



F R O M	Name & Title	Oxiris Barbot, MD Commissioner 	Health Department  MEMO	
	Agency Name & Address	Health Department 1001 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201		
	Subject	Council Bill 13-0097R – Revisiting the Journey Home – Revisions to Baltimore City’s Plan to End Homelessness		

To: President and Members  
of the City Council  
c/o 409 City Hall

March 11, 2013

The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is pleased to have the opportunity to review Council Bill 13-0097R – Revisiting the Journey Home – Revisions to Baltimore City’s Plan to End Homelessness. The purpose of this resolution is to call on the City and external agencies concerned with homelessness in Baltimore to appear before the City Council to discuss the status of and proposals for any revisions to Baltimore City’s 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

BCHD, through its Health Baltimore 2015 initiative, is working to promote access to quality healthcare for all. This includes lowering the percentage of residents who report having unmet medical needs as well as lowering the hospitalization rates for diabetes, hypertension and asthma. In addition, as part of Healthy Baltimore 2015, we are working to reduce the number of residents with untreated mental health needs. Meeting the mental health needs of residents reduces the rates of homelessness, unemployment, incarceration and drug and alcohol abuse.

BCHD’s partner, Health Care for the Homeless (HCH), has been working to ensure everyone in Baltimore has access to healthcare. HCH works to prevent and end homelessness for vulnerable individuals and families by providing quality, integrated health care and promoting access to affordable housing and sustainable incomes through direct service, advocacy, and community engagement. HCH delivers pediatric, adult, and geriatric medical care, mental health services, social work and case management, addiction treatment, dental care, vision assistance, HIV services, outreach, services, supportive housing, and access to education and employment for thousands of City residents.

BCHD and HCH appreciate the opportunity to discuss this important issue and will be present at the hearing to answer any questions the Council may have on this matter.

cc: Angela Gibson, Office of the Mayor  
Jacquelyn Duval-Harvey, Interim Chief of Staff, Department of Health  
Amy Samman, Legislative Director, Department of Health

