

Meeting Notes

Behavioral Health Workgroup

Tuesday, March 20, 2012
8:00-9:30 AM
Harford County Health Department
3rd Floor Conference Room
120 S. Hays Street
Bel Air, MD 21014

Attendees: Mimi Cooper, Milton Harmon, Beth Jones, Robin Keener, Jessica Kraus, Steve Lentowski, Sharon Lipford, Jerry Reyerson, Posie Thompson, Keith Warner, Karen Wintowski, Laura McIntosh

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Review of meeting minutes
3. Prioritizing strategies

Group began reviewing strategies that had been prioritized at the February meeting.

- Overall objective – **“Focused approach to include prevention, intervention and recovery”**
- Combined **“Develop a no-wrong door approach”** & **“Decrease language barriers”**
 - High priority, prevention
 - Implementation
 - Welcoming policies established within an agency
 - Central phone number/central point of intake
 - Trained peer specialist as first contact at an agency (phone/waiting room)
 - Web-based database of program resources, include eligible population and insurance information
 - Existing programs
 - Office on Aging is becoming a Maryland Access Point (MAP) which distinguishes it as the single point of entry for individuals with a disability/aging
 - Family Navigators serve anyone in the county in need of assistance locating and applying for support services
 - Peer specialists – Health Department Division of Addictions, Mental Health (SPIN Drop in Center), Addictions Connections Resource (ACR)

- Combined **“Decreasing youth alcohol use/drinking parties,” “Increase parent involvement,”** and **“Increase was to reach students through schools”**
 - High priority, prevention
 - Cost – relatively low, Office of Drug Control Policy is currently doing much of this work
 - Note: federal money for programming around underage drinking has been eliminated
 - **“Using public and social media: tv, radio, facebook, etc.”**
 - High priority, prevention
 - No/low cost
 - New Public Health Matters segment on addictions will be produced and aired this spring/summer.
 - Utilize existing websites such as HarfordYouth.org, SARC, Harford County Public Schools
 - Need to raise awareness of existing sites and connect them to one another
 - Combined **“Identify funding gaps”** and **“Managing the landscape of health care reform”**
4. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. at the 3rd floor conference room at Harford County Health Department, 120 S. Hays Street, Bel Air, MD 21014