

NEWS RELEASE



Bruce W. Dixon, M.D., Director

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HEALTH SERVICES GUIDE FOR UNINSURED & UNDERINSURED EXPANDED

Now Includes Mental Health and Substance Abuse Resources

The Allegheny County Health Department, in cooperation with the County Department of Human Services, has added a special section on behavioral health services to its directory of health resources for the uninsured and underinsured.

The new section provides information about an array of mental health services and drug and alcohol services available to County residents through the Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health.

"We are excited about having a presence for our mental health and drug and alcohol services in the Health Department's guide for the uninsured and underinsured," said Patricia Valentine, DHS Deputy Director, Office of Behavioral Health.

"We truly appreciate the commitment of County Health Director Dr. Bruce Dixon to bring together, in a single document, vital information about quality physical and behavioral health services that are available to our County's uninsured and underinsured individuals and families."

The directory is intended primarily for social service agencies and other community organizations dealing with the uninsured and underinsured, but individuals also may find it useful as a handy guide to health care providers.

Most of the providers listed in the directory use a sliding fee schedule based on household income and family size for patients with no insurance. The fees may be as little as \$25 or less and possibly even waived in cases of extreme financial hardship.

The 32-page guide lists more than 40 local clinics and health centers as well as resources available to help with other needs, including prescription drugs, vision care, dental care and transportation. It also features a listing of health insurance options for the unemployed and low-income families.

The directory is available on the Allegheny County Health Department web site at www.achd.net, or by calling **412-687-ACHD**.

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