



## HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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### Opioid Crisis Community Council

December 5, 2018

5:15-6:45pm Columbia/Ellicott Room George Howard Building

3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 Call in: 410.313.1141

Individuals present: Barbara Allen, Maria Bernadizkowski, Flora Betro, Drema Bonavitacola, James Brothers, Theresa Collins, Joanie Elder, Sean Ford, Beth Harbinson, Sean Hughes, Jack Matthews, Mimi Matthews, Christopher McCabe, Debbie Nix, Kim Oldham, Ana Park, Teron Powell, Dwayne Sumpter, Laura Torres, Eric Kruhm, Robin Rynn, Jo Serra, Rick Baker, Samantha Durbin

Recorder: Samantha Durbin

Meeting called to order at 5:15 pm

- Welcome/Introductions
- Approval of Minutes November 7, 2018
  - Motioned Debbie
  - Seconded Flora
  - Approval of minutes 5:18pm
- Updates/Announcements
  - Reminder that although the county is going through a transition of leadership due to recent election, goals for the OCCC stay the same.
  - Note: Robert Neale, Maryland Secretary of Health recently announced that the key foci for Maryland Department of Health is 1) decrease overdoses, 2) improve harm reduction and 3) extend treatment programs for longer time periods. This mandate extends to Office of Public Health (Fran Phillips) and Behavioral Health Department (Dr. Barbara Bazron).
  - Meeting with Michael Baier, Maryland Department of Health, head of Prevention for the State who is scheduled to speak at our January meeting. The reorganization of this division should be complete by year end 2018 for start up 2019.
  - The Columbia Addiction Center has a new program for LGBTQ community members suffering MH/SUD.

- Kim Burton of the MD Department of Aging points out that fastest growing age group is aged 65-95 and they have least behavioral health support system (MH & SUD). There is interest in Kim coming to future meeting
- In February Fran Troutman is providing an educational moment.
- Looking to have Sharon Lipford from Healthy Harford attend to share how Harford County created a crisis stabilization center.
- On Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup>, The Compassionate Friends is having a candle lighting for those who have lost a loved one; St. John's Episcopal Church 7pm in the Auditorium
- An advocacy training notice was sent out to OCCC via email; training program will be held Jan 18 in Sykesville.
- Theresa Collins, HCPD, provided update on overdose numbers as of 12/2 in Howard County:
  - 172 non-fatal, up 11 percent
  - 29 fatal, down 18 percent
  - Narcan is believed to be a major contributor for this improvement.
- James Brothers, HCFRS, reported on the Leave Behind Program currently in Month Five.
  - Nasal Narcan Program is distributed on every overdose call.
  - Takes 2-3 weeks to get people into treatment
  - Follow up meetings include standard household review including smoke detectors and risk of fall hazards in and around the home. This is very labor and time intensive.
- Volunteer opportunities and peer support
- Drema Bonavitacola reported the completion of a PSA video for the HC Health Department focusing on her family. It's on the Health Department website, and Facebook page. Everyone is encouraged to share on their communication platforms.
- Council Educational Moments - None
- Committee Progress Reports & Discussion
  - Sean Hughes-Communications:
    - Working on figuring out how to keep messaging short and simple
    - People should know where to go for help
    - What percent of people even know about this topic (MH/SUD)?
    - How do we get people to come to the website?
    - Keep messages targeted
    - JIS Committee – Continued collaboration with JIS as a targeted means to get messaging out from OCCC as well as potential funding for OCCC projects.
    - Health, Hope, Howard website should be included in all communication efforts – much work went into creating this site.
    - Funding identified in JIS meetings
      - Display items – there is some funding through the HC Health Department for banners, pop up displays for use at OCCC events.

- What should come out from JIS committee vs council = still a work in progress.
  - BeforeItsTooLate, State website, is working hard to keep info up to date.
  - Discussion on how to get people to come out to events
    - Encourage more collaboration with multiple groups/ organizations such as Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, ROSC members, etc.
    - Having signature events such as ROSC with annual ball game, IOAD and Recovery Walk.
  - Discussion on possibly creating a speaker's bureau – often OCCC committees are looking to create events while at the same time other organizations including churches are reaching out seeking qualified speakers. The resources within the OCCC can be an excellent source.
- Flora Betro - Business Community Engagement
  - Reached out to Howard County Chamber resulting in OCCC doing a panel for the Chamber luncheon on January 30th
    - Typically, at Turf Valley or Sheraton
    - 11:00 am to 1:30 pm.
    - Flora and Barbara will introduce MC plus three people on panel
    - Excellent opportunity for networking
    - More details will be sent out when available.
    - It would be beneficial if people from Council would attend this luncheon.
  - If anyone knows of a business who hires people in recovery or has an in-house program for same, let Flora know.
  - Looking for ways to bring awareness of the Council into work places.
  - We will customize any events for organizations interested a program.
  - What is incentive for hiring people in recovery?
  - If you have suggestions for panel questions for the chamber luncheon, please send to Barbara
- Theresa Collins - Enforcement and Adjudication
  - Change in State's Attorney.
  - 13 people graduated from drug court last week
  - Hopefully by 1<sup>st</sup> of year will have a better plan
  - Reaching out to people to make network after Jan 30<sup>th</sup>
- Drema Bonavitacola - Prevention
  - Emphasis on volunteer programs
  - Talk with Doctor campaign
    - PSA in the building
    - Focusing on primary care physicians
  - Building owners
  - Finding out what is being done
- Joanie Elder -Treatment/ Recovery

- Committee members visited Chrysalis House, treatment program for women that includes housing for children.
- The needs of recovery programs for women (w or w/o children) are priority due to lack within Howard County.
- Discussion on Howard County resources vs other counties
  - One consideration is the high cost of housing in HC.
- Treatment and recovery - learning about what's currently available and what recommendations can be made
- Oxford House - State pushing this as model
- What do we need? Is what we have accessible? What are barriers?
- Where are the gaps so we can collaborate with other counties?
- Goal Setting – Next Steps: Continue committee meetings between monthly Council meetings.
- Adjourn
  - Time: 7:00pm

Continuing:

- Action Items and Target Dates
- Resources Database

**NOTE:** Please send fliers to all for announcements ahead of the monthly meeting.

Future Dates:

January 2, 2019 February 6, 2019 March 6, 2019 April 3, 2019 May 1, 2019 June 5, 2019 July 3, 2019

Months Remaining to Accomplish Goals: 16

OCCC