

Expedited Bill No. 36 -15
Concerning: Health – Montgomery Cares
Advisory Board – Continuation –
Amendments
Revised: August 3, 2015 Draft No. 1
Introduced: September 15, 2015
Enacted: September 29, 2015
Executive: _____
Effective: _____
Sunset Date: December 31, 2021
Ch. _____, Laws of Mont. Co. _____

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lead Sponsor: Health and Human Services Committee

AN EXPEDITED ACT to:

- (1) extend the life of the Advisory Board for the Montgomery Cares Program;
- (2) modify its mission and duties;
- (3) modify its membership; and
- (4) generally amend the law creating the Advisory Board for the Montgomery Cares Program.

By amending

Montgomery County Code
Chapter 24, Health and Sanitation
Sections 24-47, 24-49, 24-50, 24-52 and 24-53

Boldface	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

1 **Sec. 1. Sections 24-47, 24-49, 24-50, 24-52 and 24-53 are amended as**
 2 **follows:**

3 **24-47. Definitions.**

4 [(a)] In this article the following words have the meanings indicated[.] ;

5 [(b)“]Board[”] means the Advisory Board for the Montgomery Cares
 6 Program.

7 [(c)“]Department[”] means the Department of Health and Human Services.

8 [(d)“]Program[”] means the [Montgomery Cares Program, a public/private
 9 partnership between the Department and a network of nonprofit clinics and
 10 hospitals that provides primary medical care and prescription medications to
 11 low-income, uninsured adults who reside in the County] Department’s health
 12 care delivery system that provides primary medical care and other essential
 13 health care and related services, through public/private partnerships, to low-
 14 income and uninsured residents of the County.

15 **24-49. Mission**

16 The Board’s mission is to [guide the development of the Program to ensure
 17 steady and measurable growth in the number of uninsured County residents accessing
 18 high quality and efficient health care services, including primary, specialty, dental,
 19 and behavioral health care services] advise and recommend policies that ensure
 20 access to high quality, efficient health care and related services for low-income and
 21 uninsured County residents.

22 **24-50. Members; appointments; terms.**

23 (a) Total members. The Board has 17 members.

24 (b) Ex officio members. Subject to confirmation by the County Council,
 25 the County Executive should appoint the following individuals to serve
 26 as ex officio members of the Board:

- (1) The County Health Officer or Officer's designee; and
- (2) The Chief of the Department's Behavioral Health and Crisis Service or the Chief's designee.

(c) Other members. Subject to confirmation by the County Council, the County Executive should appoint the following individuals to serve on the Board:

- (1) 2 representatives of community health care providers that participate in the Program;
- (2) 1 representative of hospitals that participate in the Program;
- (3) The chair of the Board of Directors of the entity that contracts with the Department to administer the distribution of funds for the delivery of Program services or the chair's designee;
- (4) 3 members of the public;
- (5) [4] 3 individuals who have knowledge of and experience with issues relating to health care for uninsured individuals such as primary care, specialty care, dental care, behavioral health care, or fiscal matters relating to any of these types of care;
- (6) 1 representative of the Commission on Health; [and]
- (7) 1 representative of the County Medical Society; [and]
- (8) 2 current or former recipients of services under the Program; and
- (9) 1 representative from a Managed Care Organization who is familiar with Medicaid and insurance issues affecting low-income populations.

* * *

24-52. Duties and staff.

- (a) *Duties.* The Board may advise the County Executive, County Council, and Department on any matter relating to the goal of ensuring a steady and measurable growth in the number of uninsured County residents accessing high quality health care services, including:
- (1) Eligibility criteria for participating health care providers;
 - (2) Eligibility criteria for individuals served by the Program;
 - (3) The method for allocating Program funds;
 - (4) The method of distributing funds to participating health care providers;
 - (5) The Program budget;
 - (6) Growth targets and resources needed to meet those targets;
 - (7) Assistance to eligible individuals to obtain State and federal health care coverage;
 - (8) Policies and practices to maximize the use of County funds for direct services to clients;
 - (9) Evaluation of [the Program, including quality of care assessment] policies and programs to improve access to health care and related services for low-income and uninsured County residents; [and]
 - (10) Strategic planning in support of the Health Care for the Uninsured programs administered by the Department, including:
 - (A) Montgomery Cares;
 - (B) Care for Kids;
 - (C) Maternity Partnership;
 - (D) the Department's Dental Services; and
 - (E) Health Care for the Homeless; and

(11) Health care services provided to low income and uninsured County residents, including primary care, specialty care, dental care, behavioral health, and ancillary services.

(b) *Report.* The Board must submit [a quarterly] an annual report to the County Executive, County Council, and Department on its activities, findings, and recommendations.

* * *

24-53. Termination.

(a) *Date.* The Board terminates on [October 31, 2015] December 31, 2021.

(b) *Continuance of Board.* By March 31, [2015] 2021, the Board must recommend to the County Executive and County Council whether the County should continue the Board or establish an alternative governance structure for the Program.

Sec. 2. Expedited Effective Date.

The Council declares that this legislation is necessary for the immediate protection of the public interest. This Act takes effect on the date on which it becomes law.

96 *Approved:*

97

George Leventhal

10/1/2015

George Leventhal, President, County Council

Date

98 *Approved:*

99

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Date

100 *This is a correct copy of Council action.*

101

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Date