A new era of health care

Maryland's hospitals are innovating, working in new ways to get Marylanders the right care, at the right time, in the right setting. They are extending their reach beyond the four walls of the traditional hospital and into the communities they serve to provide practical, proactive and personalized care that keeps people healthy so they don't need a hospital bed. And if illness or injury does land them in the hospital, we're working hard to improve the in-hospital experience and ease the post-discharge care path. Here are some examples of the many ways hospitals in your region of the state are transforming health care.

Central Region:

- For patients with clinical and social needs, such as a lack of transportation, a physician makes house calls within a few days of patients leaving the hospital.
- Patients' material needs of food, shelter, clothing, and insurance coverage are met by hospitals using the government 211 phone service and the help of faith-based organizations to connect those in need with community-based organizations.
- A bus staffed with medical and social work professionals provides health screenings, assistance with Medicaid applications, WIC referrals, immunizations, and other services.
- The *Health Buddy* program identifies personal health coaches for patients to help ensure they take their medication, arrange for transportation to doctors' appointments, safeguard their homes against falls and provide other assistance. In another program, a web-based platform screens patients for social needs and connects them with community services via automated outreach.
- The Healthy Babies Collaborative, a community hub spearheaded by hospitals, works with myriad organizations to ensure healthy beginnings for babies born in southeast Baltimore County.

CENTRAL REGION DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

- Population: 2,737,070
- % below poverty: 11
- Median household income: $71,534
- % non-Hispanic white: 58
- % Medicaid Patients: 25
- % High Utilizers: 26
- Top three causes for readmissions (%):
  − Mood disorders: 5
  − Heart failure: 5
  − Sepsis: 5