

**Howard County's Local Children's Board
Meeting Minutes
9/18/18**

Attendees

	Charmayne Anderson, Community (excused)	√	Khiem Doan, Youth Member		Mary Mukherjee, MSDE (excused)
√	Fayth Bowie, Youth Member	√	Dawn Duignan, Community	√	Edisa Padder, Community
	Dario Broccolino, States Attorney		Father Fazolini, Community (excused)	√	Melissa Rosenberg, Autism Society
√	Karen Butler, DSS		Hector Garcia, FIRN (excused)	√	Maura Rossman, Health Department
√	John Byrd, DRP	√	Gary Gardner, HCPD	√	Jackie Scott, DCRS
√	Erica Byrne, Voices for Children	√	Tonya Kennon, Library		Francine Trout, Office of Workforce (excused)
√	Kelly Cimino, DHCD	√	Tim Madden, DJS		
√	Bitia Dayhoff, CAC		Michael Martirano, HCPSS (excused)		

Staff: Kim Eisenreich, Marsha Dawson, Sucora Best, Candace Ball

Public Attendees: Kim Oldham, State's Attorney Office; James LeMon, HCPSS; Sean Hollywood, DCRS; Tanisha Robinson, DORS; Ann Adalist-Estrin, NRCCFL; Joelle Robinson, Rodia LLC

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Welcome and introductions were made.

John welcomed Fayth Bowie, additional youth member to be confirmed after the installation of the new County Council

Roll Call

Charmayne Anderson, Father Fazolini, Hector Garcia, Dr. Martirano, and Mary Mukherjee - Excused

Consent Agenda

Approval of June 2018 Minutes – Motion made by Melissa, seconded by Erica; All Approved

Committee and Program Updates

Executive Committee – John

GOC conducted their monitoring visit on 8/28/18. There were six findings related to fiscal oversight, vendor audits and equipment fixed assets. These findings are detailed in the Executive Committee Report and a final GOC report is forthcoming and will be distributed to the board.

NOFA Committee Recommendation – John

The NOFA committee worked to reallocate \$37,000 in FY19 funds to address Food Access and Mental Health priorities.

- \$6,000 for warrior snack packs program so meals can be provided over winter and spring breaks.
- \$11,000 for certified trauma training for mental health providers.
- \$20,000 to be allocated for BYR clients, for PRP services.

Motion to approve Committee recommendations made by Erica, Seconded by Kelly; All Approved

Choice – Erica

Choice Program will continue under the Choice Jobs program. This program is focused on preparing youth age 14-24. The program used a community- based model. Model focuses on supportive planning, job preparedness, and job placement. The Choice Program funded by LCB in FY18 is now fully funded by DJS and operating out of the DJS offices.

Mental Health Committee – Dawn

The Mental Health Advisory Council, is a new collaboration effort, consisting of community members, mental health providers, health care providers, public agencies, the school system, and non-profit organizations to work towards positive mental health for all youth in Howard County.

The Council's structure is based on the Early Childhood Advisory Committee. The Council will focus on three target areas; Mental Health Promotion, Training and Education, and Intervention.

Strengthening Families - Karen

The RFP for this program has been released and is due on September 28, 2018. Updates will be given at the next Board meeting on November 20, 2018.

Equity Report Presentation – Joelle Robinson, Rodia Inc.

The Howard County Equity Report will be a Call to Action for community leaders, businesses, residents, and other stakeholders. For this report "equity" is being defined as, all residents being able to fully participate and benefit from the county's resources and services.

Rodia Inc., completed community engagement conversations with 16+ groups to gather qualitative data. The draft of the Call to Action and timeline of the report was discussed. Board members, may request a draft copy of the report to review and edit from the LCB. Maura suggested having stronger and more specific recommendations in the Call to Action, rather than general information sharing and exploring.

The Equity Committee is still working to find a balance between short-term goals vs. long-term systematic change.

Learning Agenda

Health Department/MHA Integration - Maura

The Mental Health Authority (Core Service Agency) and Local Addictions Authority, are now combined as the Behavioral Health Bureau. Together, they are overseeing public funded substance and mental health treatments in Howard County.

For many years, these were two separate entities, one non-profit and one government agency. What's been learned is that mental health and substance use often show as co-occurring conditions. From both funding and treatment perspectives, a separate system is no longer ideal to properly serve our citizens.

Currently 1/3 of counties in the state have integrated these agencies. The first Local Behavioral Health Board meeting was held on September 13, 2018. The Board is currently looking for individuals involved in behavioral health services to be representatives on the Board. The Health Department is also recruiting for a Deputy Behavioral Health Director, with expertise in mental health. Additionally, referrals for mental health services will now go directly to the health department, and then referred to the proper person using a "no wrong door" approach.

Impact of Incarceration on Families (Ann Adalist-Estrin)

Ann discussed the National numbers of families affected by incarceration. Children and family data is collected by using sample populations, very rarely detention centers will conduct counts of families for more accurate numbers. The currently released data from Department of Justice is from 2008. The Child Welfare System, is starting to collect data on incarceration within the family system.

NRCCFI, focuses on trauma and health of children of incarcerated parents. An example, of this data showed that for common health disorders in America, the chance for a child of incarcerated parent to develop them is double that of a child without incarcerated parents. This is mainly due to health disorder's connection to stress. Our data shows most incarcerated parents are convicted for non-violent offenses. However, studies also show that violent offenders are more

likely to show better parenting skills than non-violent offenders once enrolled into a parenting program. This is a direct impact of violent crime offense definitions.

In Maryland, The GOC has a priority area focused on the impact of incarceration on families. NRCCFI developed “The White Paper” which described challenges to implementation of programs for families impacted by incarceration in Maryland. These included, stigma, lack of data, inaccurate assumptions, population-relevance for curriculum, and reliance of relationships, specifically with the justice centers.

In Howard County, the data suggests that 47% of foster children in Howard County are impacted by incarceration. NRCCFI, has recommended for Howard County to adapt the Strengthening Families program model to include current information about trauma, and work with children of younger ages. A challenge for Howard County, is that many children’s parents who are incarcerated are not incarcerated in Howard County. It would be pertinent to build a relationship with the Detention Center for data collection, create focus group, and continue to work on program adaptation.

Khiem asked about ways to reduce stigma for children impacted by incarceration. NRCCFI’s suggestion is to do universal outreach, in all communities and zip codes regardless of data. They also suggested making departments “incarceration friendly”, this means having strength-based advertisements, and making it an approachable subject.

Strengthening Families is currently being implemented in the Detention Center in Jessup, Maryland. Additionally, an RFP has been released to begin this program for other members of the community.

HC Libraries and Food Access - Tonya Kennon

Tonya discussed the HCLS partnership with HCPSS, and Kids Table to provide meals for children over the summer, 5 days per week. There were 2 different sites, Central (Kids Table) and East Columbia Branch Libraries (HCPSS). Central Branch library staff, provided the service at that location. They went to the training and completed the meals themselves, including set-up each day.

While HCPSS staff, were responsible for the East Columbia Branch. HCLS protected privacy of participants and made sure to advocate for privacy by not allowing pictures to be taken. The availability for anyone to qualify for the meals reduced stigma, and made the meals more of a community event.

Most days they averaged 20-30 meals, and some days they served over 100 meals. Central Branch was not able to benefit from HCPSS marketing, and saw the lowest turnout. However, they worked with the community and engaged those in the library. Nutrition also became a way to connect children and families. Families signed up for library cards, and were enrolled into programs. Community member feedback was positive, despite disruption of “usual activities” for non-participants.

HCLS is looking to expand next summer to other locations and include meals during winter and spring breaks. Next year, they would like to implement an evaluation tool for data reporting, and increase partnerships to include services that program participants need, including vision/hearing screenings, food for caregivers, and books to own.

Fiscal Audit Report - Sean Hollywood

The Fiscal Audit Report for the Local Children’s Board has been completed. There were no findings. Electronic Copies of all audits have been sent to LCB members.

In accordance with GOC requirements, all vendors and grantees must also submit their audits to the LCB for review or request a waiver. Family and Children Services, report on internal control and compliances, was submitted and no

findings were reported. The Family Tree, also submitted their audit report, which had no findings. The LCB will continue to review LCB office audits, as well as grantee and vendor audits.

Announcements

Maura - September is Suicide Awareness Month. The Howard County Health Department will be unveiling its Youth Suicide Prevention Report, and campaign to work on our prevention, and awareness as a county. More updates to follow.

Fayth Bowie - is the new additional student representative. She is starting her first year at Marriot's Ridge High School and has been involved in Youth Advisory Council and Voices.

John - Prescription for Parks update; Rec/Parks has been meeting with the Health Department on the project. Currently outreach materials are being created, more updates to follow.

Kim - LCB Staffing updates: Quinton Askew has transitioned from our Multi-Service Center and is now Program Manager of the Community Engagement Team within the Office of the Local Children's Board. Valerie Harvey has transitioned from The Office of Children and Families to be a part of the Community Engagement Team within LCB

Events of Note:

1. September 20th- DCRS Campus Open House from 2:00 pm- 4:00 pm.
2. Friday, September 28th, Voices for Children fundraiser – A Vintage Affair held at the Historic Oakland on Vantage Point Rd. Call Erica for tickets 410-740-0933.
3. October 6th – Autism Society 5K Walk/Run, contact Melissa for more information.
4. October 27th- Trunk or Treat at the Gary Arthur Community Center, see John for locations and more information.
5. Un-design the Redline Exhibit, at the Central Branch Library. Public tours and reflection sessions are available.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:17 a.m. – Motion made by Melissa to adjourn, Seconded by Karen

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 20, 2018