



Mental Health & Addictions
Advisory Council



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Harford County
Health Department**



MHAAC, LHIC Behavioral Health Workgroup, & OIT Virtual Joint Meeting Meeting Minutes | January 26th, 2021 | 8:01-9:15AM

Call to Order

Andrea handed the meeting over to MHAAC Chair, Mary Bunch. Mary welcomed the members and provided instructions for the virtual meeting. Meeting minutes were approved. There was no old business to address at this meeting.

Annual Plan Presentation:

- Core Service Agency (CSA) and the Local Addictions Authority (LAA) Annual Plan, presented by Jessica Kraus, Director of the CSA and Shawn Martin, Director of the LAA.
 - Jessica and Shawn went over the goals for the Local Behavioral Health Authority plan.

Updates

- **Health Officer Report- Dr David Bishai**
 - Dr. David Bishai, Harford County Health Officer, shared a brief introduction and discussed data and metrics.
 - Discussed the Public Health Core Wheel Model which consists of assessment, policy development, and assurance.
 - Discussed drug overdose data and trends.
 - Spike in October of fatal overdoses
 - Fatal overdoses predominantly involve opioids
 - Dr. Bishai utilized trends.google.com to compare Marylanders' searches for "suicide hotline" and "antidepressant".
 - Dr. Bishai encouraged everyone to utilize Google Trends for other metrics.
 - In contact with CRISP to help fill in gaps in information from Optum.
 - Looking at trying to implement "Z" codes when providers are entering medical codes for their patients, which include codes for homelessness, Job loss, etc.
 - Discussed the Health Impact Pyramid model.

Harford County Health Department
Division of Behavioral Health
120 S. Hays Street
Bel Air, MD 21014
410-877-2340

Harford County Government
Department of Community Services --
ODCP
125 N. Main Street Bel
Air, MD 21014
410-638-3333

Office on Mental Health
Core Service Agency of Harford
County
2231 Conowingo Road, Suite A Bel
Air, MD 21015
410-803-8726

- **Core Service Agency- Jessica Kraus**
 - Jessica Kraus, Executive Director of the Office on Mental Health CSA, shared upcoming funding and training opportunities with Core Service Agency (CSA).
 - Ashley Addiction Services was awarded the Adolescent Club House funding.
 - BHA- Coping in the 2020/21 School Year- A resource guide for students and young adult. The guide can be found [here](#).
 - The CSA took over Crisis Response in July of 2020
 - October to December 1100+ hotline calls, 900 outgoing follow up calls, 156 MC dispatches, 49 peer dispatches, 26 school intervention specialist, 7 cases involving MH stabilization grant
 - Suicide conference virtual zoom, May 14, 2021 Brandon Marshall
- **Office of Drug Control Policy- Tara Lathrop**
 - Tara Lathrop, Director of ODCP, shared updates regarding community involvement and programming with ODCP.
 - Thanked Dr. Bishai for his presentation.
 - Gave an overview of Office of Drug Control Policy
 - Provide updates in county-wide efforts in BH regarding prevention and education
 - Court-led treatment programs include adult drug court, family recovery court, and truancy court, and teen court
 - Courts being run virtually
 - Anger management and Forward Thinking for teens being held virtually
 - Conflict resolution free training
 - First responder training
 - Providing Narcan training
 - Academic Detailing aims to educate healthcare professions about pain management and SUD.
 - Prevention is working with sheriff on core tablet app, extension of pledge program, unable to work with students virtually, will be in the Hope Trailer
 - New Adult Drug Court, new program, A New High, meet with graduate at Planet Fitness, fishing group, develop healthy community activities to aid in recovery.
 - \$60,000 funding for programs to address SUD and prevention, currently in grant and aid review for recovery houses in Harford County
 - Recovery and reentry efforts, providing funds to support 12 step groups to meet safely during the pandemic.
- **UMUCH/Crisis Center – Jennifer Redding**
 - Jennifer Redding provided an update on community partnership building and an increase in mental health services with the Klein Family Harford Crisis Center.
 - The Crisis Center has seen an uptick in most services over the course of the past

two months. This includes walk-ins, residential beds, and outpatient services. The psychiatric line received 189 calls in October alone. Outpatient clinic saw 281 visits in November and 365 December. Urgent care walk-in center 380 in December for a and 316 in November for an increase of 64. Residential Crisis beds had 164 days billed in December 193 days billed in November. Numbers have decreased slightly for residential crisis beds. Continuing to educate the public about services. Working with law enforcement.

- Andrea Pappas and Jennifer Redding were selected to participate in the National Council for Behavioral Health 2021 Training Institute
 - Initiative to work with local health departments as well as BH providers in strengthening services in your county
 - They will be participating in a number of education opportunities, meet state legislators, and hear what is happening around the country
- Talked about a one-time grant from BHA and how it will support services at the crisis center
- **Local Addictions Authority (LAA)- Shawn Martin**
 - Shawn shared updates concerning the Harford County Provider Operations meetings and the Maryland Emergency Management alert system.
 - Went over guidelines for OIT groups and detailed high-performing OIT group attributes.
 - OIT 4th quarter survey was sent out to members. If you have received the survey, please update your information, if there are not updates, please respond saying there were not updates needed
 - The memo also noted positives, and negatives aspects of Harford County
- **Harford County Sheriff's Office- Cpt. Carl Brooks**
 - The Sheriff's Office did not have an update for this meeting.
- **Harford County Emergency Services – Rick Ayers**
 - Eddie Hopkins, Director of Emergency Services, provided an update on EMS operations in Harford County
 - Working with Health Dept with COVID-19 efforts.
 - Assisted with CPR training
 - Rick Ayers was appointed by County Executive Barry Glassman to work with Marcy Austin and the health department to address COVID-19 outbreaks, with specific attention to assisted living and nursing home facilities.

Community Announcements

- Jose Rosado has taken a new role as the Program Director for Inner County Outreach. He will have information regarding family and individual resources in early spring. Parenting inside and out event next month, please see flyer attached to these minutes. Jose@innercountyoutreach.org
- Jennifer Tuerke, Voices of Hope
 - 973 backpack team contacts
 - Aberdeen location set to open soon
- Mike Bassler, Ashley Addiction Treatment
 - Starting virtual platform for their Clubhouse in March, in person June or July

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- Adolescent Clubhouse will be near Ashley's outpatient location in Bel Air
- Looking to hire two peers for the clubhouse
- Please contact if interested: theclubhouse@ashleytreatment.org
- 12-17 SUD or at risk of SUD
- Resources, activities

Upcoming Meetings:

- March 30th, 2021

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