

HOWARD COUNTY

Opioid Crisis Community Council

May 1, 2019 5:15 – 6:30 pm Columbia/Ellicott Room, George Howard Building
3420 Court House Drive Ellicott city, MD 21043 Call in: 410.313.1141

Individuals Present:

Barbara Allen, Flora Betro, Theresa Collins, Mark Donovan, Joanie Elder, Sean Hughes, Cindy Johnson, Chris McCabe, James LeMon, Jack Matthews, Rev. Mimi Mathews, Debbie Nix, Ana Park, Teron Powell, Roe Rodgers, Bonaccorsy, John Way, Rich Gibson, Liesel Wood, Yolanda Vazquez, Robin Bartko

Meeting called to order at 6:20 pm.

- Introductions, comments about some attrition in membership
- Minutes from April 3 meeting were discussed; minor changes, spelling. Cindy Johnson moved to approve, seconded by Mark Donovan. Minutes approved.

Announcements:

Parity at 10, handouts

Legislative update: ASAM criteria; SUD's legislation passed
Forfeiture bills; 2 passed, \$\$ to go back into treatment

Lt. Gov. Rutherford chairing Commission to Study Mental and Behavioral Health; next meeting May 29. Meetings include time for the public to make statements to the Commission; open to the public.

5/2 – Howard House Ribbon Cutting 11:30-1; park at Centennial Park, shuttle to House

5/4- ROSC Homerun For Recovery Softball event

5/14, 16 – Mental Health First Aid Program, Project Place, near St. Agnes \$60

5/20 – CEU training, BH Ethics, 8:30-12 @Health Department. Roe to send announcement.

5/22 – “Resilience” documentary @ Elkridge Library. Explore the effects of toxic stress on young children CEU's available

5/29 – Opioid Crisis panel – Expungement seminars scheduled for May and September. Flier to be sent soon. Theresa Collins and Cindy Johnson collaborating.

Joanie talked about a 6-week program @Elkridge Library – for those living with chronic pain.

ROSC committee meets the 2nd Tuesday each month @Health Department, 10-11:30 am. Seeking interested members.

Agenda Items:

- Mark Donovan talked about the memo from Medicaid announcing they will cease reimbursements for urine screens for IOP and OP providers in thirty days. He said providers were blindsided by this info and are meeting to discuss what they can do to work around this change. Concerns about reductions in testing, holding clients accountable between sessions, reductions in quality of client care and increased provider costs. Chris McCabe and Teron Powell talked about “bundling” fees and they will reach out to Mark to discuss how this affected their organizations when the same announcement was made for their provider services.
- Cindy talked about expungement; 26 bills were presented, 1 passed. Offenses added that qualify for expungement were *some* cases of human trafficking and prostitution.
- Barbara talked about cross-committee participation and engagement. One example was the MBIA and OCCC Opioid Breakfast Seminar; MBIA had a small space and Debbie Nix was able to secure a larger venue, Kahler Hall, for the event on June 7 from 8-11:30 am. Registration is open now and tickets are very affordable at \$20 ea. In addition, Liesele Wood, HCHD, will be hosting two Narcan trainings opportunities during the event.
- Sean Hughes from the communication committee talked about the difficulties in getting information out without the coordination of the former JIS (Joint Information Sharing) committee. This committee was staffed by the County’s PIO’s and was an integral tool in communication across agencies and engagement with the community. “HopeHelpHoward” website is stagnant, outdated; the **JIS** committee is not meeting, and information sharing is negatively impacted. This topic garnered much discussion and a strong interest in the County regenerating the website and JIS committee to meet the County Executive’s goal of providing one tool, one resource that has comprehensive information for families in crisis.

- Roe discussed her experience with the MD's "211 press 1" crisis line for behavioral health, suicide prevention and substance use disorders. She also had the opportunity to tour the call center at Grassroots and was impressed by the setup, functioning much like the 911 call center.
- HCPSS has a Mental Health Advisory Council, meets the 2nd Friday from 9-12 Resource, education and treatment work group for mental health and SUD's.
- State-wide website "Network of Care Howard County", specific to each County with up-to-date, comprehensive provider information and much more.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

APPROVED