



# BCHD PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **Health Department’s Innovative Virtual Supermarket Program Opens New Location in Cherry Hill Fourth location aims to improve access to healthy foods**

**BALTIMORE, MD (Feb. 24, 2011)** – Baltimore Health Commissioner Dr. Oxiris Barbot announces that Baltimarket: the Virtual Supermarket Project (VSP) is open for business today in the newest location, the Cherry Hill neighborhood library.

Baltimarket-VSP is an innovative model for facilitating food delivery into neighborhoods with low vehicle ownership and little access to healthy foods using an online food ordering system. Baltimarket-VSP is now operating in four locations in Baltimore.

“We are pleased to extend the opportunity for Cherry Hill residents to have the same access to healthy and affordable foods that other nearby communities enjoy,” said Baltimore Health Commissioner Dr. Oxiris Barbot.

Baltimarket-VSP enables neighborhood residents to place grocery orders at their nearby library branch or school once a week and receive their groceries the following day at the same location. Health department staff will assist residents with ordering. Delivery charges are paid by the health department. Santoni’s Supermarkets supplies the groceries.

All four Baltimarket-VSP sites are located in “food deserts,” or areas without access to healthy food options. The Cherry Hill neighborhood has the third highest heart disease mortality rate in Baltimore City. Order placement and pickup information for the four locations is as follows:

	Orleans Street Branch, Enoch Pratt Free Library	Washington Village Branch, Enoch Pratt Free Library	George Washington Elementary School	Cherry Hill Branch, Enoch Pratt Free Library
Address	1303 Orleans Street (21231)	856 Washington Blvd. (21230)	800 Scott St. (21230)	606 Cherry Hill Road (21225)
Order Day	Tuesdays	Mondays	Mondays	Thursdays
Order Time	4 pm – 6 pm	Noon – 3 pm	3:30 pm – 5:30 pm	4 pm – 6 pm
Pick up Day	Wednesdays	Tuesdays	Tuesdays	Fridays
Pick up Time	4:30 pm–5:30 pm	3 pm – 4 pm	4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	4 pm – 5 pm

Accepted forms of payment include cash, debit cards, credit cards, and EBT (food stamps). For more information on the Virtual Supermarket Program, visit our website at <http://www.baltimorehealth.org/virtualsupermarket.html>, or at <http://www.baltimarket.org>.

For tips on eating healthy, visit <http://www.getfreshbaltimore.com>.

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