



Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations

May 14, 2024

2023 Commission Chair

Monique Soileau-Burke, MD

The Honorable Wes Moore
Governor
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

Members

David Blythe, MD, MPH

Aditya Chopra, MD

Dianna Abney, MD

Rebecca Carter, MD

Yen Dang, PharmD

Toby Gordon, Sc.D

Victoria McIntyre

Janaki Deepak, MD

Alicia Mezu, MSN/Ed., RN

Russell Lewis, MD

Sara Vazer, MD

Deborah Busch, DNP

Elizabeth Elliott, RN

Mary Caudle, RN

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Report required by Health-General Article §18-214(m) the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations Annual Report (MSAR #14217)

Dear Governor Moore, Chair Feldman, and Chair Peña-Melnyk:

In accordance with Health-General Article §18-214(m), the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations (the Commission) submits this annual report on its findings and recommendations for Calendar Year (CY) 2023. The Commission is charged with: (1) determining where community vaccine shortages exist, (2) developing recommendations for equitable distribution of vaccines, (3) offering recommendations to increase immunization rates, and (4) studying and making recommendations about other vaccine-related issues.

Dr. Monique Soileau-Burke continues to be the Chair of the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations for the second year. The Commission held three public meetings in CY 2023 on the following dates:

- March 21, 2023
- May 31, 2023
- October 4, 2023.

The Commission's primary focus has been ensuring vaccine equity and the widespread availability of COVID-19 vaccines, as well as preparing immunization providers for newly added vaccines such as Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccine and 20-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV20).

One of the Commission's goals from last year was to collaborate with other state commissions in Maryland and affiliated associations. The Commission has extended invitations to representatives from various organizations to every meeting, featuring

Staff

Elizabeth Edwards, MA

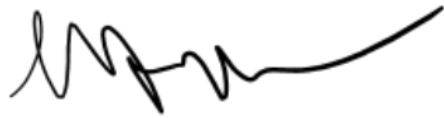
elizabeth.edwards@maryland.gov

guest speakers at each meeting thus far.

The Commission continues to discuss how to utilize its standing to impact community education and uptake of vaccinations. Vaccine scarcity and the increasing provider cost associated with stocking vaccines such as COVID-19, RSV, and PCV20 remains a concern for the Commission. The Commission is committed in its role to increase equity and accessibility to these important vaccines.

This letter serves as the Commission's annual report for CY 2023. If you have any questions, please contact the Commission staff person, Elizabeth Edwards at elizabeth.edwards@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monique Soileau-Burke', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Monique Soileau-Burke, MD, IBCLC, FAAP
Chair, State Advisory Commission on Immunizations

cc: Marie Grant, JD, Assistant Secretary for Health Policy, Office of the Secretary
Sarah Case Herron, JD, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs
Nilesh Kalyanaraman, MD, FACP, Deputy Secretary, Public Health Services
Elizabeth Kromm, PhD, MSc, Director, Prevention and Health Promotion
Administration
David Blythe, MD, MPH, Director, Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Outbreak
Response Bureau
Sarah T. Albert, Department of Legislative (5 copies)