



## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CITIZEN SERVICES

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Dear Service Provider:

As you may know, our region is expected to undergo additional population growth due to Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) at Fort Meade. Most of the media coverage has focused on issues of jobs and transportation. Those of us in human services have been asking, "What will be the impact of this growth on our sector? Do we have the capacity to meet the needs generated by any additional growth?"

Citizen Services is pleased and fortunate to have received funding through the Department of Defense, Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), to help us find the answers. We recently contracted with RESI Research and Consulting, an arm of the Division of Economic and Community Outreach at Towson University, to conduct a needs assessment of key human services. Their task is to assess the capacity of the County's community services to meet the needs of the families relocating into Howard County due to BRAC, focusing on childcare, services for older adults, and mental health services.

**We are asking for your support to make this project successful. By answering this questionnaire honestly and openly, you will help us and other community leaders understand the issues and challenges facing you on a daily basis as you meet the needs of those you serve.**

**Please give Dr. Spears and his staff your full cooperation as they undertake this valuable research. As a participant in this survey, we will be happy to share the results with you.**

The RESI research team is headed by Dr. John Spears. He can be reached at 410-843-3654 for any questions related to the surveys. Dick Barnard, BRAC Planner for Citizen Services, will be supporting the project and monitoring its progress. Dick can be reached at 410-313-5953 or [dbarnard@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:dbarnard@howardcountymd.gov).

**We hope we can count on your participation.** Together, we can continue to strengthen the services in our County that contribute so much to our quality of life.

Sincerely,

Lois Mikkila  
Deputy Director