

**HOWARD COUNTY  
Opioid Crisis Community Council  
February 3, 2021**

**5:51-6:45  
Zoom Meeting**

Meeting came to order at 5:20pm

**In Attendance:** Barbara Allen, Roe Rogers-Bonaccorsy, Robin Bartko, Christina Castro, Theresa Collins, Kaymisha Knight, Debbie Santini, Sean Ford, Debbie Nix, Mark Donovan, Joan Webb Scornaienchi, John Way, Teron Powell, Joanie Elder, Cindy Johnson

Introduction of Participants

Barbara Allen asked if there were objections to the minutes of January 6, 2021. No objections were given and minutes were approved.

Announcements:

Roe shared that COVID vaccines and alerts on testing are on Howard County Health Department's website. Roe to put URL in chat. Behavioral Health Summit update is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 12:00pm. February 17<sup>th</sup>'s topic is Behavioral Health Trends in Youth WHO???

Volunteers are needed for 1<sup>st</sup> advisory group with L.E.A.D. and Harm Reduction program . The first meeting will be 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 11:30 after the R.OS.C meeting. Discussed flyer for this event/group.

John Way shared support group for Veterans 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month and will email flyer to the committee.

Deb Nix discussed the HoCo Drug & Alcohol Family Forum February's Topic – "Marijuana, The Bane of my Existence. Debbie Nix, Debbie Santini, Mark Donovan and Joan Webb Scornaienchi to host this group.

Teron shared upcoming NIH Study in conjunction with Columbia University for HIV and Hep C testing and promotions around that.

Barbara shared that she has gotten several calls from Recovery Houses to ask when they can receive the Covid-19 vaccine – The answer is Recovery Houses are "1-B" congregant living.

Barbara had a conversation with Carl regarding property for residential treatment programs. This discussion is still in progress. Barbara will keep everyone updated.

Conversation on topic of should the OCCC remain under the county gov't. Barbara stated yes, all concurred.

Barbara went over several House and Senate Bills in the legislature at this time. HB551/SB393 Telehealth bill specific to Mental Health, Substance Use and Behavioral Health - allowing telehealth audio not visual. Mark spoke against this bill stating concerns of identity fraud, harm, dv, safety issues. Debbie Santini agreed.

Christina shared that her group will come out to homes with iPADS to offer support to the elderly who do not have computers for telehealth appointments.

Discussion continued on additional telehealth bill relating to licensed therapists practicing out of the state of MD to provide services to people in MD

Barbara brought up additional bills, including Bill for those incarcerated to have the right to vote.....

HB375/SB211; HB375/SB211 Family Medical Leave program for those caring for a loved one with substance use; HB396/SB279 Overdose Prevention Sites to provide 6 sites in the area to provide IV substance users a "safe" place to use, access to clean syringes. Barbara stated she does not feel this bill will pass at this time. Jack commented but was not heard due to phone connection. Jack will reply to Barbara with his input via email.

Sean Ford spoke on HB271 Public Safety Law – L.E.A.D Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 1:30 this Bill will be heard. Barbara asked Sean to share information on how to request to testify.

Barbara brought up the topic of the OCCC – "Where Do we want to go from here?" Regarding Communication – what information/communication should we, the OCCC provide to the general public vs facts; put together FAQ's. Debbie S asked if Howard County has a paper resource book to provide to the community. Roe shared information on Howard County gov'ts general website as well as HCHD and multiple tabs within these websites that provide county/community resources. Joanie spoke on the 211 cards that are available to share.

Barbara asked the chairs of each committee for new ideas, stating funding is available for programs or print material.

6:44 Barbara asked if anyone else has any concerns they would like to share; no additional comments.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44

Respectfully submitted: Debbie Santini

Chats:

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/pubs-current/HOUSE%20COMMITTEE%20GUIDELINES.pdf>

Senate Committee guidelines: From Robin Bartko to Everyone: 05:16 PM

From John Way to Everyone: 05:28 PM

NAMI Connections Veteran Support Group - NEW A free, drop in, peer-led support group for Veterans living with mental illness. Click here to register. You will get an email with the link after you register. First Monday of each month via ZOOM from 6 - 7:30pm Joining a Veteran Peer Support Group can help you to feel better in any number of ways, such as:

- Knowing that others are going through something similar
- Learning tips on how to handle day-to-day challenges
- Meeting new friends or connecting to others who understand you
- Learning how to talk about things that bother you or how to ask for help

Personal Perspectives "I've been missing the feeling of community ever since I retired, here I feel accepted as a member of a tight knit group with shared lived experiences." "I have lost some of my friends in combat, and I have the opportunity to express my feelings without being judged." Question or for more information about our NAMI Howard County support group, Please call 410-772-9300, or e

From Roe to Everyone: 05:30 PM

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health/MM-Alerts-and-Recalls/COVID-19-Vaccine>

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health/MM-Alerts-and-Recalls>

Howard County Behavioral Health Summit Series

BH\_Summit

Aetna is proud to partner with the Howard County Health Department to bring you this 5-part series of webinars that will help you learn ways to stay healthy and take control in 2020 and beyond. Join each of these 1-hour sessions, featuring insightful and inspiring conversations with community experts about mental health and wellness.

Part 4: Behavioral Trends in Youth

Wednesday, February 17, 2021; 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Part 5: Growing Your Wellness Toolbox

Wednesday, March 17, 2021; 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

REGISTRATION: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/howard-county-behavioral-health-summit-series-tickets-126902794675>

From emorrel to Everyone: 05:30 PM

[emorrel@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:emorrel@howardcountymd.gov)

From Roe to Everyone: 05:30 PM

Joint Community Advisory Board Harm Reduction/SSP and LEAD

Tue 2/9/2021 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

<https://howardcountymd.webex.com/howardcountymd/j.php?MTID=m1a3aff810802f9e716d63b2c61eb28b>

From Sean Ford to Everyone: 06:24 PM

Eric.Ebersole@house.state.md.us

From Sean Ford to Everyone: 06:28 PM

Sign up for a My MGA account here:

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Account/Login?returnUrl=%2Fmgawebsite%2FMyMGATracking%2FManageLists&registerId=Tracking>

House committee guidelines for 2021:

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/pubs-current/SENATE%20COMMITTEE%20GUIDELINES.pdf>

Link to Delegate Ebersole's LEAD bill:

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/hb0271>

From Roe to Everyone: 06:39 PM

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/gethelp>

<https://howard.md.networkofcare.org/mh/index.aspx>

211 cards on the Health Department website on the top of the BH page

From Kaymisha to Everyone: 06:40 PM

We also have print copies of 211 cards

we can mail them or you can make an appointment to pick up copies from the Health Department