

## Questions from May 8, 2007 Faith-Hopkins Forum

### Violence

1. Could you give a definition on why our young people are so angry?

**Answer:** The partnership is interested in examining the social and environmental determinants which are impacting the rate of violence we are experiencing in Baltimore. Thus, this issue will be addressed in a larger forum to determine what can be collectively done to address this issue.

### Drugs

1. What happens to all the drugs the police confiscate?

**Answer:** *Still researching this answer.*

2. One of the most pressing problems facing Baltimore is drug addiction. Is this not a health issue to be addressed by this partnership?

**Answer:** Drug addiction has been a longstanding issue in Baltimore. It will definitely be placed on a list of priorities for the partnership to discuss as we move forward.

### Relocation

1. As persons are being relocated from East Baltimore to the Northeast communities...what is being done to establish relationships with schools, community groups, churches, etc in the new community? What is being done to assist residents in the "new community" with resources?

**Answer:** East Baltimore Development Inc. (EBDI) has developed a range of family services for displaced families. Each family is assigned a Family Advocate and Relocation counselor that can assist with appropriate and adequate relocation support services. If there are more specific questions about the support services that EBDI provides, please contact EBDI's Relocation Hotline at 443.573.3228.

### Employment

1. What will Johns Hopkins do to provide child care for parents who want to work, but cannot afford the high cost of child care? What programs are available? –current childcare too expensive

**Answer:** Currently, the Johns Hopkins Hospital does not provide child care services. However, the Human Resources Department does refer employees to social services and other support services to assist with this issue. In addition, HR also has a program called Parents in a Pinch where current employees can call if they need immediate child care assistance, and this service can be available for a fee.

2. Workforce Wednesdays? (location, time) Biostart (location, time) what are the prerequisites, base salary, area served, paid training?

**Answer:** EBDI provides a human service to East Baltimore residents every Wednesday called "Workforce Wednesdays". Every Wednesday from 10am to 2pm, East Baltimore residents can discuss job readiness and employment opportunities with representatives of workforce agencies. EBDI also refers individuals to several service agencies including literacy.

In addition to Workforce Wednesdays, EBDI provides short-term and long-term job training opportunities. There are entry-level job opportunities through a 4-6 week job readiness and

customized training program in healthcare, customer service or construction. In addition, there are three long-term training opportunities (JumpStart Pre-apprenticeship program, Biostart to BioProfessional Training and Health care Employment Academy).

Two prison re-entry initiatives are also offered by EBDI. They are called Project SERVE (partnership with East Baltimore community, EDBI, and Living Classrooms) and Project BRIDGE (Goodwill Industries).

If more information is needed about any of the resources that EBDI provides (eligibility, program start dates, etc), please contact Mr. Bernard Hutchins, the Community Resource Center Coordinator, at (410) 234-0660. EBDI will make some modifications to the Workforce Wednesday programs so please call for updated information.

3. Are there any type of programs for senior citizens who have retired and now because of inflation and rising cost, would like to re-enter the job market? (part-time jobs because of social security most can only earn approximately \$12,000)

**Answer:** Johns Hopkins Medicine does not offer specific job opportunities for senior citizens, but they do actively hire individuals over the age of 50. AARP has Johns Hopkins Medicine listed as one of its featured employers on their website and 25% of the employees at Hopkins are over the age of 50. Please be encouraged to apply for positions at Hopkins based on your skills and interests. Johns Hopkins Medicine is looking to hire qualified persons. For more information regarding employers that AARP supports, visit:

<http://www.aarp.org/money/careers/findingajob/featuredemployers/>

The Baltimore City Commission on Aging has recently developed a working group to address the issue of employment for older adults in Baltimore City. While the working group is getting started, there are One-Stop employment centers in Baltimore City and there is one counselor available at each center that specializes in employment assistance to older adults. The Eastside One-Stop Career Center's information is 3001 E. Madison Avenue, Baltimore, 21205 – (410) 396-9030. Please contact them for more information. The contact information for the Baltimore City Commission on Aging is 10 North Calvert Street; 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 300, Baltimore, 21202 – (410) 396-CARE. Please contact them for updated information.

### **Other Employment Opportunities**

In regards to job readiness training for youth 18-21 years of age at Johns Hopkins (Healthcare Careers Alliance Program), contact DeWayne Collins at (410) 502-3070 or dcolli12@jhmi.edu.

There is also a summer jobs program employment component--for high school students. Slots are set aside and made available to children of Johns Hopkins Hospital employees who live in this community. The program selected 150 students for this summer's program (2007), of which over 50% are children of employees. The program runs for 6 weeks, 30 hours per week at \$6.15 per hour and has 4 two-hour educational workshops on topics such as preparing for college, finding financial aid, managing your money, work ethic, service excellence, etc.

For more information about this and other community/education projects at Hopkins, call (410) 955-1488.

### **Community Issues**

1. Sewage piping under the streets in the Lamont Avenue area. Residents were not notified about anything. The street is caged off, dug up, and sewer lines have been placed under the street. No communication and would like to know if there are toxic materials running through those pipes.

**Answer:** Sewage piping under streets is a standard practice in all communities. However, the issue of notification of their placement is another issue. Communication with city officials is something that the partnership can address as we move forward; in addition, residents should make formal complaints to their neighborhood associations, council representatives, and to city hall officials to address this issue.

2. The information on programs and resources available to the community are appreciated. However, many community residents speak of Johns Hopkins with disdain. Aside from community outreach and direct service, what is being done in the area of social justice so that residents can negotiate with Hopkins, GBC, EBDI, and others from a position of power, not powerlessness?

**Answer:** This is a very good question. The partnership will take this question into consideration when determining a list of priorities to address when attempting to improve the health and well-being of Baltimore City residents.

### **Communication**

1. When is the next meeting? Bring information about the programs to these meetings.

**Answer:** The partnership will work diligently through the summer to develop a process to host forums with the community to discuss and address health and well-being concerns. The next meeting of the partnership will tentatively be planned for Fall 2007 (October/November).

2. People are not hearing about CURE and the Leadership. How much effort has been made with placing these types of forums on the MPT network or radio?

**Answer:** Public television and radio are good places to start in communicating this partnership to the broader community. We will keep these avenues in mind when organizing the partnership strategies for communication.

3. CURE and Health awareness (1400 – radio, CURE health sheets, Heaven 600 – radio station) – more input is needed to get the word out to the community for us to be successful.

**Answer:** Communication will be a key component to this partnership. More discussion will be needed to determine the most effective methods to communicate with residents in East Baltimore.

### **Health Care**

1. Will Hopkins evaluate and integrate various international healing methods along with allopathic healing?

**Answer:** Johns Hopkins Medicine does have a Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. The partnership can follow-up with this Center to determine their goals, methods, evaluation techniques, etc. that are currently being carried out at the Center.

2. Incoming refugees need early evaluation clinically, so later problems don't cause unnecessary suffering – where do we start?

**Answer:** There are a few resettlement centers in Baltimore and Johns Hopkins can explore what is happening in this arena and if there are gaps that can be addressed.

3. My feeling is that, yes, I hear of the various services available...however, being unvalued formerly in a public health program dealing with prostate cancer in men, Hopkins was more concerned with statistics than actual service and really don't want to really serve the vast population in Baltimore that need the services. Too much of the funding goes into administrative cost than servicing the people. So, only a few people benefit from the services being offered.

**Answer:** The issue that is described here is a serious issue related to health-related research. Many have acknowledged the lack of funding available to disseminate the information that is learned from research to the broader community. However, there needs to be more of an effort placed on valuing research participants and giving them back information for them to learn more about various health conditions, keeping themselves healthy, etc. This is definitely an issue that the Hopkins leadership will take into consideration.

4. What is the address of the Rutland Street Clinic? Who is the clinic for? (women, children, and men)

**Answer:** The Lillian Wald Community Nursing Center is located at 1600 Rutland Avenue, Baltimore, MD, 21213. The phone number is (410) 614-4317. They provide pediatric and adult medicine assistance (physical exams, immunizations, etc). The services at the clinic are currently being restructured to enhance the productivity of the clinic. Call for updated information regarding clinic hours and other patient details.

**Another Resource**

**Healthcare for the Uninsured** – Shepherd's Clinic (2800 Kirk Ave, Baltimore, MD 21218); Call (410) 467-7140 for a screening appointment Tuesday-Friday.

**Summary List of Services Provided in Baltimore City  
From the May 8<sup>th</sup> Faith-Hopkins Forum**

**East Baltimore Development Inc. (EBDI)**

Relocation Hotline  
(443) 573-3228

Workforce Wednesdays (Provides various Employment Programs and Assistance)

**Contact:** Bernard Hutchins, Community Resource Center Coordinator  
(410) 234-0660

**Johns Hopkins Medicine (Hospital)**

Community/Education Projects for Employment  
(410) 955-1488

Employment Opportunities for Younger Adults (ages 18-21)  
Healthcare Careers Alliance Program

**Contact:** DeWayne Collins  
(410) 502-3070

[Dcolli12@jhmi.edu](mailto:Dcolli12@jhmi.edu)

**Johns Hopkins School of Nursing**

Lillian Wald Community Nursing Center  
1600 Rutland Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21213  
(410) 614-4317

**Baltimore City Commission on Aging**

10 North Calvert Street  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 300  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
(410) 396-CARE