



FY25 Annual Report



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Somerset County
Health Department**

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Mission, Vision and Guiding Principles

Our Mission

Somerset County Health Department is dedicated to serving the public by preventing illness, promoting wellness and protecting the health of our community

Our Vision

Healthy people in healthy communities

Guiding Principles

Positive, respect, good work ethic, confidentiality, caring, service to others, professionalism, inclusion, diversity, kindness, partnering, open mindedness, commitment, perseverance, responsiveness, sharing, consistency and equality.

Message From Leadership

Somerset County Health Department's staff are committed to serving the residents of the county to promote wellness and prevent illness throughout the year.

We operate the following departments to implement and achieve our strategic goals:

Administration: Administration is responsible for the administrative actions that occur at the health department as well as the Medical Assistance Transportation program and Vital Records.

Community Health: The Community Health department is responsible for all of the clinical based programs that are offered by the health department. Some of their programs include reproductive health and immunization clinics, infectious disease monitoring and control, case management, and Medicaid Enrollment and Care Coordination.

Environmental Health: The Environmental Health department is responsible for environmental protection, food protection and community services (i.e. water safety and rabies prevention).

Local Behavioral Health Authority (LBHA): The LBHA provides assistance to consumers of the public behavioral health system who are receiving mental health and/or substance use treatment.

Message From Leadership

Prevention, Planning and Communication: This department strives to promote communications internally and externally on topics like healthy living, chronic disease prevention, tobacco cessation, emergency preparedness and substance use prevention.

Tri-County Alliance for the Homeless (TCAH): This department houses people who are experiencing homelessness and case managers work with them to achieve permanent housing goals.

As you read this report, you will see examples of the remarkable work that has been done in this past fiscal year.

Staff are working to reduce health disparities like lack of transportation and food insecurities that often prevent people from prioritizing their health. They have taken services into the community, provided fresh food for the residents of the county and offered vending machines to reduce the risk of life-threatening behaviors, just to name a few. Most of this work is done with the help and input of our valued partners in the community who are working towards the same goals of a healthy community.

We look forward to seeing what the next year brings with new projects, more robust planning and increased input from the community in delivering valuable services to the county.

Strategic Plan 2023-2025

FY25 Reporting

This report will present on the progress made during fiscal year 2025 (FY25) for Somerset County Health Department 2023-2028 Strategic Plan.

This plan will report on the four priority areas:

- **Priority 1: Health Promotion**

Address the top health issues in Somerset County as identified through the Community Health Needs Assessment

- **Priority 2: Communication**

Improve internal and external communication

- **Priority 3: Employee Morale**

Improve Somerset County Health Department morale

- **Priority 4: Workforce**

Build a qualified workforce and improve retention

This report will also present FY25 accomplishments for various programs in our agency doing work outside of our strategic plan priority areas.

Priority 1: Address top health issues in Somerset County as identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment

Somerset Local Health Improvement Coalition: Healthy Somerset

Healthy Somerset, working collectively with local partners, organizations and community members, addresses health disparities in our community. There is a focus on cancer prevention and tobacco usage, providing input on programs, policies and coordinated efforts with programmatic data and infrastructure support from the state and county.

The 2025 CHNA addresses the following health priorities:

- Access to Healthcare
- Behavioral Health
- Chronic Disease & Wellness



FY25 Progress: Access to Healthcare



Migrant Camp Referrals

Our migrant camp increased its number of new referrals from 127 in FY24 to 184 in FY25.

SCHD Medical Transportation

In FY25 SCHD's transportation department provided 8,728 one-way medical trips for Somerset County residents.



Somerset Garden Project

Our Healthy Somerset Garden, in collaboration with Eastern Correctional Institute, produced 14,364 pounds of vegetables this season - over 400 lbs more than FY24.



SCHD Wellness Van

In FY25 our wellness van got up and running providing various testing, immunizations and reproductive health services. It travels to various locations in Somerset County making it easier for community members to access!



FY25 Progress: Behavioral Health

Narcan Training

264 individuals received
Narcan training in FY25

Harm Reduction Vending Machines

In FY25 SCHD Harm Reduction Vending Machines were located in 5 locations in Somerset County each providing free access to essential harm reduction supplies:

Narcan, fentanyl test strips, xylazine test strips, Detera drug disposal bags, personal hygiene kits, wound care kits, and male latex condoms.



8 individuals were
linked to treatment

5 individuals were
reported to have
been in recovery for
6+ months

0% of individuals
returned to
homelessness within
2 years

FY25 Progress: Chronic Disease and Wellness

HERC Grant

In FY25 SCHD was awarded a Health Equity Resource Communities (HERC) grant in the amount of \$1,700,000. This grant will be implemented over 5 years, used to expand services provided by Community Health Workers (CHW) across Somerset County.

2,000 adults and youth were educated on tobacco control through community engagement and outreach



400 flu vaccinations were provided in county schools

600 children were referred to Chesapeake Health Care for dental sealants



There were a total of 2,500 communicable disease services provided at SCHD. Some examples include: lyme disease, covid cases, and hepatitis

Priority 2: Improve internal and external communication

Internal Communication

In FY25 SCHD participated in the PH Wins survey that was distributed via web survey to nearly 1,200 local health departments in 49 states. It collected employee perspectives on engagement, satisfaction, intention to leave, training, and workplace infrastructure.



- 97% of SCHD employees reported high job satisfaction
- 96.5% of employees feel a sense of belonging within their work unit
- 90% of employees believe their organization allocates resources based on communities' needs and priorities

External Communication

- Our LEP services have increased to 1,200 in FY 25!
- 99.9% of public information requests were completed within 10 days

Priority 3: Improve Somerset County Health Department Morale

Employee Wellness Committee

In FY25 we officially started our employee wellness committee. This committee works together to lead wellness initiatives that support both the physical and mental health of SCHD staff. In it's first year the wellness committee hosted 15 employee wellness activities! Some activities included healthy eating classes, candle making, yoga, breathe and paint, financial literacy and reiki sessions, just to name a few!

Employee Recognition Program

Leadership started three employee recognition programs in FY25. These programs were created to ensure that SCHD employees were recognized for their good works!

Somerset Salute: a recognition given to employees by other employees. They can be given by an employee that feels another employee should be recognized.

Standing Ovation: a recognition given to employees by management. They can be given to an employee by their direct supervisor, their program director, or another supervisor or director that feels an employee should be recognized.

Shoutout: a recognition given to employees at Somerst County Health Department (SCHD) by the Health Officer. They can be nominated by an employee, outside partners, or clients that feel a SCHD employee went above and beyond and should be recognized.

Employee Awards Ceremony

In FY25 SCHD had their first annual employee award ceremony during Public Health Week.

A request for nominations were sent out and employees submitted their votes!



Employee Awards Ceremony

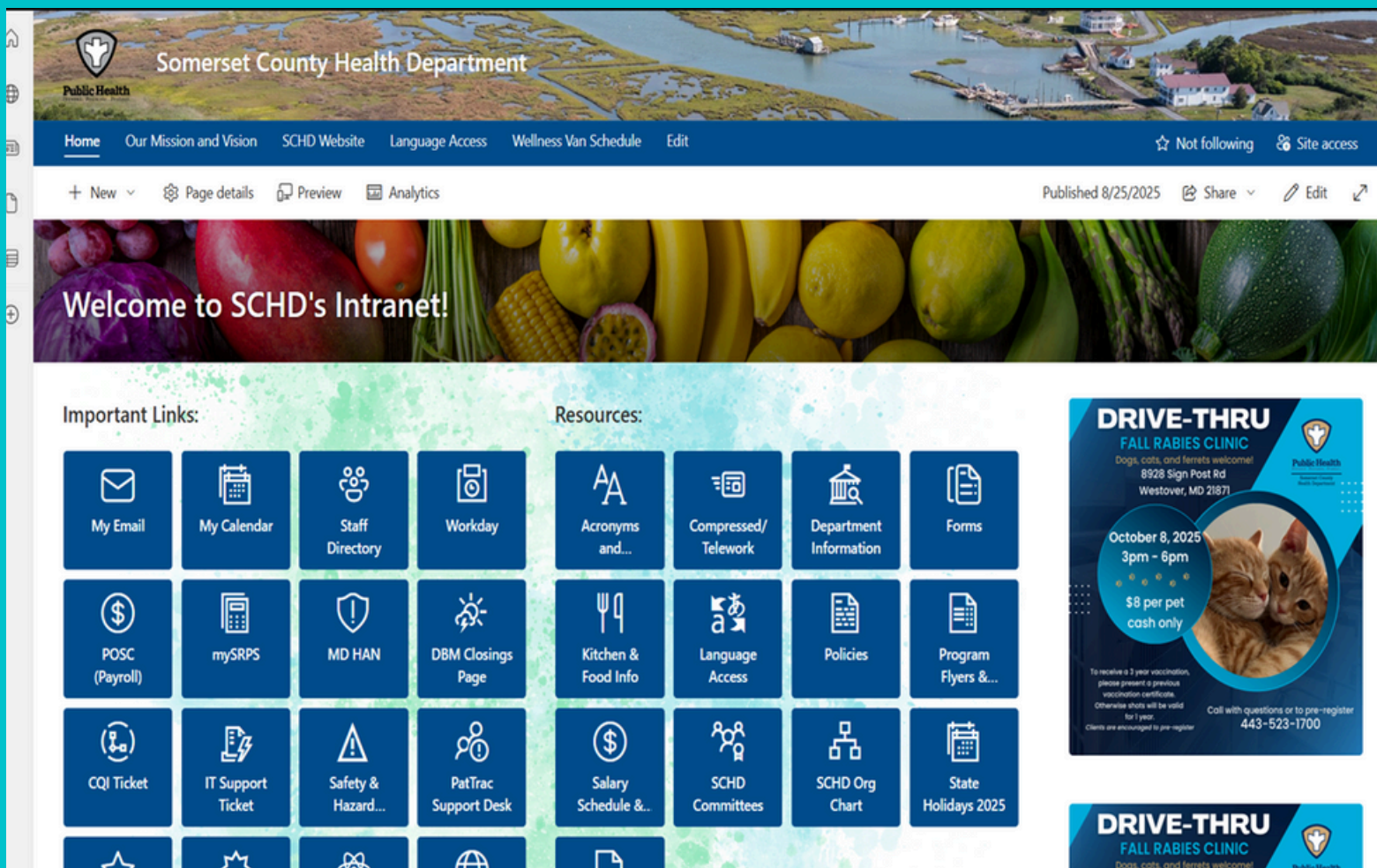
Nominations were submitted and counted. Based on results, awards for each category were given! Categories included: years of service, stand out performer, problem solving hero, rising star, best team player and diversity champion, just to name a few!



Priority 4: Workforce

Employee Intranet

One of SCHD's most exciting accomplishments in FY25 was the completion of our employee intranet!



The intranet is a one stop shop for employees to find useful agency information including frequently used forms, committee information, policies, translated documents and much more!

FY25 Agency Highlights!

Performance Management System

In FY25 SCHD began implementing it's first Performance Management System! Division Directors and program supervisors determined what programs and measures needed to be tracked and target numbers they desired to reach. Each quarter managers and supervisors entered their program data into our PM dashboard! Not only does the PM system track agency performance but it also shows opportunity for improvement!

		Somerset County Health Department		On Track	Off Track	No D
		FY26 Performance Management Dashboard		Baseline	Target	
		Data Through: 6/30/2026				
Strategic Priority 1: Health Improvement						
County Health Department (SCHD)'s mission is: Healthy People in Healthy Communities. SCHD achieves this mission several ways, but one is the region's Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) that prioritizes leading health issues, and the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) that assigns strategies to address the priority areas. Currently, those priority areas are Health Access and Health Equity, Behavioral Health, and Chronic Disease and Wellness.						
CHIP Priority 1: Health Access and Health Equity						
	Measure	FY25	FY26 To Date	Target		
	Limited english proficiency (LEP) data forms sent by 5th business day of the month	58%		90.0%		
	HERC participants with closed social determinant of health referrals	N/A	N/A	75.0%		
	Agency emergency preparedness plans with health equity inclusions added	100.0%		100.0%		
	Community health workers certified within 6 months of hire	N/A		80.0%		
	ACCU referrals reached by program	89.0%		80.0%		
	High-risk pregnant women referred and accepting navigation	68%		80.0%		
	Children referred for immunization delay brought up to date	84.0%		83.3%		
	New referrals from the migrant camp and communities	180		120		
CHIP Priority 2: Behavioral Health						
	Measure	FY25	FY26 To Date	Target		
	Individuals linked to treatment in peer program	8		10		
	Individuals in recovery 6+ months (annual measure)	5		5		
	Number of unduplicated individuals served in state care coordination	19		25		
	PATH participants engaged with at least twice	100.0%		80.0%		
	Persons returning to homelessness within 2 years (annual)	0.0%		10.0%		
	Individuals trained in Narcan administration	260		250		
	Academic detailing visits to local providers	21		24		
CHIP Priority 3: Chronic Disease and Wellness						
	Measure	FY25	FY26 To Date	Target		

FY25 Agency Highlights!

Gun Safety Event

In FY25 SCHD was pleased to host a gun safety event at the Woodrow Wilson Community Center in Crisfield, MD. This event raised awareness to stop gun violence in the community. There were various vendors, music and free food. Free gun lock boxes were also given out to promote gun safety. Over 300 lock boxes were distributed!



FY25 Agency Highlights!

Smith Island Health Fair

In FY25 SCHD hosted a health fair on Smith Island, with 16 individuals served. It was a great turn out and a huge success!



FY25 Agency Highlights!

Environmental Health

In FY25 environmental health hosted two low cost rabies vaccination clinics. In total 283 animals were vaccinated!



DRIVE-THRU
FALL RABIES CLINIC

Dogs, cats, and ferrets welcome!
8928 Sign Post Rd
Westover, MD 21871

October 16, 2024
2pm - 5pm

🌸 🌸 🌸 🌸 🌸 🌸
\$8 per pet
cash only

To receive a 3 year vaccination,
please present a previous
vaccination certificate.
Otherwise shots will be valid
for 1 year.
Clients are encouraged to pre-register

Call with questions or to
443-523-1700

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DRIVE-THRU
SPRING RABIES CLINIC

Dogs, cats, and ferrets welcome!
8928 Sign Post Rd
Westover, MD 21871

May 14, 2025
3pm - 6pm

🌸 🌸 🌸 🌸 🌸 🌸
\$8 per pet
cash only

To receive a 3 year vaccination,
please present a previous
vaccination certificate.
Otherwise shots will be valid
for 1 year.
Clients are encouraged to pre-register

Call with questions or to pre-register
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How to contact us!?!

**Somerset County
Health Department**

**8928 Sign Post Rd.
Westover, MD
21871**

(443) 523-1700

Somersethealth.org