Local Behavioral Health Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
April 13th, 2022, 5:00 pm  
Howard County Health Department (HCHD), WebEx Platform

Present: Jama Acuff, Barbara Allen, Stephanie Adibe (for Jacqueline Scott), Michele Brown, Julie Cleveland, Mark Donovan, Janet Edelman, Stephen Foster, Delmonica Hawkins, Brook Hubbard, Cindy Johnson, Genny LaPorte, Geneva Rieu (for Stephen Liggett-Creel), Kelly Proctor, Joan Webb-Scornaienchi, Orlando Wright

Excused: Lisa Davis, Robert Ehrhardt, Ayesha Holmes, Stephanie Porter, John Way, Hilari Young, Andre’a Watkins

Unexcused:

HCHD Staff: Tia Gaymon, Arnelle Smith (for Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy)

Guests: Dana Couch, Karen Duffy, Douglas Heinrichs, Victoria Myles

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic/Agenda</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
<th>Action/Follow-up</th>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome and Introductions</td>
<td>Meeting began at 5:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval of Agenda</td>
<td>Motion to approve Board Meeting Agenda for April 13th, 2022</td>
<td>Vote: The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval of Minutes</td>
<td>Motion to approve Board Meeting Minutes for March 9th, 2022</td>
<td>Vote: The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.</td>
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<td>Attendance Review</td>
<td>Lisa, Robert, Ayesha, Stephanie P., John, Hilari and Andre’a were excused from this month’s meeting.</td>
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<td>Presentations</td>
<td>Karen Duffy, Interim Chief Program Officer – Maryland Coalition of Families (MCF) – MCF is based in Columbia, MD and is a statewide, nonprofit, family run organization that is governed and primarily staffed by people who have lived personal experience of their own or are caring for a loved one with a behavioral health condition. Services provided by MCF are free, all ages are welcomed, and the areas of focus are mental health, substance use and problem gambling. Family Peer Support is using lived experiences to help other families navigate systems, connect to resources and provide emotional support: Connecting, Supporting and Empowering. Some of the benefits in Family Peer Support include: having senses of collaboration and capability, empowerment and ownership where families feel connected to a larger team, being connected to agencies and systems and being able to practice self-care in order to continue helping their loved one. In order to better support the transitional age group (ages 18-26), Taking Flight was formed to provide education around mental health issues, offer peer support and promote adult leadership.</td>
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### LBHA Director Updates
Arnelle reported the following:
- The Bureau of Behavioral Health’s (BBH) Opioid Prevention/Response Team will be present at The Mall in Columbia for outreach 3/30/22 – 6/23/22 10am-6pm. Click [here](#) for dates and more details.
- Narcan trainings will also be hosted at The Mall in Columbia and the first training included about 40 participants.
- Working on a marketing campaign for the Hub and Spoke program.
- For the next fiscal year staff training will be provided to build on cultural competency.
- Alcohol Prevention Campaign will be launching before the end of this current fiscal year.

### Program Development & Strategic Planning Committee Updates
Genny reported the next meeting will be May 11th 2022 3:30pm where Shereen will be presenting about youth work groups. Genny has invited all who are interested in prevention/intervention for youth to attend the May meeting and she will forward the meeting invite.

Janet added that the minutes from the March 2022 Opioid Crisis Community Council (OCCC) included extensive discussion regarding youth issues and suggested that Mark join the next committee meeting in May.

### Board Development Committee Updates
Michele reported that the Executive Committee elections are upcoming.

May 11th, 2022 Board meeting - The slate will be announced; the committee will take nominations from the floor and the electronic ballots will be emailed to the Board for voting.

June 8th, 2022 Board meeting - The voting results will be announced and a motion to approve will be requested.

July 1st, 2022 – The elected members will take the positions of the Executive Committee.

### Proposal Review Committee Updates
Nothing to report

### Critical Indicator Committee Updates
Janet reported the committee had a meeting with Nicole Mallette from BBH to discuss data and statistics.

Orlando added that there has been a decrease in substance use disorders in the emergency department and a slight decrease for inpatient. For mental health, there has been a slight increase for inpatient. Additionally, hospital utilization rates in Howard County are lower than that of the entire state of Maryland. There was large
increase in Asian Pacific Islanders population for substance use disorders and mental health in terms of the emergency department but there could be some negligent reporting or a different manner in which the data is being collected. Suicide rate information for inpatient has been gathered and the numbers are holding steady. Lastly, as the strategic plan is being reviewed, community-based substance use disorder treatment programs should be welcomed to Howard County.

Chairperson Updates

Janet has been working with Jen Sager (County Executive’s Office) and Roe to implement the change of qualifications for a designee from the court in the Howard County code. The County Council will review the change on Monday, April 18th.

The Mental Health Association of Maryland (MHAMD) has distributed its 2022 General Assembly Session Summary. Janet mentioned a few items from the summary.

- Maryland 9-8-8 - legislation to fund 9-8-8 was passed. It will include an analysis of the behavioral health crisis response system.
- Harm Reduction - there will be an Opioid Restitution Fund (OFR) Advisory Council to look at more transparency and distribution of the OFR’s funding.
- Parity - There was a requirement passed for insurance to cover out-of-network care at not greater cost than in-network if a provider is not available for care/treatment.
- Budget – There is a total of $170 million available in additional funding for Behavioral Health in Maryland.
- Overdose prevention – A bill passed which allows EMS to offer overdose reversal drugs to individuals who are being treated for a non-fatal overdose.

Action Item: Janet will forward the entire MHAMD report to the Board.

Announcements

Barbara shared that the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program presented to the Rotary Club on 4/8/22. Of the referrals received, there are currently 3 participants in the LEAD program.

Genny shared that Humanim will be the case manager for LEAD and that staffing is now in place. She can provide more updates regarding LEAD after the meeting that will occur on 4/14/22.

Joan shared that HC DrugFree’s next medication and sharps collection is 4/30/22 from 10am to 2pm in the back of the Wilde Lake Village Center. There will be a trailer at the collection site to simulate a bedroom to show where drugs can be hidden. The trailer will be for ages 18+ only. Also, HC DrugFree and Congruent Counseling are collaborating to create educational programs throughout the year for high school students at Centennial and River Hill.

Action Item: Janet will send information on the Stepping Up Initiative to Jama.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:18pm

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