

Public Health Work Group

The Maryland Department of Health, in their role as an appointed member of the Adaptation and Response Work group is looking to restart the currently inactive Public Health Workgroup within the ARWG umbrella. Below is a summary of the goals, strategies and structure. If you have any questions or are interested in participating, please do not hesitate to reach out to either Clifford Mitchell (cliff.mitchell@maryland.gov) or Allison Gost (allison.gost@maryland.gov), both at the Maryland Department of Health

Goal:

The current goal of the Public Health Work group is to provide support and guidance on how best to operationalize the public health considerations and needs as they relate to climate change into the State climate change activities, particularly as they relate to the goals and outcomes of the ARWG. In addition, to offer technical support for all stages of the public health loop (needs assessment, delivery of tools or resources, evaluation) to support the integration of public health concerns more easily into climate change adaptation strategies across Maryland This goal will be achieved through the implementation of the following strategies:

Strategies:

1. In ongoing adaptation activities, actively solicit input from those individuals, organizations and communities developing adaptation strategies on what public health concerns and needs are
2. Provide feedback to the Department of Health and the ARWG
3. In response, provide technical assistance, data, and tools as requested
4. Evaluate effectiveness and utility of technical assistance

Proposed Structure:

1. Lead by Clifford Mitchell at the Maryland Department of Health
2. Quarterly or bi-monthly meetings (tbd)
3. Aiming for first meeting to take place in the first two weeks of June.

If interested in participating, please email:

Clifford Mitchell, cliff.mitchell@maryland.gov OR Allison Gost, allison.gost@maryland.gov