

**Howard County
Opioid Crisis Community Council
November 3, 2021
5:15-6:45pm
VIA ZOOM – COVID-19**

In attendance: Barbara Allen, Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Candace Ball, Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Robin Bartko, Hilari Young, Debbie Nix, Claudia Lempges, Sean Hughes, Mark Donovan, Shereen Bentley, Teron Powell, Jama Acuff, Joanie Elder, Kaymisha Knights, Cindy Johnson, Mimi Mathews

Barbara asked Laura to lead the meeting. Laura called the meeting to order at 5:20 pm.

Everyone introduced themselves.

The October minutes were presented, and Mark Donovan moved that they be approved. Joanie Elder seconded. Unanimously approved.

Announcements

See Attached: Report from Roe and links shared during the meeting.

Laura shared that there will be a Veterans Day event on the 7th. The OCCC will have a table and still need volunteers to help.

ROSC and Behavioral Health Providers quarterly group have merged. Barbara noted she was overwhelmed in a good way. She learned about more community-based groups and likes seeing the focus on what is going on in Howard County.

Jan 28th is next meeting of the Behavioral Health Providers at 9 am.

Let Roe know if you want to be added to this group and to receive BH updates weekly. It is called the BH Newsletter – info gathering source – trainings, important info.

Beth asked the group to answer a survey to help Sobar with their strategic plan and to distribute it to their constituents as well.

Joan said they still have space in the Guiding Good Choices program held on Zoom – look at HCDF website under classes. Primarily for parents or guardians with 9 – 14-year-olds. They will also take parents with older children if they have space.

Roe suggested we start a conversation now or at a future meeting to discuss the Harm Reduction van and the possibility of moving it to other locations in the county. Laura suggested we could discuss under the committee reports or “Next Steps” section of this meeting.

November 17th is the next SOS West Baltimore townhall meeting with the Lieutenant Governor under the leadership of the OCCC – Opioid Operational Command Center. These are important to help us understand needs around the state and to have input into where to invest revenue from the opioid restitution fund (ORF).

Robin asked for recommendations for social skills classes for teens to 25. She has had several requests for this. Mark has a clinician who runs a class like this - Congruent Counseling: 410.740.8066 or email at frontdesk@ccs-ic.com. The specific clinician is Mary Wilbanks, LCPC.

OCCC Next Steps – Goals for the next 2 – 5 years

Barbara distributed two summary documents prior to the meeting – the BHA State Plan Goals and Objectives and Recommendations for the Howard County OCCC.

Laura brought up the document for our review. Barbara is having conversations with Carl DeLorenzo about this.

Barbara said a first priority is to reactivate the Executive Order and she welcomes input for updates as to the purpose of the OCCC. She is working on updated list of official members and auxiliary members.

Laura asked that anyone who wanted to add or suggest programs that we focus on from the list of Howard County OCCC communicate directly with Barbara.

Debbie asked to talk a bit about CCBHC's. Barbara suggested we defer for a formal presentation at a future meeting. CCBHC's are getting more attention as well as funding from state and federal levels.

Laura said it was important to note that we bring awareness to existing programs NOT overlay but compliment the services that exist already.

Beth suggested we map systems of care. There is an existing effort lead by Health Secretary Schrader already doing this. It would take many people to complete a project of this magnitude.

- Jama said we could start with this group and involve others.
- Roe said that Shereen said the health department does a needs/gap analysis for funders and that they do much of this with this plan. Shereen says yes, they are doing this, and this plan could inform.
- Laura asked if it would make sense for treatment and recovery committee to have a conversation about this.
- LBHA Board program development committee has done cross reference of services and ask it they would be willing to share.
- Debbie says like an org chart. Problem
- Mark says this is a monster. They get 30 – 40 phone calls a day asking for help.
- Laura says there is more than one list – providers and resources. Aside from services, there are other resources. One of the best resources we have is referring elsewhere.
- Shereen says behavioral health resource directories have lots of links. One is youth specific and the other is general.
- Laura says this is where we need more navigators

Barbara says they are tackling the issue of identifying access to care at the state level. Effective solutions have “agnostic” insurance benefit filters on the data (meaning the inclusion of Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance, etc.) That person-centered systems are the most effective in getting into a particular environment. Tech based systems (alone) are good but not effective helping getting directly to a needed resource.

Kaymisha says there is also there is also CAREAPP managed through the Health Department - https://www.findhcrresources.org/search_results/21042

Barbara supports doing a gap analysis because this is where we can find areas to focus on. This is a strength of the HCHD – Behavioral Health. Gap analysis has been going on for many years.

Laura reviewed committee recommendations by committee. (See attached)

Law Enforcement/Adjudication

Laura asked Teron if there was anything that jumps out to move ahead with. Cindy says she would like to see a Life Skills Course in conjunction with Behavioral Health. Teron agrees and sees this as a continuum.

Treatment/Recovery

Laura suggested we focus on #3 and create education programs for families including sources of support for them and helping them with counseling, SBIRT and information. Beth supported this focus.

Laura said she thought we should go to the council with specific measurable goals, and this is an area where we could be specific and focused.

Business and Community Engagement

This committee needs a chair. Please let Barbara know if you have recommendations. Beth suggested getting someone from Jiffy Lube or other employer who is focused on hiring people in recovery.

Joanie suggested that Bridges to Employment and having a mentor was crucial. Recovery often starts with employment. This needs to be a county and private partnership. Beth suggested that we could potentially have employers who wanted to be on a list since hiring was difficult right now.

Barbara mentioned we have Fran Trout at the State DOL, work development resources - she sends updates of resources. Fran's focus is on Howard and Carroll Counties.

Roe mentioned that they are trying to hire and potentially provide some of these resources. Lots to add re case management in the future.

Shereen mentioned one of the big gaps was expanding residential crisis services for youth. NO providers have the capacity to expand or want to expand. Lots of challenges there. And, this is a statewide issue being looked at by many different organizations including MDH/BHA.

We need to discuss Communications and Prevention at a future meeting due to time constraints. The group agreed to end on time and continue to review the list in December.

Debbie asked once again for volunteers for this Sunday. Kaymisha and two peer volunteers will be there the entire time.

Barbara thanked everyone and Laura adjourned the meeting at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Beth Harbinson

FB page for jobs for folks in recovery:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/159019551555702/?multi_permaLinks=1043005326490449%2C1042989556492026%2C1041967983260850%2C1039949793462669¬if_id=1635814289102136¬if_t=group_activity&ref=notif

Sobar survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfgJa5sVtBq-wJhtPqvSAmZM-l6GTWFh0R-T4R2BXYhCcPo7g/viewform>

CareApp

https://www.findhcreources.org/search_results/21042

Roe Bonnacorsey Report

OCCC meeting announcements 11/3/21

988 fund campaign is out seeking support/signatures


In FY23 an initial 10 mil will be used to support the call centers

MD988 fund campaign webinar is upcoming

MD988 coalition kick off meeting 12/1 at 2 pm

During the most recent legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly passed HB 588, the state's FY2022 budget bill, which directs Medicaid to spend at least 75 percent of federal ARPA reinvestment dollars for a one-time-only provider rate increase. As such, Maryland is implementing the following rate increases:

- A 5.5 percent rate increase for most HCBS developmental disability providers
- A 5.4 percent rate increase for most HCBS behavioral health and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) providers
- A 5.2 percent rate increase for community-based long-term services and support providers

 <p>4 Sessions:</p> <p>How to Prevent Drug Use in Your Family</p> <p>How to Develop Healthy Beliefs and Clear Standards while Strengthening Family Bonds</p> <p>Avoiding Trouble: How to Say No to Drugs</p> <p>Managing Conflict: How to Control and Express Your Anger Constructively</p> <p>FREE, but you must register.</p> <p>Classes are offered by the Howard County State's Attorney's Office and HC DrugFree in partnership with the Howard County Health Department.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Guiding Good Choices®</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Free Online Parenting Classes <i>November & December 2021</i></p> <p>Guiding Good Choices® is an evidence-based, interactive prevention program that provides families with the skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs and alcohol or engage in other dangerous behaviors.</p> <p>This series of four Zoom classes is for parents/guardians of 9-14 year olds. If your child isn't 9-14, please register and HC DrugFree will contact you. Parent/guardian or child must live in Howard County.</p> <p>Class Dates: Tuesdays, November 9, 16, December 7, 14 (Adults are expected to attend all 4 sessions and children 9-14 are encouraged to attend session 3.)</p> <p>Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>Register at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HCDrugFreeFall2021</p> <p>For more information: Contact Joan Webb Soomaiendhi, Executive Director, HC DrugFree at Admin@hcdrugfree.org</p> <p>Go to www.hcdrugfree.org to sign-up to receive a free electronic newsletter with current and future class updates and educational information for adults and students.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HCDrugFree Empowering the Community</p>
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Free Parenting Classes: HC DrugFree and the Howard County State's Attorney's Office are providing another series of online classes for parents/guardians (grandparents welcome!) of 9-14 year olds on Tuesdays, November 9, 16, and on December 7 and 14 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. If student isn't 9-14, parent/guardian may register and we will confirm. Students will be invited to join adults at the 3rd class to learn skills.

To register and for more information, go to <https://hcdrugfree.org/2021/09/guiding-good-choices-free-classes-for-parents-2/> or contact Admin@hcdrugfree.org

Lunch & Learn: Implementing & Sustaining An Integrated Crisis System in the Baltimore Region



Nov. 2nd from 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
All trainings are free to attend and provide 1.5 CEUs for social workers, psychologists, and counselors.

Sponsored by the Maryland Behavioral Health Administration's Office of Suicide Prevention & The UMD Training Center

[Register](#)

GBRICS (Greater Baltimore Regional Integrated Crisis System) aims to help people quickly get the support they need in their community so fewer people need to involve police or go to Emergency Department to be safe and healthy.

This workshop will provide an overview of the GBRICS components (comprehensive call center, expansion of mobile crisis teams and same day appointment access) to date, as well as provide an opportunity for discussion around increasing the use of crisis systems (as an alternative to 911 or Emergency Department use) and a discussion of efforts to create long-term sustainability for crisis system expansion.

- 11/19 1 pm presenting on a webinar - Increasing access to COVID-19 vaccines for service recipients for PBHS within the PBHS: Lessons from Howard County/Fredrick County
- **Opioid Restitution Fund Town Hall Nov. 3**

The Governor is conducting [town halls](#) to guide funding decisions for Maryland's [Opioid Restitution Fund](#). Please join us at the next town hall in Baltimore City to make the voices of the harm reduction community heard and guide funding towards harm reduction services.

Maryland Stop Overdose Strategy (SOS) Town Hall – West Baltimore City

Wednesday, November 3, 2021, 4:30–6:00 p.m

St. Bernardine Church

3812 Edmondson Avenue

Baltimore, MD 21229

- [Maryland Children’s Behavioral Health Coalition](#) and the Mental Health Association of Maryland, held a community forum to advance a shared vision for children’s mental health at a time of unparalleled need. The virtual Children’s Behavioral Health Forum was held October 18, 2021, from 1-4 pm.
- BHA State BH plan development meeting for Central Maryland was Wednesday, October 20, 2021, from 9:00am to 12:00pm
- The HCHD, BBH co-hosted the first Howard County Veterans Collaborative in partnership with ServingTogether/EveryMind, DCRS/Office of Veterans and Military Families and NAMI HC on 10/12.
- Planning a PSA to promote Suicide Prevention in partnership with HC Gov
 - Shifting from youth focus to across the life span
- CAMS Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality funds awarded for a Suicide Prevention Pilot, to train up to 20 clinicians in the CAMS suicide prevention framework. This intervention will be comprised of short-term (12-sessions) intensive mental health support delivered by licensed mental health providers for the youth and adult population, specifically targeting individuals experiencing suicidal ideation and exhibiting self-harming behaviors.
 - Provider training started 10/8.
 - Another training in January 2022
- Awarded funding for Mental Health Crisis Beds, continuing to work with State funder and County Purchasing on the contract implementation processes
- Awarded funds for peer support expansion within Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs), continuing with work with State funder and County Purchasing on contract implementation processes
- Submitted proposal to the State for peer support expansion within BH crisis centers
- Planning modifications to the Mental health awareness campaign “Let’s Talk About Mental Health”
- Planning modifications to the Youth Suicide Prevention campaign “It’s OK to Ask” to convert to a suicide prevention campaign for across the life span.

- Planning development of an alcohol prevention campaign
- Preparing to launch “Teen Intervene” at Patuxent Valley Middle School and Wilde Lake High School through the School-Based Wellness Centers.
- Peer support programming is progressing well at the Homewood school
- Assisting Long Reach HS with SUD issues in the school, have had several planning meetings to arrange plans including educational presentations in the school
- Plans to discuss taking HR/SPP van on the road

APPROVED