 21060, and Severn - 21114. Based on this epidemiological data, the Commission accomplished the following in 2019:

- 1) The World AIDS Day Committee, consisting of several Commission members along with other HIV/AIDS supporters, held their annual “World AIDS Day” event on December 1, 2019 with approximately 100 attendees. The program, “You Matter: Know Your Status,” targeted residents infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The event remembered those who lost their fight with HIV/AIDS. Four of 16 Commission members attended the event.
- 2) Change in Commission by-laws, per quorum vote, effective October 2019. By-law changes remove the requirement that the Vice Chair be the Program Manager of the HIV/STI Program at the Department of Health. This change allows for both the Chair and Vice Chair to be unbiased and independent parties.

IV. Priorities for 2020

- 1) Focus on member recruitment and filling of vacant/expired voting member positions.
- 2) Provide input and support for harm reduction programs, including syringe services, in Anne Arundel County.
- 3) Raise awareness/promote the use of PrEP among high risk populations in the County.