


F R O M	Name & Title	Dr. Letitia Dzirasa, Commissioner	Health Department AGENCY REPORT	
	Agency Name & Address	Health Department 1001 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201		
	Subject/ Position:	21-0082R – Investigative Hearing - What is the State of Stat? Favorable		

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

March 16, 2022

The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is pleased to have the opportunity to review Council Bill #21-0082R, which seeks to bring the City Administrator, the Deputy City Administrator, each of the Deputy Mayors, the Chief Data Officer, the Director of the Office of Performance and Innovation, the Director of the Baltimore City Office of Information Technology and the heads of data-driven strategies and performance management from each city agency before the City Council to discuss the current state of data collection, evaluation, and how we are using the tenets of CitiStat to address internal process issues to help close service delivery gaps.

Data and performance management are core tenets of public health and, at BCHD, being data-driven is a core value. The use of data is woven through the three core functions of public health: assessment, policy development, and assurance. In the assessment phase, we use data to monitor health status and identify community health issues. In the policy development phase, we use the data gathered during assessment to inform decisions like how to allocate resources through policies or programs. In the assurance phase, we are evaluating the interventions put in place to ensure they are working. The core functions are a cyclical process of continuous quality improvement to ensure that we are actively using data to improve the public's health.

At BCHD, data is being used in our programs and operations every day to make decisions. For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic we have used data like low vaccination coverage in order to inform where to put mobile clinics. Additionally, our Bureau of Clinical Services and HIV Prevention utilizes data constantly to look at trends and make sure they are having an impact on the community, and our Bureau of Maternal and Child Health utilizes data to conduct education and outreach for initiatives like the B'more for Healthy Babies Safe Sleep campaign. BCHD also participates in city-run performance management activities such as outcome-based budgeting and YouthStat.

BCHD requests a **favorable** report on Council Bill #21-0082R. We look forward to attending the hearing and answering any questions the Council may have.