

Health Zones, Maryland Community Health Resource Commission

\$14.0 Million (M00R01.03)

Purpose: Recovery Now Funding

The Maryland Community Health Resources Commission shall provide grants to reduce health disparities, improve health outcomes, improve access to primary care, promote primary and secondary prevention services, and reduce health care costs and hospital admissions and readmissions. Any funds allocated but remain unspent at the end of fiscal year 2021 are retained by the Commission.

Program Highlights and Plans to Allocate Remaining Balance:

- The CHRC plans to issue a competitive RFP during Summer 2021, in accordance with the language of the Relief Act.

Programmatic and/or Implementation Issues:

- There is stand-alone legislation (SB 172/HB 463) that seeks to establish “Health Equity Resources Communities” before the General Assembly this year. Both bills have been heard in committee. The ultimate form of this legislation, should it be approved/amended by the legislature this year, could impact the distribution of the \$14.0 million provided under the Relief Act.