

THE MARYLAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

May 17, 2022

Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council (BHAC) Members Present: Robert Anderson, Lynda Bonieskie, Kate Breen, Lori Brewster, Andrea Brown, Lisa A. Burgess, Kenneth Collins, Kathryn Dilley, Johanna M. Dolan, The Hon. Addie Eckardt, Kate Farinholt, Karen Foxman, Ann Geddes, Lauren Grimes, Candace Harris, Dayna Harris, Tammy Holt, Helene Hornum, Aliya Jones, Jennifer Krabill, The Hon. George Lipman, Michelle Livshin, Tammy Loewe, Sharon MacDougall, Dan Martin, The Hon. Dana Moylan Wright, Caterina Pangilinan, Mary Pizzo, Tiffany Rexrode, Keith Richardson, Kirsten Robb-McGrath, Tim Santoni, Deneice Valentine, Vickie Walters, Ambrosia Watts, Kimberlee Watts, Kim Wireman

Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council Members Absent:

Timothy Barksdale, Joseline Castanos, Catherine Drake, Finch Grace, Rosanne Hanratty, Carlos Hardy, Joyce N. Harrison, Kathryn Hart, Bari Klein, Sylvia Lawson, Brendel Mitchell, Jade Naylor, Robin Sabatini

Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) Staff Present:

Abigail Gadbois, Sarah Reiman, Doris Chen, Kaylin McJilton, Brendan Welsh, Natalee Solomon, Sheone Lewis, Greta Carter, Laura Burns-Heffner, Brittnei Howell, Darren McGregor, Eleanor Dayhoff, Joann Shivers, Lillian Okomo

Guests:

Barbara Allen, James' Place Inc.
Catherine Gray, Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, Inc.
Lori Mannino, Maryland Department of Health
Diana Seybolt, University of Maryland, Systems Evaluation Center
Jacquelyn Pettis, Optum Maryland
Erin Schaffer, Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Teresa Heath, Maryland Opioid Operational Command Center
Josh Howe, Compass Government Relations Partners
Mary Drexler, Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling
Heather Eshleman, Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling
Maria Daniels, Mid-Shore Behavioral Health
Margo Quinlan, Mental Health Association of Maryland (MHAMD)
Haley Rizkallah
Georgia Stevens

INTRODUCTIONS AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Katie Dilley, co-chair, opened the meeting and welcomed all members and guests. She reviewed logistics for conducting the meeting virtually, including the use of the camera option, muting phones (*6 to mute and *6 to unmute), joining by either phone or Google Meet but not both due to the chance of interference, and how to pin the interpreters if needed. Minutes from the March 15, 2022 BHAC meeting were reviewed and approved with corrections. Approved minutes will be posted on the Behavioral Health Administration's website at: [Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council](#).

BHA UPDATES AND INTRODUCTION – Dr. Lisa A. Burgess, Acting Deputy Secretary/Executive Director, Behavioral Health Administration

Dr. Lisa A. Burgess has returned to the Behavioral Health Administration as Acting Deputy Secretary. She thanked the BHAC for reviewing and providing comments regarding BHA's Projects for Assistance in Transition for Homelessness (PATH) application last month. BHA submitted the application to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) on April 25, 2022. BHA applied for \$1.2 million from SAMHSA to continue funding for outreach, screening and diagnostic services, housing assistance, referral to jobs, training, and other supported services, as well as Supplemental Security Income/Social Disability Insurance (SSI/SSDI) outreach access and recovery for individuals who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in Baltimore City or the other Maryland jurisdictions. Secondly, in regards to the bed board, BHA is working on moving residential rehabilitation data to the registry. The bed board is a spreadsheet or dashboard to track the availability of Residential Rehabilitation Program (RRP) beds. BHA's Clinical Services Division's Office of Gender Services is hosting a Safe Sleep webinar Thursday May 19 for residential programs and recovery residences. There are about 3,500 sleep related deaths among U.S. babies each year. This webinar will explain the goal of safe sleep to providers and provide suggestions to moms to keep their children safe. Fourth, in response to the growing interest on the topic of brain injury and its impact on behavioral health, BHA is offering a free three hour virtual training titled: Traumatic Brain Injury Overview for Behavioral Health Professionals May 20 from 1-4pm. BHA has received a tremendous response to this training and this training is already filled. BHA is planning additional training in FY23. BHA has launched Mental Health First Aid at Maryland's four historically Black colleges and universities. This initiative is funded through SAMHSA's Mental Health block grant and is being coordinated by the Mental Health Association of Maryland. The goal is to train up to 20,000 students, faculty and staff in mental health first aid over the next four year. Lastly, with regards to the certified peer recovery specialists workforce, BHA and MDH Medicaid are partnering together to start developing the mechanism and

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associated rates for services facilitated by peer recovery specialists in specific SUD settings. This reimbursement mechanism will be active sometime in FY23.

Dr. Burgess introduced new BHA staff: Director of Suicide Prevention - Dionne Bowie; Director of State Hospital Discharge Initiatives - Puja Shukla; Regional Placement Coordinator - Robert Rowley.

BHA continues to work with MDH, the local behavioral health authorities, and providers on COVID related efforts. Several providers have set up vaccination clinics partnering with local pharmacies or partnering with MDH vaccination teams. BHA has hired Stephanie House to lead vaccination outreach efforts.

MDH has made available COVID test kits for residential providers including residential treatment centers (RTCs), residential rehabilitation programs (RRPs), residential crisis group houses and recovery residences. These efforts are being coordinated through the local behavioral health authorities and health departments.

BHA is also awarding residential substance use treatment providers that applied and were selected for COVID block grant funding to purchase COVID testing kits, personal protection equipment (PPE), and supplies.

The Good Samaritan public service announcement (PSA) will air on multiple media platforms.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Katie Dilley shared that the regional stakeholder meetings will be held May 24, 25, 31 and June 1, 2022. Please reach out to Greta Carter for the registration information.

There are new BHAC members. Dr. Lisa Burgess is the designated representative from the Office of the Deputy Secretary of Behavioral Health. Bari Klein represents the Maryland County Behavioral Health Advisory Councils for the Northern Region. There are two vacancies for a parent of a young child with behavioral health disorders (2 slots). The following BHAC committees need co-chairs: Criminal Justice/Forensic committee, Cultural and Linguistic Competency, Prevention committee, and Planning committee.

The committees meeting immediately following today's BHAC meeting are the Children, Young Adults, and Families committee, Planning committee, Criminal Justice/Forensic committee,

and

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the Cultural and Linguistic Competency committee. The Recovery Services and Support committee will be meeting Monday June 6 from 2:30pm - 4pm. The Prevention committee will not be meeting today.

There are multiple openings for state hospital boards, including Clifton T. Perkins, Springfield Hospital Center (SHC), Eastern Shore Hospital Center (ESHC), Spring Grove Hospital Center (SGHC), and Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents (RICA Baltimore). They are in need of any health professionals or public members with an interest in mental health or SUD. They prefer members who reside in the hospital catchment areas. They meet 4-6 times a year either at the facility or virtually. They update all openings weekly. This is the link:

<http://govappointments.maryland.gov/>

For more information about these openings, please contact Kim Bennardi at kim.bennardi@maryland.gov.

Mary Drexler, Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling shared in the chat: The 9th Annual Conference on Problem Gambling will be held on Friday June 17th, 2022 from 8:30am to 4PM. It is free and will offer 6.5 CEU's if you attend the full day. There will be no partial CEU's awarded. To register go to mdproblemgambling.com

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Katie Dilley shared that the BHAC Executive Team met last month to discuss the process of adopting BHAC goals that coordinate with the goals that are being developed by the committees. By identifying and comparing these common goals, the hope is to help identify the overarching goals of the council as a whole. The Local Behavioral Health Authorities have wrapped up their local plan reviews with BHA. BHAC will be working with BHA to identify common themes of the local plans to better inform the council on the behavioral health state plan. The Federal block grant application will be completed by September 1, 2022. The Planning committee has been in discussion with BHA on the best ways that the BHAC can be involved with reviewing the Block Grant.

PRESENTATION - Maryland General Assembly 2022 Legislative Updates:

Dan Martin, Senior Director of Public Policy, Mental Health Association of Maryland

Slides are available upon request.

Notable bills passed:

- Behavioral Health System Modernization Act (SB 637 / HB 935)
- Maryland 988 (SB 241 / HB 293) - creates a fund to support the 988 infrastructure

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- HB 766 - streamlines the youth residential treatment process
- Time to Care Act (SB 275) - reduce adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)
- SB 691 - reforms Maryland's juvenile justice system
- SB 559 - authorizes use of supported decision-making agreements with a goal of preventing the need for guardianship
- SB 707 / HB 912 - prevents "balance billing" by requiring insurers to cover out-of-network care at "no greater cost" than for services received in-network, if an in-network provider is not available
- SB 94 / HB 48 - establishes a Suicide Fatality Review Committee

For more information:

Dan Martin

Senior Director of Public Policy

Mental Health Association of Maryland

dmartin@mhamd.org

PRESENTATION - 2022 Enacted Legislation

Sarah Reiman, Director of Planning, BHA

Slides are available upon request.

BHA Deliverables for Enacted Bills:

- HB 0837 Cannabis Reform
- HB 1086 / SB 0419 Opioid Restitution Fund - Appropriation of Settlement Funds ● SB 0174 Mortality and Quality Review Committee - Duties, Reports, and Data - Sunset Extension
- SB 0196 Maryland Department of Health - Overdose Report
- HB 0097 Workgroup on Black, Latino, Asian American Pacific Islander, and Other Underrepresented Behavioral Health Professionals
- HB 0794 Public Health - Opioid Restitution Fund Advisory Council
- HB 0971 Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Substance Use Disorder Treatment - Network Adequacy
- SB 0394 Statewide Targeted Overdose Prevention (STOP) Act of 2022

For more information:

If there are questions on the specifics of a bill, this is the link to the full text on the

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Abigail Gadbois
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Questions and Comments:

Q: Tammy Loewe - Was there a bill streamlining the youth residential treatment process (HB776) that Dan mentioned with the LBHAs helping to reduce the need for voluntary placement agreements?

A: Abigail Gadbois - HB776 was passed out of the General Assembly but has not been acted upon by the Governor. He has until the end of the month.

Q: Michelle Livshin - Do you happen to have any information about when the opioid restitution fund will be convening?

A: Abigail Gadbois - The Opioid Operational Command Center (OCC) is leading that effort for the Maryland State Government. I would reach out to Marianne Gibson or someone at the OCC for information on that.

Q: Heather Eshleman - Will this council or BHA provide information on the mental health affects of marijuana use so voters can make an informed decision in November? **A:** Sarah Reiman will bring this question back to BHA.

Q: Tim Santoni - Can BHA or BHAC comment (now or in the future) on the evaluation process of the sale of the Spring Grove campus? It doesn't seem that there is a plan for a replacement facility.

A: Kate Farinholt - The co-chairs have discussed this. It is important that we have a report on this as well as on the state facilities plan. It is important that we review the evaluation process. We will put this on the agenda for an upcoming scheduled meeting or during another opportunity outside of a scheduled meeting. If you feel there is something of importance relating to behavioral health, please bring it to the council.

Katie Dilley agreed with Kate Farinholt and added that perhaps at a future meeting, there could be a presentation on the master facilities plan.

Tim Santoni added that there is a law that requires the proceeds of the sale of the facility to go into a trust fund. The valuation of the land has an important impact on that process.

Senator Eckardt commented that the BHAC is a broad-based group with the ability to influence policy at the state level. It is important to have clarity on the plan and make sure research has been done on the laws impacting that.

Kate Farinholt - The work of the committees and council is important. We do have a statutory role to be advocates. If there is anyone who is interested in joining a committee, please let us know.

Katie Dilley encouraged the BHAC members to participate in the Regional Stakeholder meetings to voice concerns in the jurisdictions.

Link to the 2022 Regional Stakeholder Meeting-Registration Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNui0kHXUrLdtqw3sHbVkuUV7YkGqWyBPbYIE9G898Cx87WLw/viewform?usp=sf_link

COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

Planning Committee:

Criminal Justice/Forensic Committee:

Judge Lipman - One issue that has been postponed is dealing with the question of probation supervision and pretrial release supervision. Judge Lipman had a discussion with Rob Green, Secretary of Public Safety. He will come to the next meeting and discuss this topic. Another topic that the committee is focused on is residential substance use treatment and 8507 drug court. The committee is meeting after the BHAC meeting today.

Vickie Walters - She represents the Maryland Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence. They are hearing that the Sheriff in Harford County is giving overdose reversal information from EMS to local parole probation, and they are violating individuals with overdoses. Has anyone heard anything about this?

Judge Lipman has not heard anything about this. He has actually seen opposite and positive results with police departments in other jurisdictions.

Kate Farinholt encouraged Vickie Walters to find documentation of this and send it to the co-chairs. Jackie Pettis commented in the chat - Peers mentioned the Harford County Police issue last week at a training when we discussed the Maryland Good Samaritan Law during a

training last week.

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Children, Young Adults, and Families Committee

Ann Geddes - The committee looked at BHA's children's report that comes out annually. There is data on service utilization for children ages 0-25. The committee has various presentations and sets priorities for the upcoming year. The committee is focusing on early childhood ages 0-3. There were recommendations made supporting that population. The early childhood folks have a lengthy agenda. A priority that was made was that the Infant Mental Health Association be funded so they can move their agenda forward. We set an agenda item to strengthen and increase the availability of home and community based services for youth and families with high intensity needs. Data showed that those services are underutilized when compared to child care fee services. The committee supports using evidence-based practices in those programs. There is a focus on expanding young adult peer support. Young adults use Emergency departments more than any other population group in the under 25 age group. Family peer support is also another area of interest. Today there are two presentations. One is on the impact of the juvenile justice reform bill. The second is on the Social Security Administration's report on service needs of families and children involved with child welfare.

Q: Kate Farinholt - Will the presentations be recorded?

A: Ann Geddes - Sure they can be recorded.

The next Behavioral Health Advisory Council Meeting is July 19, 2022.