

MARYLAND PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Welcome to the 2024 Legislative Wrap-Up!



PROGRAM AGENDA



1. Ice breakers
2. Introduction
 - Brief intro to MdPHA
 - Summary of legislative priorities and corresponding bills supported by MdPHA
 - Student highlight
 - Thank you to partners
1. Presentation by our partners/Guest Speakers
 - Brooke Torton: University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
 - Stephanie Klapper: Maryland Health Care for All
 - Melanie Bolden: Health Table
1. Jonas Nguh: MdPHA
 - Closing remarks and thanks



ICEBREAKER



Public Health Happy Hour Game

Rules of Play: In the next slides, we will prompt you to answer a few questions for a quick ice breaker to get you all mixing and mingling.

ICEBREAKER SLIDE #1



Find 1 partner that you do not know and introduce yourself [include name, pronouns, what you do]. Share a hobby or interest of yours.

[Spend about 5 minutes]

ICEBREAKER SLIDE #2



**Find 2 new partners and introduce yourself briefly
[different folks from the last question] and share a
public health advocacy issue that you're passionate
about and why it's important to you.**

[Spend about 5-10 minutes]

ICEBREAKER SLIDE #3



**Stay in your groups and share a public health advocacy
or equity statistic or fact that you find surprising or
alarming.**

[Spend about 5-10 minutes]

ICEBREAKER SLIDE #4



Find 2 new partners [different folks from the last question], introduce yourselves briefly and discuss the role you believe individuals can play in promoting public health in their communities.

[Spend about 5-10 minutes]

Welcome!

From your Advocacy
Committee Co-Chairs!



INTRODUCTION



ILONA ARGIRION, PHD, MPH

- Epidemiologist
- Assistant Professor at Georgetown University School of Health and Epidemiology graduate program
- National Cancer Institute, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics
- At-large board member of MdPHA (year 3)
- Advocacy Committee Co-Chair (year 2)



INTRODUCTION



OLUWATOSIN OLATEJU, DRPH, MSN-CPHN, BSN, RN



- Assistant Professor of Nursing at Coppin State University
- Adjunct Professor of Public Health at Morgan State University
- Founder and Executive Director, Food and Care for All Inc.
- Commissioner and Co-Chair of the Maryland Commission on Public Health
- Advocacy Committee Co-Chair (year 2)

WHAT IS THE MARYLAND PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION (MDPHA)?

- One of the oldest and most vibrant state affiliates of the American Public Health Association (APHA)
- Maryland's leading professional organization for those working in the field of public health
- Committees:
 - Student Section of Maryland Public Health Association (SMdPHA)
 - Advocacy
 - Finance
 - Program
 - Membership
 - Communications



Advocacy: Stronger Through Partnership



Academic Partners of MdPHA's Advocacy Cmte.

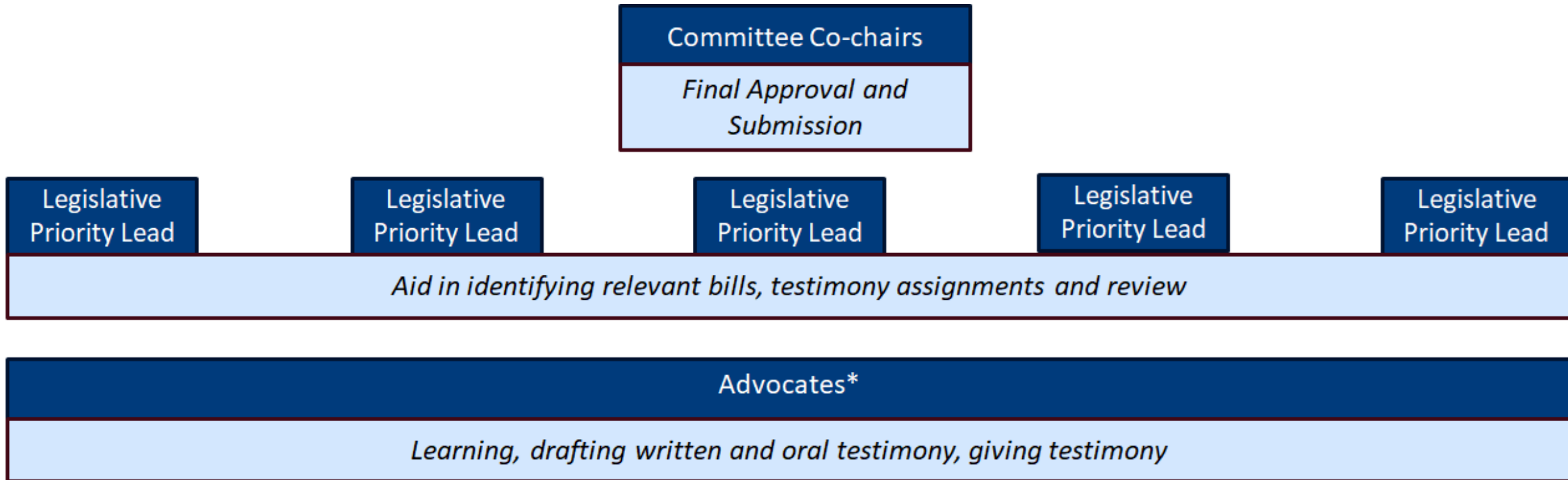


2024: Legislative Year in Review

- MD Legislative Session: Jan 10th-April 8th
- Legislative Priorities
 - Environmental Health
 - Health Equity (including prescription affordability)
 - Mental Health
 - Nutrition, Food Access, and Safety
 - Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse



Committee Structure



* Can aid in identifying relevant bills

Legislative Priority Leads

Environmental Health



Melanie Bolden, MPH
Climate and Health Coordinator and
PhD Candidate at Johns Hopkins
SPH
(Mdpha.climate@gmail.com)

Mental Health



Andrea Kalfoglou, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of
Sociology/Anthropology/Public Health
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Health Equity (including Rx affordability)



Stephanie Klapper, MSW
Deputy Director for
Maryland Health Care for
All! Coalition

Nutrition, Food Access, and Safety



**Oluwatosin Olateju, DrPH,
MSN, BSN, RN**
Nursing Professor, Coppin
State University and
Commissioner & Co-Chair,
Maryland Commission on
Public Health



**Glenda Lindsey,
DrPH, MS, RDN, LDN**
Professor of Practice,
Family and
Consumer Sciences

Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse



Ilona Argirion, PhD, MPH
Assistant Professor,
Georgetown University
School of Health and NCI

2024 Funding



MdPHA Advocacy Committee Member Stipends for Legislative Year 2024

The APHA Advocacy Cohort Grant is sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Grant

Activities covered for Advocacy Committee Members

- **Transportation Costs** to Maryland General Assembly for Hill Days or other legislative advocacy efforts
- **Partnership building** (engaging new and existing partners) - Cover organizational/student chapter membership costs for at least 5 Maryland schools, particularly HBCUs looking to join the student chapter of Maryland Public Health Association (SMdPHA) if they cannot afford it. This will help promote equity in school affiliates' membership. For example, Organizational (*1-20 Employees) - \$150.00 (USD); Organizational (*21-100 Employees) - \$250.00 (USD).
- **Testimony stipends** - A maximum of \$25.00 will be paid to each Advocacy Committee member (student members and non-student members) for drafting a testimony *and* presenting it virtually or in person.



KEY 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



- *Health Equity (including prescription affordability)*
- *Nutrition, Food Access, and Safety*
- *Environmental Health*
- *Behavioral Health/ Substance Abuse*
- *Violence Prevention/Mental Health*

KEY 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND BILLS SUPPORTED BY MdPHA



Health Equity

Bill Name	Associated House and/or Senate Bill	MdPHA Position	Result
Public Health - Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) Standing Order Program - Establishment	HB0127/SB0246	Support with amendments	Passed
Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program (Access to Care Act)	HB0728/SB0705	Support	Passed
Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment	HB0691/SB0119	Support	Passed
Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – State–Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program – Amount of Annual Subsidies	HB0953/SB0701	Support	Passed
Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for All Marylanders Act of 2024)	HB0340/SB0338	Support	Did Not Pass

KEY 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND BILLS SUPPORTED BY MdPHA



Nutrition, Food Access, and Safety

Bill Name	Associated House and/or Senate Bill	MdPHA Position	Result
Primary and Secondary Education - Breakfast and Lunch Programs - Universal Expansion Report	HB0696/SB0579	Support	Passed
Food Supplement Benefits – Students – Eligibility (SNAP for Students)	HB0407	Support	Did Not Pass

- **Advocating for adequate WIC funding in FY 2024**

KEY 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND BILLS SUPPORTED BY MdPHA



Environmental Health

Bill Name	Associated House and/or Senate Bill	MdPHA Position	Result
Public Health - Clean Indoor Air Act - Revisions	HB0238/SB0244	Support	Passed
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans	HB0864	Support	Passed
Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources - Alterations (Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2024)	HB0166/SB0146	Support	Did Not Pass
Environment - Impact of Environmental Permits and State Agency Actions	HB0024/SB0096	Support with Amendments	Did Not Pass
Major Highway Capacity Expansion Projects - Impact Assessments and Mitigation Plans (Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2024)	HB0836/SB0681	Support	Did Not Pass

KEY 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND BILLS SUPPORTED BY MdPHA



Environmental Health (continued)

Bill Name	Associated House and/or Senate Bill	MdPHA Position	Result
Maryland Building Performance Standards – Fossil Fuel Use, Energy Conservation, and Electric– and Solar–Ready Standards (Better Buildings Act of 2024)	HB1279/SB1023	Support	Did Not Pass
Responding to Emergency Needs From Extreme Weather (RENEW) Act of 2024	HB1438/SB0958	Support	Did Not Pass
Pesticides – PFAS Chemicals – Prohibition	HB1190	Support	Did Not Pass
Commemorative Weeks – Maryland Climate Education Week	HB0993	Support	Did Not Pass

KEY 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND BILLS SUPPORTED BY MdPHA



Behavioral Health/ Substance Abuse

Bill Name	Associated House and/or Senate Bill	MdPHA Position	Result
Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services - 9-8-8 Trust Fund Fees	HB0933/SB0974	Support	Passed
Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances	HB0548/SB1009	Support	Passed
Cigarettes, Other Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices - Revisions (Tobacco Retail Modernization Act of 2024)	HB1180/SB1056	Support	Passed
Public Health - Opioids and Opioid Overdose Reversal Drugs - Information	HB1121	Support	Did Not Pass

KEY 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND BILLS SUPPORTED BY MdPHA



Violence Prevention

Bill Name	Associated House and/or Senate Bill	MdPHA Position	Result
Use of Nuclear Weapons	HJ0003/SJ0002	Support	Did Not Pass

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



Maryland Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics group picture



Tessa Cone, UMBC undergraduate social work student, and Andrea Kalfoglou, PhD, UMBC Association Professor of Public Health, testified on behalf of HB407 SNAP for students

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



Morgan and University of Maryland students with Dr. Glenda Lindsey



Students attending Advocacy Summit for the Maryland Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics in Annapolis, February 7, 2024

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



Public Health students supporting Emmanuella Osei's poster "Food insecurity among college students." Faculty mentor: Sameera Nayak



Maya Hunn and faculty mentor Andrea Kalfoglou, campus food Insecurity at Maryland's 2- and 4-year Colleges

Guest Speaker



Brooke Torton, J.D.

Deputy Director, Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy



Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy

Brooke Torton, Managing Director
Legal Resource Center for Public Health
Policy

May 10, 2024

Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy (LRC)



Kathi Hoke, Executive Director



Brooke Torton,
Managing
Director



Blair Inniss, Deputy
Director



Megan Griest,
Chief of Staff

Legislative Tracking

Legal Resource Center Public Health Tracker - 2024 Legislative Session

File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Extensions Help

View only

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
1								
2	Bill #	Crossfile	Prior Session History	Title	Description	Hearing & Voting	Lead Sponsor(s)	Crossfile
3	HB 587	SB 561		Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages -Manufacturer's Limited Beer, Wine, and Liquor Permit	Creates a manufacturer's limited beer, wine, and liquor permit in Frederick County.	In the House - Hearing 2/19 at 1:00pm Economic Matters	Frederick County Delegation	In the Favor: Amen Repor Financ
4	HB 637	SB 833		Alcoholic Beverages – Sale or Delivery for Off-Premises Consumption	Provides that establishments authorized to sell alcoholic beverages can delivery alcohol when the beverage is purchased with prepared food and the purchaser is at least 21 with a valid ID to prove age. The license holder must be registered with the local licensing board to sell alcohol for off-premises consumption and must not sell or deliver after 11pm. The licensing board may not charge an additional fee for selling or delivering alcohol, and they may limit the amount of alchol sold or delivered.	In the House - Hearing 2/19 at 1:00pm Economic Matters	Jackson	In the Unfav Repor Financ
5			Introduced in s		Creates a tax rate for ready-to-drink cocktails at \$.40 per gallon, or 10.57 cents per liter. It also defines "ready-to-drink cocktails" as a beverage with a 12% or			

Alcohol - House | Alcohol - Senate | Cannabis - House | Cannabis - Senate | Food - House | Food - Senate

Legal Resource Center(s) and Academic Institutions: Key Considerations

- Existing legal clinics;
- Strengthening partnerships/relationships;
- Subject matter overlap/expansion;
- Funding???

Other Centers and Networks

- **Network for Public Health Law**
 - Provides technical legal assistance to public health agencies and officials, legislators and regulators, and community organizations across the country on any public health law issue.
 - LRC Director Kathleen Hoke leads the Network's Eastern Region
- **Public Health Law Center formerly Tobacco Control Legal Consortium (TCLC)**
 - LRC was a founding member of TCLC
 - Assisted other states in launching their tobacco legal resource centers
- **Public Health and Tobacco Policy Center**
 - Works with governments and organizations seeking public health policy support
- **ChangeLab Solutions**
 - Works with governments, community organizations, advocates, and anchor institutions across the country to improve public health

Questions?

btorton@law.umaryland.edu

(410) 706-5993

Guest Speaker



Stephanie Klapper, MSW

Deputy Director for Maryland Health Care for All!
Coalition

2024 Policy Update



**Stephanie Klapper, Deputy Director
Maryland Health Care for All! Coalition**



Legislation

- ▶ Passed:
 - ▶ HB 728/SB 705: Access to Care Act
 - ▶ HB 953/SB 701: Young Adult Subsidies
 - ▶ HB 933/SB 974: 988 Trust Fund
 - ▶ SB 119: Legally Protected Gender-Affirming Treatment

- ▶ Did not pass:
 - ▶ HB 340/SB 388: Prescription Drug Affordability Board Authority Expansion
 - ▶ HB 1438/SB 958: RENEW Act



Additional State Achievements

- ▶ More than 24,000 have gained health coverage from the unemployment insurance form Easy Enrollment Program and more than 13,500 through the tax return Easy Enrollment program
- ▶ Over 60,000 young adults have benefitted from the young adult subsidy program
- ▶ Over 6,000 pregnant Marylanders enrolled in coverage through the Healthy Babies Equity Act
- ▶ Over 179,000 automatically renewed their Medicaid coverage by remaining in the SNAP program



Federal Achievements

- ▶ The Inflation Reduction Act extended enhanced subsidies to make private health plans available on the federal and state based marketplaces more affordable.
- ▶ The Inflation Reduction Act for the first time allows Medicare to negotiate with drug corporations and in 2025 sets a \$2k/year cap on Medicare Part D out-of-pocket costs for medications
- ▶ Over 100,000 more DACA residents are eligible to enroll in quality, affordable health coverage across the United States



Next Step for Prescription Drug Affordability

- ▶ The Prescription Drug Affordability Board has announced 8 drugs it is considering for cost review.
- ▶ Submit written comments by COB May 15 to the Prescription Drug Affordability Board at comments@pdab.maryland.gov
- ▶ Learn more at pdab.maryland.gov/Pages/2024-Board-Meeting.aspx

Have you or a family member struggled to afford any of the following prescription drugs?

BIKTARVY

OZEMPIC

DUPIXENT

SKYRIZI

FARXIGA

TRULICITY

JARDIANCE

VYVANSE

GO TO
[HEALTHCAREFORALL.COM/SHAREMYSTORY](https://healthcareforall.com/sharemystory)
OR CALL (667) 212-2048



On the Horizon

- ▶ Continue to fight for expanded authority of Prescription Drug Affordability Board
- ▶ Health Equity Resource Community grant announcements
- ▶ Advocate for continuation of young adult subsidies
- ▶ Advocate for RENEW Act

MARYLAND HEALTH CARE FOR ALL LEGISLATIVE WRAP UP



VINCENT DEMARCO
PRESIDENT

DEL. JOSELINE PEÑA-MELNYK
CHAIR, HCO COMMITTEE

NELLIE WASHINGTON
HERC PROJECT DIRECTOR

MAY 21 | NOON | ZOOM



Please join



Comptroller Brooke Lierman



for an evening in support of
Maryland Health Care for All Coalition



Questions?

www.healthcareforall.com

(410) 235-9000

stephanie@healthcareforall.com

X: @healthymaryland

Facebook.com/MDHealthCareForAll

Instagram:

@MarylandHealthCareForAll

Guest Speaker



Melanie Bolden, MPH

Climate and Health Coordinator, MdPHA
Co-Lead, Maryland Health Professionals for a Healthy
Climate (MHPHC)

Maryland Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate (MHPHC)- 2024 Legislative Recap



The presentation slide on the screen displays the following table:

Maryland Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate (MHPHC)			
2024 Legislative Recap			
1. Introduction	2. Focus on Climate Change	3. Summary of Key Findings	4. Action Plan
5. Role of Health Professionals	6. Policy Recommendations	7. Conclusion	8. Acknowledgments

2024 Legislative Session Highlights

Bill Name and Numbers	Health Table Position	2024 Legislative Session Result
MDE Permitting Bill (HB24 / SB 96)	Support	Did Not Pass
EmPower Reform Legislation (HB 864)	Support	Passed!
Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2024 (HB 836 /SB 681)	Support	Did Not Pass

Sign-ons provided for:

- Reclaim Renewable Energy Act (HB 166 / SB 146)
- Better Buildings Act (SB1023) / HB1279)

Climate Ambassador Training Workshop and Networking event





**NPHW/WCJEW
Webinar event**



Perspectives in Climate Change: A panel discussion with local experts and students on Climate Change in Maryland

**WORLD WIDE
CLIMATE JUSTICE
EDUCATION WEEK**
SOLVECLIMATE BY 2030



MARYLAND
HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
FOR A HEALTHY CLIMATE



MARYLAND
LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION
VOTERS



Protecting, Connecting and Thriving:
We Are All Public Health
APRIL 1-7, 2024



Written Works and Outreach



Maryland Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate

Climate Change is Dangerous to Our Health: A Maryland Overview

Climate change is impacting our health here and now. Harmful effects aggravated by climate change include: increases in heart and lung disease, adverse pregnancy outcomes, heat-related illness, infectious disease, food-borne illness, and mental health issues. Additionally, access to care can be disrupted during increasingly frequent severe weather events and power outages

GET INVOLVED!

Maryland health

CLIMATE IMPACTS & VULNERABILITIES IN

Maryland Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate publishes press release in response to the 2023 Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change



More than **3,000 miles** of coastline

4th most vulnerable state to sea level rise



Especially increases risks from **heat, precipitation, and drought** over the next 30 years

MARYLAND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS FOR A HEALTHY CLIMATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2023

New Report: As wildfire smoke, infectious diseases, and intense heat increase, health professionals call for immediate climate action and an end to fossil fuel use

A new report from the London-based medical journal *The Lancet* details the cascading health problems in the U.S. and around the world stemming from climate change and fossil fuel use, prompting Maryland health professionals to call for urgent action to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and resultant health risks and inequities. Key findings from the *Lancet Countdown on Health & Climate Change Brief for the United States*, which is supported by a diverse group of health experts from more than 80 organizations nationwide, include:

- In 2020, fossil fuel combustion accounted for approximately 41.5% of all premature deaths attributable to human-caused fine particulate matter (PM2.5) in the U.S.
- 2022 was the warmest year ever recorded in the U.S. Average U.S. summer temperatures in 2022 were 2.3°F (1.3°C) warmer as compared to 1986-2005.
- U.S. infants under the age of 1 experienced a 61% increase in exposure to heatwaves, meaning that each infant, on average, was exposed to an additional 3.2 heatwave days per year from 2013 to 2022 compared to 1986-2005.
- In 2022, \$81 billion in potential income was lost in the U.S. from reduced labor due to extreme heat. 45% of the losses occurred in the construction industry, 32% in the service sector, 15% in manufacturing, and 8% in agriculture.
- The ability of mosquitoes in the U.S. to transmit the dengue virus had more than doubled in the period from 2013 to 2022 compared to 1951-1960.

A focus throughout the report is how climate change is having disparate impacts, concluding "fossil fuel pollution and climate change are fundamental issues of economic, racial, and intergenerational justice."

"Maryland is a small state but mighty when it comes to public health. Our state is home to leading Federal health agencies, trailblazing state and local health departments, the headquarters of many public health nonprofits, and top academic training programs," said **Suparna Navale, President of the Maryland Public Health Association**. "This year's *Lancet Countdown U.S. Brief* emphasizes climate and environmental justice as key to achieving health equity, and Maryland lawmakers should keep these principles front and center in the upcoming legislative session."

"This year's *Lancet Countdown U.S. Brief* recommends policy action that accelerates our transition to clean and renewable energy sources, which will result in immense health benefits through improved air quality and by limiting climate change," said **Surilli Sutaria Patel, Vice President at Metropolitan Group and Maryland LCV Education Fund Board Member**. "With the most ambitious short term emissions reduction goals, Marylanders could see **\$296-667 million annually** in additional health benefits when we reach 60% emissions reductions in 2031, mostly due to



Perspectives In Climate Change: Event Resource List



Thank you again for attending our panel



Maryland's Environmental Puzzle: Seeking Justice for All



Image Source: [Adobe Stock](#)

Environmental Justice Challenges Persist in Maryland

Despite concerted efforts to combat climate change and improve environmental conditions in Maryland, the state continues to grapple with pressing environmental justice issues. The Chesapeake Bay and other waterways in Maryland face consistent pollution and access challenges, and the concentration of polluting facilities in low-income communities and communities of color continues to cause health disparities in pockets throughout the state.

Despite the state's significant efforts to improve environmental conditions, certain communities like Curtis Bay in Baltimore, Brandywine in Prince George's County, and areas outside of Salisbury in Wicomico County continue to bear a disproportionate burden of pollution and environmental hazards. With the passage of the Climate Solutions Now Act in 2022, the state hyper focused its definitions of "overburdened" and "underserved" communities to build resources and support for communities who experience high environmental pollution and health burdens and who have historically been excluded from decision making authority and other resource opportunities. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) launched its [EJ Screening Tool](#) and we have since seen legislation that includes specific benefits for overburdened and underserved communities. In 2023, legislation targeting transit equity for Marylanders ([HB9/SB19](#)) and equitable green spaces for Marylanders ([HB 503/SB923](#)), were passed and in 2024, a bill to increase the funding for the state's Comprehensive Flood Management Grant Program and allocate 40% of it to projects in overburdened or underserved communities passed, while others have yet to make progress, including attempts to build a cumulative impacts assessment or EJ analysis into MDE's regulatory process. These challenges are not just environmental but also tied to historical neglect and socio-economic disparities. This article briefly explores environmental justice concerns in Maryland, shedding light on the impacts on communities and the urgent need for equitable solutions.

ents

Rolling Terrace Ele

led green team leac
t: Principal Isabelle M

Mensah@mcpsmd.edu

Contact: event with the Rob

[.org/](https://www.org/)

ciation for Environn

443-668-7467

rehr@mdlcv.org

30, 2024 at Sandy P

[org/green-schools-a](https://www.org/green-schools-a)

Rebecca Rehr Maryland League of Conservation Voters

Upcoming Event

WEBINAR FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

A Perfect Storm:

How climate change and its impacts on water affect your health

Wednesday, May 15, noon

Register:

bit.ly/mdhealthpros

MARYLAND
HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
FOR A HEALTHY CLIMATE



Featuring:
Natalie Exum, PhD
Johns Hopkins University
Water Institute



Thank You!

**For more information on
Maryland Health
Professionals for a Healthy
Climate, please email :
mdpha.climate@gmail.com**

Guest Speaker



Jonas Nguh, PhD, MSN, FACHE, NEA-BC, RN

MdPHA President

Policy Chair, Men's Health Caucus of the American
Public Health Association