

Howard County
Disability Inclusion, Safety and Crisis Response Task Force

Work Session #3 (Hybrid Meeting)

September 28, 2026

12 pm to 4 pm

NonProfit Collaborative

9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD 21046

[Virtual Link](#)

1. Introductions and minutes from August 24
2. Co-chair updates
3. Brief review of meeting materials
 - a) Table of draft recommendations and data
 - b) Notes from community sessions
 - c) Community survey
4. Conversation with Leigh Anne McKingsley, Senior Director of Disability and Justice Initiatives, The Arc of the US
 - a) What can Howard County learn from real-world examples?
 - b) Best practices - what things have paved the way for other communities?
5. Discussion of Task Force Recommendations
 - a) What is needed to implement each recommendation?
 - i. Legislation? Funding? Culture change? Partnership? Others?
 - ii. What is the accountability mechanism? How will we track the change?
 - b) Should any recommendations be prioritized or removed?
6. Community Survey
7. Other items
 - a) State Summit on BH and the Justice System (held Sept 16 - 17)
 - b) Baltimore City Diversion Program
8. Next steps
 - a) October 4 - Community survey closes
 - b) October 6 - Final task force discussion
 - c) October 6 to 12 - Final revisions to recommendations
 - d) October 13 or 15 (To be scheduled) - Virtual voting session

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Resources Shared to Date

- I. [HCPD General Orders and SOPs related to Mental Health and IDD](#)
 - a. Note: All HCPD policies are publicly available [here](#), if needed.
- II. [July 30 task force presentation](#) on HCPD training practices
- III. [Behavioral Health Crisis Response Triage Matrix](#)
- IV. [Law Enforcement Response to Persons with IDD's \(RAND\)](#)
- V. [Vera Institute Literature Review of Crisis Response Services](#)
- VI. [Autism and Safe Police Interactions](#)
- VII. [Autistic Communication Suggestions](#)
- VIII. [COMAR Mobile Crisis Team Regulations](#)
- IX. Fire/EMS tools/trainings nationwide:
 - a. <https://ibcces.org/blog/2024/04/12/alexandria-fire-dept/>
 - b. <https://www.allhandsfiretraining.com/course-catalog/specialized-training/autism-awareness>
 - c. <https://traubassoc.com/first-responder-disability-training/>
 - d. <https://jemstraining.com/courses/autism-awareness-for-first-responders/>
 - e. <https://iddsafe.com/>
 - f. <https://nps-aid.org/blue-envelope-program/>
 - g. <https://autismsociety.org/first-responder/>