

Local Behavioral Health Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

March 9th, 2022, 5:00 pm

Howard County Health Department (HCHD), WebEx Platform

Present: Jama Acuff, Stephanie Adibe (for Jacqueline Scott), Michele Brown, Julie Cleveland, Lisa Davis, Mark Donovan, Janet Edelman, Robert Ehrhardt, Ayesha Holmes, Cindy Johnson, Genny LaPorte, Stephen Liggett-Creel, Stephanie Porter, Kelly Proctor, John Way, Andre’a Watkins, Joan Webb-Scornaienchi, Hilari Young

Excused: Stephen Foster, Delmonica Hawkins, Brook Hubbard, Orlando Wright

Unexcused:

HCHD Staff: Tia Gaymon, Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Shereen Cabrera-Bentley, Leah Bulka

Guests: Douglas Heinrichs, Sarah Kitlowski

Welcome and Introductions	Meeting began at 5:02pm	
Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve amended Board Meeting Agenda for March 9 th , 2022 Add Action Item to Proposal Committee Review Updates: Motion to approve the FY22 grants from the Board	Vote: The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve Board Meeting Minutes for February 9 th , 2022	Vote: The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
Attendance Review	Stephen F., Delmonica, Brook and Orlando were excused from this month’s meeting.	
Presentations	Leah Bulka, Suicide Prevention Coordinator – Howard County Health Department – The 2019 Youth Suicide Prevention Campaign “It’s Ok to Ask” has been expanded to include messaging across the lifespan. The goals of the Suicide Prevention Campaign include: to increase help-seeking behavior, to destigmatize reaching out for help, to encourage individuals to reach out to others and to connect the community to appropriate resources. There were 8 main target populations used to collect data for the campaign which included factors such as age, race, national origin and sexual orientation. The messaging for the campaign will help those in need to identify safe and trusted resources such as family, friends and/or professionals. The messaging will also help to destigmatize and raise awareness about certain elements of mental health. This campaign will launch by the end of April 2022. After the launch, the Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) will conduct a suicide prevention roundtable and forum which will include presentations about suicidality and veteran specific issues. Additionally, LHIC has created a coalition which will focus on suicide prevention, intervention and postvention. Leah is	

	<p>working on safe storage and has gun locks and safe storage magnets to promote safe firearm storage. Contact Leah for safe storage materials. The link to the It's Ok to Ask Suicide Prevention Campaign feedback survey can be found here.</p> <p>Contact: lbulka@howardcountymd.gov</p>	
LBHA Director Updates	<p>Roe reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on FY23 Annual Plan, budgets, and Conditions of Awards (COAs)/Scope of Works (SOWs) • The HCHD Strategic Plan was shared • Contracted with Humanim to conduct case management for Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) • Contracted with Way Station for crisis bed expansion in Howard County • Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality (CAMS) Suicide Prevention Pilot project in continuing with an upcoming training in the Spring 2022.vb 	
Program Development & Strategic Planning Committee Updates	<p>Genny reported that the committee provided feedback to Shereen regarding the FY23 Strategic Plan and the feedback has been included.</p> <p>Action Item: Motion to approve the FY23 Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Action Item: Genny will follow up with Roe regarding a work group for youth.</p> <p>Vote: The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.</p>
Board Development Committee Updates	<p>Michele reported that 8 applicants are being interviewed for the Board vacancies. Also, if anyone would like to join the committee to contact Michele.</p> <p>Cindy reported that the committee did not receive any applications to fill the Consumer SUD vacancies. Contact the committee with potential applicants.</p>	
Proposal Review Committee Updates	<p>Hilari reported that 7 proposals were submitted for the Notice of Funds availability (NOFA) but only 4 proposals were eligible to be scored. The highest-ranking proposal was from Humanim Incorporated and they will receive \$3,000 to expand the street outreach program to those experiencing homelessness. The funds will help to purchase supplies such as hot meals, hygiene products and flashlights. Christian Counseling Associates ranked second highest and will receive \$2,000 to develop classes on mental health awareness, anger management, premarital seminars and couples' communications classes.</p> <p>Action Item: Motion to approve funding the two proposals</p>	<p>Vote: The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.</p>
Critical Indicator Committee Updates	<p>Nothing to report</p>	

Chairperson Updates	Janet attend the meetings for the Mental Health Council for the school system and the Maryland Commission to Study Mental Health. Janet has been working on bills in the legislature regarding assisted outpatient treatment and changing the danger standard in Maryland.	Action Item: Janet will share testimonies from Howard County residents submitted in favor of assisted outpatient treatment and change to the danger standard.
Announcements	Ayesha shared that the Congress is working on the Omnibus legislation. The Child Nutrition Waivers that have been in place the last two years were not approved in the House version. The bill has gone to the Senate and is not likely to be put back in their version. This will end a number of programs that we have become dependent on under the Pandemic and could lead to an increase in child hunger this summer. This will also impact school service models and DSS potentially. Programs such as No Kid Hungry continue to advocate but the hope is dim.	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 5:57pm	

Next Meeting Dates: April 13th, 2022, May 11th, 2022, June 8th, 2022

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