

**HOWARD COUNTY**  
**Opioid Crisis Community Council**

February 6, 2019 5:15-6:45pm  
Columbia/Ellicott Room George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 Call in: 410.313.1141

**Individuals Present:**

Barbara Allen, Flora Betro, Drema Bonavitacola, Jimmy Brothers, Theresa Collins, Mark Donovan, Samantha Durbin, Mike Elder, Sean Ford, Marianne Gibson, Beth Harbinson, Roger Hoff, Sean Hughes, Cindy Johnson, Kathy Kirchner, Jack Matthews, Mimi Matthews, Chris McCabe, Debbie Nix, Ana Park, Teron Powell, Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Laura Torres, Caryn Lasser, Robin Rynn, John Way

**Meeting Minutes:**

- Welcome- Meeting began at 5:17pm
- Introductions around the room
- Approval of Minutes from January 2, 2019
  - Motion to approve: Cindy Johnson
  - Second: Mark Donovan
    - Meeting minutes approved at 5:22pm
- Updates/Announcements
  - Health Department has been awarded funds through State for crisis stabilization services and detention center for Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).
  - Also, the Health Department has two requests for proposals. First proposal is to expand MAT for evenings, weekends and on call. Second proposal is for residential treatment provider looking to purchase beds to expand services.
  - Howard House is relocating to a new facility in Ellicott City on 108, upgrading from 15 to 16 beds. Hoping to have all the approvals by Friday, February 8th. It was a 3.1 is now 3.3.
    - 3.3: moderate intensity residential, medically focused, required 40 hours a week for every 30 patients, 20 hours of clinical a week, physician for 8 hours.
    - 3.1: low intensity residential treatment, require 5 hours therapeutic, no medical staff requirements, requirements for counselor/mental health.
  - Year to date 2019 vs 2018 we are down 5 percent for fatal and non- fatal combined.
  - Legislature updates from Chairperson
  - Maryland Coalition of Families is looking for families who had challenges with insurance or any other problems being treated differently for substance use disorder. Let Beth know about sharing their stories for the Legislature.
- Council Educational Moments
  - Fran Trout from Howard County Office of Workforce Development
    - Presentation on the work her office does and how they help individuals in the community struggling to enter or reenter the workforce
    - (Presentation attached)

- Discussion on Fran's presentation:
      - More beneficial for individuals to come to the office for resume training rather than on site visits
      - Services for those younger than 18
        - Youth counselor
        - Making Change is a good resource for younger than 18
        - Financial literacy from Banks good resource
      - Youth Program
        - 8-10 kids help get summer employment
        - 20 hours/week
        - Goes out through the schools
        - Each year the eligibility changes
        - Workshops: Internet safety, giving back, career exploration-guided research on two career field
      - Can sign up for workforce exchange at home
      - Track of participants
        - Federal tracking of who gets a job, who keeps a job, and how much money
        - Usually see around 800 people per month
      - Anyone can use general services but there is priority to Howard county residents
- Kim Wireman, Powell Recovery
  - Serve the poor of Baltimore city
  - Offer a full continuum of care
    - Full complement of doctors and nurses with addictions medicines
    - Withdrawal management
    - Offer 3.3, 3.5, 3.1 levels of care
    - Every outpatient level of care
    - Outpatient mental health clinic
    - About 50% present with cooccurring mental illness, out of that 50% about 70% severe mental illness
  - Psych rehab "life" program
  - Provides additional assistance for clients with severe mental illness
  - State of MD defines who gets to belong
- Typical client is late 30s early 40s
  - About 25 percent between 18 and 30 years old
  - Typical clients are homeless and have used opioids for 15-20 years, never been employed
  - About 60% clients present fentanyl positive
  - About 50% present positive for cocaine
- Provide Treatment on Demand
  - Goal is to provide access to treatment in 24 hours of first contact
  - Reach this goal 95 to 100 percent of the time for new client's consistency
  - Committed to rapid and immediate access to treatment
  - First day they receive psych social, see the doctor, approved and medicate, placed in residential care, given clothing and food, and safety
- Outreach team

- “On the block staff” - carry Narcan- 2 packets of 4mg
    - Every 30-45 days they administer Narcan about a block and a half away (between Lombard and Baltimore)
  - In July 2017, Medicaid began to reimburse for higher levels of residential care
    - Since then they have opened about 120 to 130 residential beds
    - In the process of converting about 200 more beds
  - Typically costs about \$7,000-\$10,000 to open up a recovery house for anywhere from 6-15 people
    - Suiting out houses, then seeking fire inspection and U&O takes about 2-3 weeks
    - State requires to be accredited typically takes 3 weeks
    - Apply to BHA for license which takes 2-5 weeks
    - Send through E prep to Medicaid, takes about 4 weeks including site visit (ACA requires site visit)
    - Beacon has to turn on which takes 2-3 days
    - This whole process takes about 2-3 months to get through regulations
    - Trying to get as many houses as they can
  - **Residential treatment works**
    - Reduction in separations
    - Food provided at residential house really helps clients
    - Safe environment helps clients
    - In January 3.1 care began to be covered
      - Creates a highly beneficial continuum of care
      - High intensity for 1-2 months, then 3.1 for 90 days, then 60-day renewal and then renewal every 30-days depending on progress
      - 5-6-month residential continuum is extremely beneficial
    - Once residential continuum is complete we need to do something else
      - Goal is to have a 24-month continuum
      - Housing is usually the piece that gets in the way
      - Hope to provide supportive housing at various levels
      - Need to make it affordable with grant funding
      - Also want to begin an intervention of some sort to help people who have never been employed enter workforce
      - Pilot: 4-6 people in a house in the city, \$7000 to open one of those houses, regular check-ins, toxicology 3 times a week
  - Discussion on 2-year pilot on keeping clients out of the Emergency Room
    - Tremendous cost on the health system
    - Saved the system \$730,000 in unnecessary Emergency Room visits by having a nurse assess someone and then drive them to Patient First
  - Powell takes clients from anywhere not just from Baltimore
- Reminder that our goal is to educate us in this room, keep an energy of hope
- Committee Progress Reports & Discussion
  - Chamber Event – Excellent Event
    - 140 people registered
    - DLLR Erin Roth Deputy Assistant Secretary was a great panelist
    - Left audience wanting to learn more
      - Good questions
      - Lawyer had great points for employers

- Goal is to connect more with the MBIA
  - Rotary Club would like to be trained in Naloxone
  - Safe Inspection Site Bill Update
    - Pilot program for 6 sites throughout the state
    - Hearing on Feb 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Other Committee Updates will be sent into Chairperson
- Goal Setting – Next Steps
- Adjourn
  - Motion: Debbie Nix
  - Second: Mark Donovan
    - Meeting adjourned: 6:50pm
  - Continuing:
  - **NOTE:** Please send fliers to all for announcements ahead of the meeting.
  - Future Dates:
    - March 6, 2019
    - April 3, 2019
    - May 1, 2019
    - June 5, 2019
    - July 3, 2019
    - August to March 2020 TBD
- Months Remaining to Accomplish Goals: 14

APPROVED