

**HOWARD COUNTY**  
**Opioid Crisis Community Council**  
November 6, 2019 5:15 – 6:45 pm  
Barton Conference Room  
Howard County Health Department  
8930 Stanford Blvd  
Columbia, MD 21045  
**Call in: 515-604-9094 Pin 941-064-571\*\*\***

**Meeting Minutes**

Barbara called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

**In attendance:** Barbara Allen, Roe Rogers-Bonaccorsy, Katie Dant, Mark Donovan, Laura Torres, Robin Bartko, Theresa Collins, Sean Ford, Debbie Nix, Teron Powell, Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Chris McCabe, John Way, Cindy Johnson, Mimi Mathews, Sean Hughes, Joanie Elder, and Bruce MacDonald.

On the phone: Beth Harbinson.

Minutes of the October meeting were presented; Mark moved to approve the October meeting minutes, Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup>; approved as amended. Amendments were due to attendance corrections.

1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the year will be on January 2<sup>nd</sup> which is a Thursday. Katie offered the conference room at Grassroots if space is needed to host meetings. Barbara will check the calendar and confirm location.

**Announcements:**

November 11, Veteran's Day Parade and OCCC table – We have Beth H, Debbie N, John W, Laura T and Robin B along with Barbara and Tom manning the table throughout the event. John will bring heaters!

Bruce said the Alano Club will provide Thanksgiving dinner from 2-5 on the 28<sup>th</sup>; Rumsey Road off Red Branch.

Flora and Barbara attended the National Chamber of Commerce event in Frederick on October 9th. They learned about the many educational events the Chamber are hosting around the country. One of the speakers was a representative from Leidos (distributors of the Deterra bags). It is due to his son's death from overdose that Liedos is now very involved with helping out with the opioid epidemic around the country.

Roe announced a few upcoming CEU dates; November 15th and December 6th. This was an Ethics training on Extreme Risk Protective Orders (ERPO), which is Maryland's

version of the Red Flag Law. The trainers for that were Amy Miller (Grassroots Mobile Crisis Team Manager), and Meghann Holloway from HCPD. CEU's were available for social workers and clinicians.

Barbara talked about the state Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) Workgroup. OTPs are the most regulated of treatment programs in MD. Key note: Some OTPs operate in dense, highly populated locals. At question (for possible legislative action) is: to what extent are OTPs responsible regarding off premises care? This issue brought forward usable information for consideration of NIMBY concerns for the forthcoming HC treatment program.

She also shared information on "respite care". This came up at a recent Lt. Governor's Commission on Mental and Behavioral Health Study in Hagerstown. Such programs offer 2-5 days in "a safe place." Costs – tend to be less expensive than full-scale treatment. Cumberland is running a program like this now. More info to come.

Other ideas springing up in general across MD include: Prevention Clubs as in Anne Arundel County. Insuring that alcohol is included opioid discussions/education. Insuring there is a heroin coordinator (like our Theresa Collins) in each jurisdiction by 2020. Desire for first responder celebration event to be held in each jurisdiction.

Joan reports that the Drug Take-Back Day was another huge success with over 1, 262 lbs of meds and sharps collected, more than 80 volunteers participating! Life skills classes for middle school students being offered in January through March @Dunloggin middle school, from 2:30-4pm on Mon and Wed. Beth H and Bruce offered to volunteer and/or help get the word out about the classes.

Joan and Cindy also commented on the Guiding Good Choices classes that they are finishing up. Great participation and feedback from participants; 9 families attending this Fall session.

As part of MDH's Regrounding Our Response program, classes on the 5 key components are in process. For the Master Presenters classes – the OCCC was well-represented. Cindy, Joan, Liesele, Barbara and Laura among others are or will become shortly Master Presenters for these topics. How best can HC take advantage of these resources?

Law Enforcement and Adjudication Committee - Theresa Collins to step down as chair and will remain as a member. Teron stepped up to Chair this committee. Cindy said the States Attorney's office is generating a list of the crimes that may be eligible for expungement as per new legislation.

There is a new Workforce Development Coordinator specifically to help those re-entering the workforce after an opioid or other substance-use related offense. This Coordinator also supports those completing treatment or related employment needs. Clients may walk-in Mon and Wed from 12-1. Columbia Workforce Center, 7161 Columbia Gateway Drive 246. Phone: 410-290-

2600

Communication Committee – Sean H. is thrilled with the pocket card and thinks it should be “everywhere.” Sean asked about having the content of the card be available as a static screen on Howard County TV, such as during lull times of live streams for legislative and other Government TV streaming, Board of Ed meetings, Zoning, etc. Basically, anywhere County Government content is shown on screens. JIS should be able to blast out information contained on pocket cards. Debbie suggested that the pocket card be included with the tax or water bills. HCHD should update us on where the cards are being distributed to date.

Barbara commented that OTP research has shown that it is safer to have a treatment center or sober living home in the neighborhood than a corner “package goods” store – liquor, convenience store, etc. She distributed two research papers for anyone interested in more information.

Also, Howard County is in the queue to get access to the Teen Trailer. This is a traveling exhibit which includes a typical teen’s bedroom. Staffing of the trailer are retired DEA personnel. It appears we could have the trailer in February and/or March. Suggested locations include the Ys at Dancel and Meadowbrook.

We’ve discussed establishing a Speakers Bureau as a resource for the County. Barbara requested anyone interested in being part of a Speakers Bureau as an offshoot of the OCCC let her know; include “what is your topic of expertise or your message?”

Prevention Committee – Overview provided by Robyn. *Other comments to note?*

Treatment and Recovery Committee – Beth H. reported on a toolkit published by Voices of Recovery that she thought would be a good tool to consider as we move ahead to layout a plan for community acceptance of a county treatment facility - <https://facesandvoicesofrecovery.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Community-Listening-Forum-Toolkit.pdf>

Barbara suggested we also look at resources from Faces and Voices of Addiction and the McShin Foundation which took over The Community Project when Facing Addiction closed.

Comments, Reminders:

Name badges are here – please pick yours up on the way out!

Continue to bring forward ideas around the inpatient recovery location announcement and how the OCCC might help the rollout and integration.

Mimi mentioned that although the signs at the Fire Department are getting noticed, a neighbor asked her about it and mistakenly thought that only their town (Elkridge) was represented by

the numbers displayed, not the entire County. Maybe HCDFRS can look at the signs and see if this can be clarified in some way.

1<sup>st</sup> Responder event - this is a doable goal for the OCCC before our clock runs out, but we must get on it. Mimi mentioned that Mission Barbeque should be contacted for food; Debbie offered a Thursday evening at Kahler Hall at cost and she will contact some of the "moms" to see about volunteers to help get this off the ground; Barbara will contact HCPD Chief Myers and HCFRS Matt Levy about their thoughts of having such an event.

Changemaker Challenge, Monday November 11. Good luck "I have NO complaints" John Way!  
6:30 – 8:30 pm (doors Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab.

Next OCCC meeting will be Wednesday, December 4th at the Howard County Health Department, Barton Room, 5:15 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Minutes: Debbie Nix

APPROVED