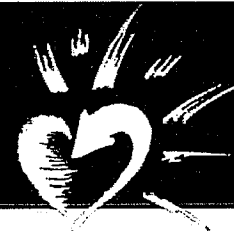


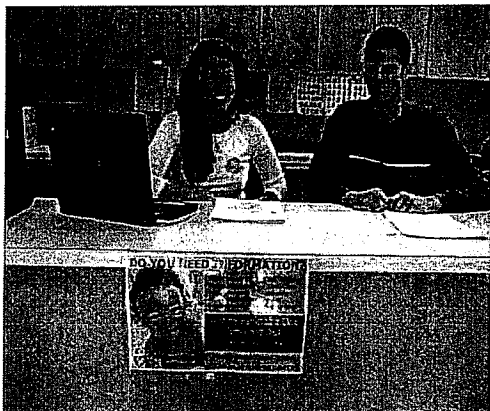
Project HEALTH Baltimore



mobilizing the nation's college students to break the link between poverty and poor health

BACKGROUND

Project HEALTH Baltimore was founded in 2006 with the leadership of Baltimore Health Commissioner Joshua Sharfstein and Baltimore Health Care Access, Inc. Dr. Sharfstein had utilized the Project HEALTH Family Help Desk during his pediatric training at Boston Medical Center, and found it to be critical to ensuring healthy outcomes for patients. As Health Commissioner, Dr. Sharfstein saw a need for college volunteers in Baltimore to connect families to critical resources.



In the urban hospitals and health centers where Project HEALTH's Family Help Desk programs operate, physicians can "prescribe" food, housing, job training, fuel assistance, health insurance, or other resources for their low-income patients. Located in the clinic waiting room and staffed by college volunteers, these Family Help Desks "fill" these prescriptions by connecting patients with key community resources.

Over the last two and a half years, Project HEALTH Baltimore has successfully established programs at the Johns Hopkins Harriet Lane Clinic, Baltimore Medical Systems St. Agnes Clinic, the Baltimore City Health Department Druid Clinic, and Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center.

THE NEED

Children who experience food insecurity – inadequate access to healthy and nutritious food – are 30% more likely to be hospitalized by age three than their peers who have access to sufficient healthy food.

Likewise, children under age three whose families need but do not receive help paying their energy bills are 30% more likely to be hospitalized. Housing instability has also been shown to negatively impact child health, as does lack of parental education.

A study at Johns Hopkins found that 98% of pediatric residents recognized that addressing social issues at well-child visits can positively impact health, but only 18% routinely screened for housing needs and 11% for adequate food at home.



OUR IMPACT

After the implementation of the Family Help Desk and a psychosocial screening tool, roughly 75% of Johns Hopkins pediatric residents are now referring to the Family Help Desk and documenting the psychosocial needs of families.

In a research study conducted by physicians and Project HEALTH Baltimore volunteers, and presented at the Annual Pediatric Academic Society & Asian Society for Pediatric Research, 90% of surveyed families were satisfied with the resources provided by Project HEALTH, and 46% of families had enrolled in community programs within 12 months.

Since 2006, Project HEALTH Baltimore has recruited 325 students from Johns Hopkins University, University of Maryland Baltimore County, and Loyola College. These dedicated volunteers have devoted over 25,000 hours of volunteer service to assist more than 2,700 local families.

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- 2009: Workshop & Poster Presentation, Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Meeting
- 2009: Recognition of commitment to action by Clinton Global Initiative University
- 2008: City of Baltimore Mayoral Certificate of Recognition
- 2008: Policy Impact Award, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and Baltimore City Health Department
- 2008: Poster Presentation, Annual Pediatric Academic Society & Asian Society for Pediatric Research
- 2008: University of Maryland Baltimore County Shriver Center Outstanding Service Award
- 2007: National Association of City and County Health Officials Model Practice Award
- 2007: Baltimore City Health Commissioner Commendation Award
- 2006: ABC News Baltimore Profile

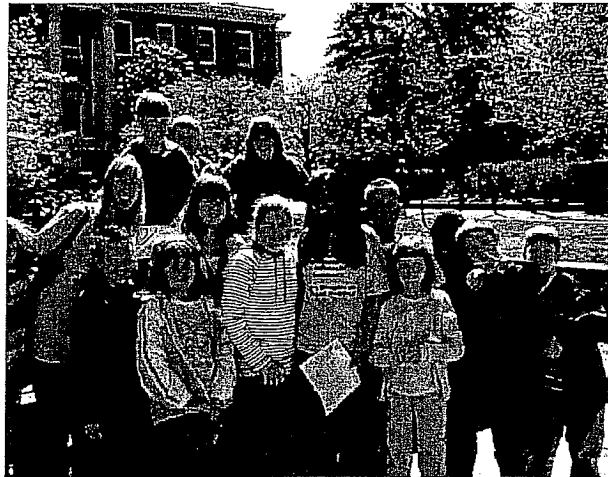
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Project HEALTH volunteers partner with Baltimore Health Care Access, the Maryland Citizens Health Initiative and other local organizations to reach out to Baltimore City residents about their health insurance options.

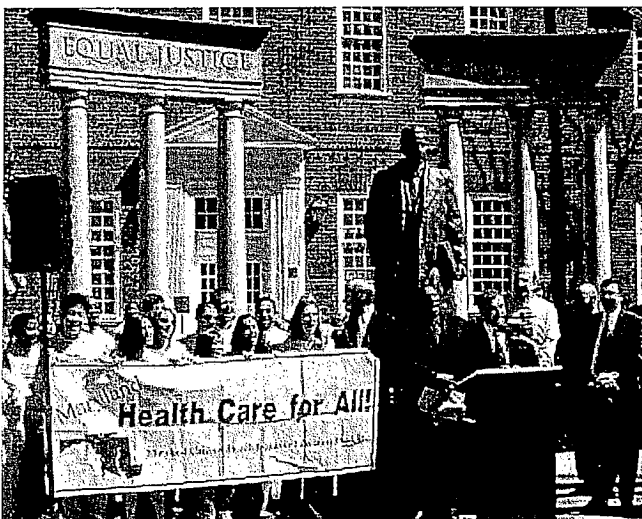
Together, they have enrolled over 10,000 people in the Medical Assistance for Families program since July 2007.

Project HEALTH's second annual collaborative outreach event, Baltimore Health Fest '09, was conducted in partnership between Project HEALTH, Edgcombe Elementary School, JHU Alumni, Seanair Machine CO Inc, and 20 community-based organizations.

The event was attended by over 300 East Baltimore residents. At the Health Fest, community members received information about local health insurance, child care, housing and other critical resources.



OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS



CLINICS

Children's Medical Practice, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center
Harriet Lane Clinic, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions
Baltimore City Health Department – Druid Clinic
St. Agnes Clinic, Baltimore Medical Systems, Inc.

UNIVERSITIES

Johns Hopkins University
Loyola College
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTERS

Baltimore Health Care Access
Stulman Foundation
Strauss Foundation
Youth Service America
Seanair Machine CO Inc
Weinberg Foundation
Thomas Wilson Sanitarium for Children