

birthday. To be eligible, an individual must be in one of the covered categories, meet income eligibility requirements, and be at nutritional risk.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Program is administered by the Office of Women, Infants, and Children through grants to eighteen local agencies that serve the entire State. Each local agency determines recipient eligibility, prescribes individualized food packages, provides nutrition education, prepares required records and reports, and issues food instruments (negotiable checks used in exchange for approved foods). The Office ensures that Maryland's Program accords with federal requirements.

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Local health administration preceded the organization of a State health department by nearly a century, when, in 1793, Baltimore City established a health office to stop an epidemic of yellow fever. The first county health department was formed by Allegany County in 1922. By 1934, each Maryland county had established its own health department. Today, local health departments in Maryland's twenty-three counties and Baltimore City are overseen by the Local and Family Health Administration.

MENTAL HYGIENE ADMINISTRATION

Stuart B. Silver, M.D., *Director of Mental Hygiene*
 Oscar Morgan *Acting Deputy Director*
 Stuart Keill, M.D., *Acting Clinical Director*

201 West Preston St.
 Baltimore, MD 21201 (410) 225-6611

The Mental Hygiene Administration originated in 1886 as the State Lunacy Commission (Chapter 487, Acts of 1886). The Commission was established to inspect public and private institutions for the insane and to advise their boards of managers. In 1922, the Commission was replaced by the Board of Mental Hygiene (Chapter 29, Acts of 1922). The Board, in turn, was superseded by the Department of Mental Hygiene in 1949 (Chapter 685, Acts of 1949). The 1949 law abolished not only the Board of Mental Hygiene, but also the separate governing boards of the State mental hospitals, and gave the Department of Mental Hygiene responsibility for the custody, care, and treatment of mentally ill persons. The Department of Mental Hygiene became part of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in 1969 and subsequently was reorganized as the Mental Hygiene Administration (Chapter 77, Acts of 1969).

The Administration oversees thirteen mental health centers:

- Walter P. Carter Center
- Crownsville Hospital Center
- Eastern Shore Hospital Center
- Thomas B. Finan Hospital Center
- Highland Health Facility Psychiatric Unit
- Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center
- Maryland Psychiatric Research Center

Regional Institute for Children & Adolescents— Baltimore

Regional Institute for Children & Adolescents— Rockville

Regional Institute for Children & Adolescents— Southern Maryland

- Springfield Hospital Center
- Spring Grove Hospital Center
- Upper Shore Community Mental Health Center

To improve continuity of care between community and hospital programs, the Administration has adopted a regional structure. Assistant Directors serve the Baltimore metropolitan area and Eastern, Western, Southern and Central Maryland. Their regional offices implement policies to shorten length of hospital stays and improve community mental health programs for the severely ill.

The Administration is headed by the Director of Mental Hygiene, certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and appointed by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene. With the approval of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Director of Mental Hygiene is empowered to make State grants-in-aid to further community mental health services (Chapter 125, Acts of 1966). The Director supervises programs receiving these grants-in-aid. The Maryland Community Mental Health Services Act of 1966 also authorized local mental health advisory committees (Code Health—General Article, sec. 10-208).

MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MENTAL HYGIENE

Joseph I. Pines, *Chairperson*, 1994
 (410) 225-6610

The Maryland Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene was created in 1976 (Chapter 746, Acts of 1976). It advises the Mental Hygiene Administration on the social, economic and medical problems of mental hygiene.

The Council's eighteen members are appointed by the Governor for three-year terms (Code Health—General Article, secs. 10-301 through 10-305).