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**Baltimore Medical System Open House Celebrates New School-Based Health Center**

**BALTIMORE, MD-** Baltimore Medical System (BMS) will host an Open House in celebration of its new school-based health center (SBHC). The free event is open to the public and will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School (MERVO), 3500 Hillen Road, Baltimore, MD 21218. Light refreshments will be served and free parking is available in the school parking lot.

Baltimore City Mayor Catherine Pugh and Baltimore City Health Commissioner, Dr. Leana Wen will join BMS CEO and President, Shirley Sutton, and MERVO Principal, Craig Rivers, presenting the importance of healthcare access for Baltimore City public school students. School-based health services bring health and education together improving school performance, increasing attendance rates, and addressing chronic conditions including asthma and diabetes that can be managed during the school day. “Health is foundational to every issue – unhealthy children cannot learn in school, and unhealthy adults cannot be a productive part of the workforce,” said Baltimore City Health Commissioner Dr. Leana Wen. “The Baltimore City Health Department is glad to continue our partnership with BMS to address the needs of young people in our city by meeting them where they are. We look forward to the opening of a new school-based health center at MERVO.”

BMS has eight school-based health centers in Baltimore City that provide a full range of healthcare services including well child visits, sports physicals, sick visits, immunizations, reproductive health services, and mental health screenings. MERVO, the largest school in Baltimore City with over 1,600 students is Baltimore Medical System’s newest school-based health center.

“We are grateful to the City for giving us the opportunity to expand our school-based health services. We are pleased to include MERVO as one of our school based health centers”, said Shirley Sutton. “Improving the health of Baltimore’s children prepares them to take care of their health at an early age preparing them for a successful future.”

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Alyssa Deiter at [alyssa.deiter@bmsi.org](mailto:alyssa.deiter@bmsi.org) or call 410-558-4884.

**About BMS**

*Baltimore Medical System (BMS) is the largest Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) system in Maryland. BMS operates six health centers, four pharmacies and eight school-based health sites serving almost 50,000 patients, including underserved and uninsured annually. BMS patients receive Patient-Centered Medical Home care, a team-based approach using evidence-based medicine to meet a patient’s physical and mental health needs. For more information, visit [www.bmsi.org](http://www.bmsi.org).*

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