

HOWARD COUNTY

Opioid Crisis Community Council

June 5, 2019 5:15 – 6:45 pm Columbia/Ellicott Room, George Howard Building
3420 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043 Call in: 410.313.141

Individuals Present:

Barbara Allen, Flora Betro, Theresa Collins, Liesele Wood, Beth Harbinson, Sean Hughes, Chris McCabe, Debbie Nix, Teron Powell, Chris Collins (for Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy), Laura Torres, Joan Web Scornaienchi, Polly Stavrou, Yolanda Vazquez, John Way, Beth Schmidt

5:20 Meeting called to order.

Teron made a motion to approve the May 1 meeting minutes, Flora 2nd; approved as submitted.

Comment: agenda emailed had incorrect date.

Announcements:

- IOAD Flyer was sent out. August 31 falls on the Saturday before Labor Day.
- Flora - MBIA Breakfast will be rescheduled to September – date TBA. MBIA team will meet again on 6/12.
- John Way - Mental Health First Aid classes to be held on 6/19 & 6/20, for Veteran's and their family members w/Narcan training.
- Beth H – New Years Eve event “Sobar Soiree”, upscale NYE ‘party with a purpose’, an alcohol-free event for up to 250 guests. Tickets will go on sale in mid-June.

Barb asked folks for topics for upcoming meetings including educational opportunities, speakers. Beth Schmidt suggested someone from the DEA about their 360 Initiative. Flora suggested someone who can speak to CBD oil used to help folks in recovery, or as an alternate to pain relief, anxiety treatment and more. Discussion ensued about the validity of research vs. anecdotal evidence. Beth H suggested we broaden our reach to include other alternative treatment modalities, such as acupuncture, meditation, etc. Barbara asked members to email her with other suggestions.

Attrition of members – lost Office of Emergency Management staff support and minute takers. Debbie will take minutes until someone permanently steps up. Beth H. will be back-up for minute taking. Also, we have lost lived-experience

advocates Drema Bonavitacola and Kathy Kirchner. Suggestions for new members, check with Grassroots, Office on Aging, DCRS (Department of Community Resources and Services). We reviewed the remaining meeting dates for 2019 – **NOTE:** Nov/Dec, we will meet in the Barton Room at the Health Department 8930 Stanford Blvd, Columbia, MD 21045.

Flora asked about County Executive staff presence. Carl DeLorenzo and Angela Cabellon are accessible to Barbara and will come to meetings when their schedules permit. Yolanda Vazquez from the State's Attorney's office is committed to attending regularly.

Committee reporting:

Prevention Committee – Ana and Robin met with SA Rich Gibson re possible collaborations which was positive but no actionable items as of yet. Liesele noted other efforts including Chronic Pain Management sessions, Guiding Good Choices w/Detention Center, pilot project on Academic Detailing for primary care and urgent care doctors which includes a 5 minute presentation along with 40 Deterra bags. Please send Liesele info on any Dr.'s or urgent care facility that would be open to the presentation she has prepared.

Barbara reports that MD is one of twenty states asking for regulation changes to increase the numbers of doctor's who can prescribe medication assisted therapy (MAT) treatment medications (buprenorphine, etc) Note: Teron reported training for Narcan/naloxone is being done at Silverman Treatment and Beth Schmidt reported Maryland Coalition of Families is doing similar training for naloxone.

Enforcement & Adjudication – Theresa said that fatalities in HOCO are down 66%, YTD!! Much improvement, but still a long way to go... also, the program that had been planned with HCPD, etc. is now being rescheduled for the fall.

Community Engagement - Flora said she is in discussion with Miller's Grant (senior living residence) re: Opioids, medication storage and disposal, family member involvement. Beth H. suggested comprehensive program for senior living communities. Joan, HCDrug Free, says she has an existing program. Liesele said the Health Department has a chronic pain program @ Miller's Grant. It was generally agreed that having a protocol for senior living centers would be a good thing. Flora continues to work with MBIA for a fall event.

Treatment & Recovery Committee – Laura Torres and Beth H. report that Carl DeLorenzo came to their sub-committee meeting. They reported on the County/Delphi Health partnership on the inpatient unit coming to the County. There is \$3M (\$1M per year) in the budget for this facility. 35% of beds to be Medicaid beds, 65% private pay/commercial insurance. There will be several beds

reserved for HoCo residents. This committee is partnering with the Health Department to create a “business card” with treatment resource information that anyone can hand out. Simple, effective messaging is being worked on with consistent messaging. Lisielle reports that Steve Shuh, director of Maryland's Opioid Operational Command Center (OCCC) will be coming to HCHD on June 14 and the card should be complete by then.

Barbara reports that **HelpHopeHoward** website is the vehicle the County wants to use and will be reactivated; Scott Peterson, Communication Director is the point of contact. Chris from HCHD reports that the Network of Care website has a vendor who uploads the current information quarterly for any provider in each county.

Beth H. shared her frustration, while in family crisis, with the “silos” of information, multiple resources that are not integrated and hard to find. The community wants...no needs, data access in the here and NOW, especially when in crisis.

Next OCCC meeting will be Wednesday, July 3 at the George Howard Building, 5:15 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Nix**