



Commissioner's Themes

1. Community Engagement
2. Health Equity
3. Innovation

[Community Engagement]

- **Community Partners**
- **Highlighting intersections between:**
 - **Personal, Family and Community Health**
 - **Intersections between health, education and housing**
- **Engaging neighborhoods in health issues that are most relevant to them**

[Health Equity]

- **What is health inequity?**

- “Differences in population health that can be traced to unequal economic and social conditions and are systemic and avoidable – and thus inherently unjust and unfair.”

Unnatural Causes

[Health Equity]

- **What is “promoting health equity”?**
 - ‘What we as a society do to collectively assure the conditions in which people can be healthy’*
 - Traditionally water, air and food safety
 - More broadly - community design, housing, access to health care, food access, etc.

* Brennan Ramirez LK, Baker EA, Metzler M. Promoting Health Equity: A Resource to Help Communities Address Social Determinants of Health. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2008.

[Innovation]

- **Maximizing use of technology**
 - Program implementation
 - Monitoring and evaluation of outcomes
 - Evidence producing
 - Data driven approach to allocating resources
 - Example - Electronic health records in schools
- **Fostering innovation within BCHD workforce**



Vision

**Baltimore City residents will attain
their full health potential.**

[Commissioner's Priorities]

- Reducing health disparities
 - Obesity, diabetes, heart disease
- Reducing HIV/AIDS
- Improving birth outcomes
- Harm reduction / substance abuse
- Teen pregnancy prevention

[Organizational Changes]

- Goals

- Maximize our ability to attain desired outcomes
- Foster greater collaboration (working across silos)
- Clarify lines of work
- Accountability

[Organizational Changes (cont'd)]

- Clarity and consistency
 - Divisions – Deputy Commissioners
 - Bureaus – Assistant Commissioners
 - Offices - Directors
 - Programs – Directors
- Structure will continue to evolve
 - New programs
 - Existing program realignments

[Organizational Changes (cont'd)]

- 3 main Divisions
 - Health Promotion & Disease Prevention
 - Disease Control
 - Community and Environmental Health
- Office of Policy and Planning
- Office of Epidemiology Services
- Office of Aging and CARE Services
- Bureau of HIV/STD Services

[Next Steps]

- **Developing a health policy agenda for the city**
 - B'More Healthy 10-Point Plan
 - Health Care Reform
 - Revise 2007 document
- Engage BCHD divisions and quasis
- Engage community partners

Review of previous months

- **Ban on Caffeinated Alcoholic Beverages (12/2/10)**
 - **Four Loko, Joose, Max, Core High Gravity**
 - **Follows the findings of the FDA-** masking effects of caffeine in alcoholic beverages; public health consequences such as increased risk for unsafe sex practices, driving while under the influence and increased risks for black-outs.
- **Virtual Supermarket**
 - **National attention**
 - **Additional funding for expansion**
- **CARE Integration**
 - **BCHD adds 100 employees and enhances services to the older adult population**

[2011 Forecast]

- **Budget**
- **Legislative Session**