



**Preserving, Protecting and  
Promoting the Health  
Of All County Residents**

## **Message from Acting Health Officer Douglas L. Hart**

This Annual Report is designed to give you an understanding of how public health affects life in Anne Arundel County. With the support of County Executive John R. Leopold, the Department of Health is successfully meeting the public health needs of a changing and growing community. In Fiscal Year 2010, the Anne Arundel County Department of Health provided more than 1,400,000 personal and environmental health services directly to County residents and businesses.

The mission of the Department of Health is to preserve, protect and promote the health of all County residents. In fulfilling its mission, the Department assesses the County's health problems, needs and resources; organizes effective public and private sector strategies to address the needs; and provides services directly to County residents to achieve local health goals. County residents, private health practitioners, community organizations and government agencies are partners with the Department of Health in fulfilling this mission.

Based on community surveys and reviews of health data, the Department of Health has established five priority areas for addressing public health needs. These are:

- Preventing and managing chronic illnesses
- Being prepared for emergencies
- Keeping children healthy
- Maintaining a safe and healthy environment
- Eliminating health disparities

This report identifies specific accomplishments in each of these areas during Fiscal Year 2010.

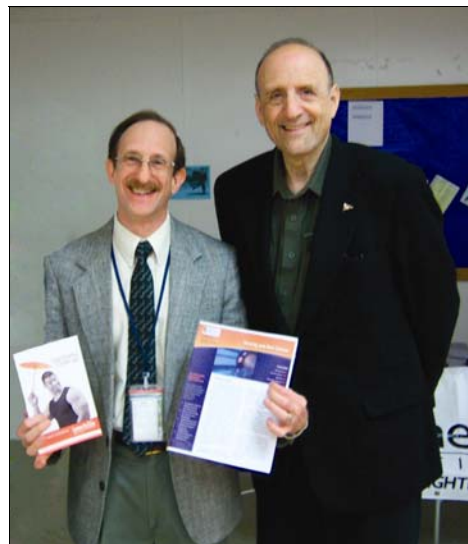
If you have any questions or comments about our services or would like to participate in one of our advisory groups, please call us at 410-222-7095.

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### **SKIN CANCER PREVENTION**

County Executive John R. Leopold, right, and Acting Health Officer Douglas L. Hart display a Department of Health sun safety brochure and a report on the dangers of tanning beds. County Executive Leopold issued an Executive Order on March 15, 2010, to promote skin cancer prevention and sun safety awareness education in Anne Arundel County. As part of the Executive Order, the Department of Health provided thousands of skin cancer and sun safety materials to County tanning salons, parks, trails, pools, libraries and schools.

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## Preventing and Managing Chronic Illnesses

**“Learn To Live” Healthy Living Program** – Offers information and activities promoting healthy living to children, adults and families

- 13,880 kits distributed through the Learn To Live phone line and community events, including kits on smoking cessation, nutrition, sun safety, kids’ health, Fifty-Plus health, and more
- 19,249 students educated about healthy eating and physical activity
- 16,741 youths educated about skin cancer prevention
- 10,150 consumers at 9 local supermarkets received healthy eating tips and sampled nutritious recipes

**Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program** – Provides tobacco use prevention and cessation education and services

- 117,148 interactions with students through smoking prevention and cessation activities
- 223 adults participated in smoking cessation classes

**Breast and Cervical Cancer Program** – Partners with local physicians to provide education, free screening, diagnosis and treatment services for breast and cervical cancer to eligible women age 40 and older

- 1,240 women received education and initial screening

**LifeScreen Colorectal Cancer Screening Program** – Partners with physicians to provide colorectal cancer education and screening colonoscopies to eligible County residents 50 and older

- 153 individuals received initial screening

**Community Drug and Alcohol Abuse Treatment Services** – Provides drug and alcohol treatment referrals to a network of County providers

- 1,357 assessments and referrals provided through Opportunity for Treatment Funding (OTF)

**Behavioral Health Services** – Provides assessment and counseling to children and adults

- 383 children and adolescents received 2,936 individual and 3,212 family counseling sessions
- 536 adult addiction clients attended 5,329 individual, 801 group and 59 family counseling sessions

**HIV/AIDS Prevention and Case Management Program** – Provides HIV counseling and testing services

- More than 2,060 people were tested for HIV, and 65 HIV-positive individuals were linked to treatment and care
- 244 patients received HIV/AIDS case management services, and 7 HIV-positive pregnant women in the program delivered healthy HIV-negative babies

## Being Prepared for Emergencies

**Emergency Preparedness and Response** – The Department of Health works with other County agencies and other health departments in the region in responding to natural or man-made emergencies. The Department is available 24 hours a day for public health emergencies through the Office of Assessment, Planning and Response.

- 16,300 calls handled through the H1N1 flu information line, supported through the Office of the County Executive and the County Emergency Operations Center

**Communicable Disease Surveillance Program** – Collects, investigates and analyzes communicable disease data to alert physicians and the public to trends and unusual occurrences. When an outbreak occurs, appropriate action is taken to stop or control it.

- 2,074 investigations were conducted on reportable diseases



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### **OPERATIONS STAFF AT H1N1 FLU VACCINE CLINIC NOVEMBER 2009**

The Department of Health utilized the emergency management Incident Command System to plan and implement the well-organized, award-winning H1N1 flu vaccination campaign. The Department provided 27,097 free doses of H1N1 vaccine at 177 clinics around the County between October 2009 and March 2010.

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## Keeping Children Healthy

**Immunizations Program** – Ensures that children are immunized appropriately

- 6,369 routine immunizations administered to children
- 17,589 doses of seasonal FluMist vaccine given in public elementary schools, and 2,295 doses of seasonal flu vaccine given to children in clinics
- 14,777 doses of H1N1 flu vaccine given to individuals 6 months to 24 years old at health centers, schools and community settings

**Healthy Babies Program** – Provides information to pregnant women, parents and caregivers through the Healthy Babies Coalition, communication resources and community outreach activities

- 31,000 English and 15,000 Spanish resource information cards distributed to County residents

**Women and Children's Health Services** – Provides nutritional assistance, nursing services and selected clinical services

- 1,681 high-risk pregnant women received case management services from the Healthy Start program
- 14,697 clients served by the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition program

**Dental Health Program** – Provides dental care and education to low-income children and pregnant women

- 4,047 individual pediatric patients seen at the Annapolis and North County Dental Clinics and 532 individual REACH program patients seen in the North County Clinic
- 3,904 schoolchildren participated in oral health education presentations

**School Health Services** – Provides nursing and other health services at the County's public and charter schools

- 659,050 student visits to school health rooms and 131,411 medications administered
- 22,371 vision screenings, 22,725 hearing screenings and 71,109 medical treatments given to County students

**Reproductive Health Services** – Provides maternity services, family planning services and education

- 3,274 clients received reproductive health services
- 164 births to maternity clients

## Maintaining a Safe and Healthy Environment

**Recreational Waters Monitoring** – Tests water quality to prevent disease

- 3,171 water samples from the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries were tested

**Housing and Food Protection Services** – Inspects food service facilities and ensures that food is prepared under safe and healthy conditions

- 4,243 food facility inspections conducted
- 1,460 housing-related inquiries and complaints handled

**Well and Septic Program** – Reviews plans for residential construction, tests well water quality and conducts soil evaluations and percolation tests to ensure proper sewage disposal in order to prevent disease and environmental harm caused by water contamination

- 526 septic system permits and 667 well permits issued
- 885 percolation tests performed

**Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund** – Helps pay part or all of the costs to add environmentally-beneficial nitrogen-reducing pretreatment units to private septic systems

- 50 pretreatment units installed

**Rabies Control Program** – Distributes oral raccoon rabies vaccine throughout the County, investigates exposures to animals with suspected rabies and ensures treatment for persons possibly exposed to rabies

- 69,022 raccoon rabies vaccine baits distributed with support from Wildlife Services - U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the County Police Department
- 1,388 potential rabies exposures investigated

## Eliminating Health Disparities

**Minority Health** – Offers healthy lifestyle education and outreach to African-American, Latino-American and Korean-American communities

- 4,360 minority individuals attended tobacco education sessions and 6,145 minority individuals attended cancer education sessions.

**Strengthening Families Program** – Provides training in parenting skills, life skills and family relationship skills for at-risk youth and their parents

- 229 family members graduated from the program

**Maryland Children’s Health Program (MCHP)** – Processes applications for this medical assistance program for children up to age 19 and for pregnant women

- 13,683 children and 1,490 pregnant women enrolled

**Residents Access to a Coalition of Health (REACH)** – Enrolls income-eligible uninsured adults in a program offering access to primary and specialty medical care and diagnostic testing at reduced cost

- 1,459 individuals enrolled and 524 health care providers participated

**Prescription Discount Program (PDP)** – Offers County residents discounts on prescription drugs

- 12,322 County residents had PDP cards for use at pharmacies nationwide
- 16,805 prescriptions filled using PDP cards

**Medical Assistance Transportation Program** – Provides transportation to non-emergency medical appointments for Medicaid recipients

- 35,679 client trips made



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### DEPARTMENT AWARDED GRANT FOR BREAST HEALTH PROGRAM

The Department of Health was awarded a grant by the Maryland affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The Department’s award of \$39,789 will fund Make a Promise to Yourself - Get a Mammogram, a partnership between the Department and local minority churches to host six breast health events to increase awareness of screening and to provide links to screening services.

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## **MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2010**

### **Flu Vaccinations**

During Flu Season 2009-2010, the Anne Arundel County Department of Health provided more than 27,000 doses of H1N1 flu vaccine and more than 30,000 doses of seasonal flu vaccine at more than 200 clinics around the County.

### **Environmental Health**

Effective October 1, 2009, the Department of Health implemented new requirements for the repair, replacement and installation of septic systems in the Critical Area as required by Senate Bill 554 (Chesapeake Bay Nitrogen Reduction Act of 2009). The Act requires a nitrogen-reducing unit when a replacement or new onsite sewage disposal system installation is made. Any portion of a property that falls within the Critical Area, which is all land within 1,000 feet of the high water line of tidal waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, must comply with this act. The units reduce the amount of harmful nutrients, such as nitrogen, that septic systems discharge into the Chesapeake Bay.

### **Health Screenings**

Through the Health Smart Church Program, 2,383 blood pressure screenings were completed. Through screening provided by the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program, a cervical cancer case and 12 breast cancer cases were detected. Through the LifeScreen Colorectal Cancer Screening Program, 3 colorectal cancer cases were detected.

### **Healthy Lifestyles**

Information promoting healthy lifestyles is available on the Department's website, [www.aahealth.org](http://www.aahealth.org), which received 2,548,281 visits in Fiscal Year 2010. The Learn To Live Program continued the Web-based Family Fitness Challenge, which encourages adults and children to eat more fruits and vegetables and engage in regular physical activity.

### **Access to Health Care**

The Residents Access to a Coalition of Health (REACH) Program, a partnership between the Anne Arundel County Department of Health and the County Medical Society, entered its tenth year of providing free or low-cost health services to income-eligible uninsured Anne Arundel County adults. In Fiscal Year 2010, 1,459 individuals were enrolled, receiving services from 524 providers including a partnership with the Kaiser Permanente Bridge insurance plan.

### **Minority Health**

The Department's Office of Health Disparities continued to serve as the Department's liaison with the African-American, Korean-American and Latino-American communities. In collaboration with the County's Hispanic Health Network, the Department held Hispanic Girls' Night Out, a Spanish-language breast health event for women ages 40 and older.

## **Anne Arundel County Department of Health**

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**410-222-7095 Fax 410-222-7294**

**[www.aahealth.org](http://www.aahealth.org) ■ [www.aasalud.org](http://www.aasalud.org) ■ [www.twitter.com/aahealth](http://www.twitter.com/aahealth)**

### **Cover Photos (Clockwise From Top Left)**

- **Good Food for Good Health nutrition booths at County grocery stores offer shoppers free information on healthy eating, as well as samples of nutritious recipes.**
  - **A USDA wildlife biologist tests a raccoon to see if it has been immunized against rabies.**  
Each year, the Department of Health places edible baits containing rabies vaccine throughout the County as part of the Raccoon Oral Rabies Vaccination Project.
  - **Dental Health Services provides oral health education to school-aged children in the County.**
  - **A Department of Health nurse immunizes a child with the H1N1 flu vaccine nasal spray.**

**Annual Report prepared by the Public Information Office of the Department of Health**

**Photographers: Elin Jones, Sara Luell, Steve Russo and Kyle Shannon**