

**Howard County  
Opioid Community Crisis Council  
January 5, 2022, via Zoom**

**In attendance:** Barbara Allen, Ana Park, Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Robin Bartko, Sean Hughes, Teron Powell, Kaymisha Knight, Cindy Johnson, Beth Harbinson, Debbie Nix, Sarah Blankenship, Sarah McCoy, Mimi Mathews, Mark Donovan, Joanie Elder, Hilary Young, and Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy

Call to order at 5:17 PM.

Welcome to Sarah Blankenship, peer specialist at MCF. Also welcome to Hillary Young with Parole and Probation.

Robin Bartko moved to approve the November minutes as amended, Mark seconded. Mark moved to approve the December minutes as amended, Beth H. seconded. Both month minutes passed as amended.

#### **Announcements and Updates**

- Howard County Health Department - **Roe Bonaccorsy** shared:
- about the state focus, LBHA's data on COVID rates within Medicaid facilities
- PHP are encouraging vaccinations and more detailed information to be shared across their programs.
- Promotional campaign for Hub and Spoke program; expanding buprenorphine prescribers
- Promotional campaign for alcohol prevention, as we know alcohol abuse has increased as well as substance use during the pandemic.
- Health Department COVID numbers dashboard has not been updated due to the state data breach. Mark placed website information in chat to access current data;  
[www.coronavirusMaryland.Gov](http://www.coronavirusMaryland.Gov)

**Sarah McCoy** talked about data from SBIRT screenings at Grassroots. 79% reported having used alcohol, 32% reported opioids and 56% reported a combination of both.

Barbara talked about the legislative recommendations laid out in the email she sent.

- US Surgeon General report on youth needs.
- Federal & Maryland bills regarding dental care – expansion of Medicaid.
- Involuntary Commitment issues discussion. Pilot program for justice involved individuals, Involuntary commitment continues being discussed for juveniles and adults. Lots of concerns here, MH, BH, SUD.
- Detention Centers – MH and SUD data driving change, improvements.
- At the Federal level, SUD medication expansion Act (buprenorphine).
- BH – facing staffing challenges across the board. Expanding training funding for staff, for Treatment and Prevention.
- Major push for CCBHC (US wide), with both State and Federal funding.

Revamp of the OCCC Executive Order:

- Membership: Who else should be represented on the Council? Suggestions: On Our Own HoCo, Sheppard Pratt, Howard Community College, Parks-n-Recs, HoCo Pride, Kaiser, MedStar, Luminus (formerly FIRN), Sherriff's office, additional clergy - Temple and Mosque representation.
  - Various individuals signed up to contact these and other organizations to potentially recruit under represented groups. Spreadsheet created and shared.
- Barbara has the list of recommendations to update the plan for the OCCC moving forward, to present to the COEX. These recommendations match with available funding.
- The updated executive order is being worked on – drafts sent to Sean H, Joanie and Cindy for review of “whereas section”; “What to do” section to be reviewed by Mark, Mimi, Debbie N.
- Budget development for OCCC plan
- Speakers bureau development
- Road Map inclusion of SUD – establishment of collaboration with Children’s Health Board of Howard County, MCF, HCPSS, HC Drug Free, MHA, Children’s Behavioral Health Coalition.

Meeting adjourned @ 6:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Debbie Nix

APPROVED