



# BCHD PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **The Health Department Announces Rebecca S. Dineen as Assistant Commissioner for Maternal & Child Health**

**BALTIMORE, MD (February 7, 2011)** – Baltimore City Health Commissioner Dr. Oxiris Barbot is pleased to announce Rebecca S. Dineen has accepted the position of Assistant Commissioner for the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health. Ms. Dineen has served as the program director of the Maternal and Infant Care Program since 2007.

Dineen is a 1989 graduate of Northwestern University and she holds a Masters degree in Health Policy and Management from Harvard University. She has over 14 years of diverse national and international public health experience in Africa, Asia and the United States.

Since 2009, Ms. Dineen has served as co-director of the [B'more for Healthy Babies campaign](#), the Health Department's \$3 million initiative to improve birth outcomes. Under her leadership, Maternal and Infant Care implemented an evidence-based curriculum for the city's nursing home visiting referral process. It also produced an infant safe sleep video presently being shown at city birthing hospitals and the Circuit Court jury assembly rooms. Recently, Dineen secured grant funding for a pilot program to reduce obesity in postpartum women.

“Baltimore is fortunate to have a public health professional who works tirelessly to reduce infant mortality and improve the health of the city's mothers and their babies,” said Dr. Oxiris Barbot, Commissioner of Health.

“I am excited to be leading the Health Department's efforts to reduce infant mortality. I look forward to the challenges ahead,” said Dineen.

Dr. Avril Houston, the previous Assistant Commissioner for Maternal and Child Health, recently accepted a new position in Washington, D.C.

“I am thankful to Dr. Houston for her commitment and service to the families of Baltimore and wish her success in her future endeavors,” Dr. Barbot said.

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