



Mental Health & Addictions
Advisory Council



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
**Harford County
Health Department**



**Mental Health and Addictions Advisory Council (MHAAC)
Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHC) Behavioral Health Workgroup
Harford County OOC Opioid Intervention Team (OIT)**

**Meeting Minutes | November 29, 2022 | 8:00-10:00 AM
Location: Harford County EOC 2220 Ady Rd, Forest Hill, MD 21050**

Call to Order & Introductions: Bari Klein, MHAAC Council Chair

- Bari Klein asked for the approval of the minutes from September 27, 2022. Jessica Kraus approved and Jennifer Redding seconded the motion.

Special Topic | Inner County Outreach (ICO) Services: Natalie Johnson

- ICO is a faith-based wrap-around services model that serves the county and has been in Harford County for 37 years of experience.
- Started in Aberdeen in 1986 and then understood there were additional pockets of needs and have expanded to other areas along the Route 40 Corridor.
- Focuses on Two-Generation Programming which is a wraparound services approach that ensures all members of the family are involved.
- ICO has three main divisions and 14 programs within those divisions. Those divisions are comprehensive basic needs, youth services, and mental health and wellness.
- ICO also offers school-based mental health services to alternative education programs, Title I schools, and private schools.
- Re-Entry Services to help incarcerated individuals and their families to help combat generational recidivism. These include;
 - HCCMC: Harford County Coaching and Mentoring Consortium
 - Parenting Inside Out to help with family stability
 - Re-Entry (ACT) which starts 7 weeks prior to release
- Project S.E.E.K serves children who have parents who are/were incarcerated, empowering children and providing case management, advocacy and referrals, home visits, support groups, and communication with incarcerated parents.
- The P.A.T.H program provides assistance with homelessness for those with serious mental health illnesses.
- The Trinise Jones Summer Day Camp offers camp experience for low income children and provides food, tutoring, the arts, and other educational opportunities. Scholarships available.

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- ICO also provides services for obesity prevention and intervention aimed at addressing chronic disease/illness. Programs include walking classes, smoking cessation, family cooking classes, health literacy, and community gardens.
- Three years ago ICO became an Outpatient Mental Health Clinic that offers an eclectic mix of 7 treatment modalities. All forms of insurance are accepted.

Updates:

- **Health Department Report (HCHD)** –Ronya Nassar
 - Free to Be
 - Free to Be is a community-based LGBTQ+ program that offers monthly get-togethers in a welcoming atmosphere where teens (ages 12-17) can find support, guidance, and a sense of community.
 - Meetings are held the first Friday of every month STARTING JANUARY 6th from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Health Department, 120 S. Hays Street, Bel Air, MD 21014. Advanced registration required.
 - HCHD Behavioral Health Temporary Cash Assistance
 - HCHD is in the process of recruiting a counselor who will be assisting with temporary cash assistance screenings and will work closely with DSS.
 - I | You | We Matter Youth Symposium
 - The event was a success! For this first ever event for Harford County and Maryland, HCHD Minority Health Outreach hosted 60 Teen/Tween young women for an evening to midnight pajama party focusing on self-empowerment. Topics included: self-confidence, anxiety, self-care, bullying and creating smart goals and vision boards.
 - MHAAC Changes
 - The Strategic Plan is due to be updated in 2023. HCHD will share data updates with the group to help determine direction.
- **Office of Mental Health/Core Service Agency** – Jessica Kraus
 - Save the Date: May 19th for the 2nd annual Your Mind Matters: Family Wellness Night at Ripken Stadium. If interested in helping contact Angela Gray at agray@harfordmentalhealth.org
 - Harford Crisis Response Data: July 2022 thru October 2022: 4,653 total phone calls. 3,870 of these were incoming calls to the hotline. 218 mobile crisis dispatches and 42 peer SUD dispatches
 - The Office of Mental Health/Core Service Agency is working with the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) to develop a new program called *Reducing Structural Deficits for Inpatient/Community Care*. An RFP will be created in December with the hopes of selecting a provider by early February. Any licensed Residential Rehabilitation Program (RRP) will be eligible to apply, but must deploy to all 5 state psychiatric hospitals to assist with identifying appropriate placement for individuals ready for discharge.
- **Department of Community Services/Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP)** – Silvana Bowker
 - ODCP continues to offer a variety of mental health and substance use trainings, adding presentations about marijuana this year: From January to November:
 - 101 presentations conducted
 - 17,776 attendees
 - 229 trained in Question Persuade Refer (QPR)

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- 73 trained in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)
- Visit [Mental Health Classes & Programs | Harford County, MD \(harfordcountymd.gov\)](https://www.harfordcountymd.gov/mental-health/classes-programs) for information for upcoming trainings
- The opioid settlement money will be distributed in two years. The first year is \$247,575.88 and the second year is \$260,190.18. It requires 85% of the funds to be allocated to programs that will help address the ongoing opioid crisis through treatment, education, and prevention efforts. This information will be forthcoming once further directions are given by the state.
- CCAR recovery coach academy training in January/February in partnership with ACR. You can register by emailing Reach out to Meg Kaiser at: mtkaiser@harfordcountymd.gov
- ODCP is developing new programs for prevention efforts focusing on young adults and college-age students
- For Veterans – Special QPR sessions will be hosted at the start of 2023 at local VFW and legions. The Legion Post 47 in Havre de Grace is scheduled for January 25th. The veteran's collaborative meets the second Wednesday of the month virtually from 9-10 am. It includes Harford, Baltimore, Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, and Howard. If interested in attending, email Silvana at scbowker@harfordcountymd.gov
- **UMUCH & Harford Crisis Center – Jennifer Redding**
 - Urgent Care Walk-In Center
 - Open 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. EVERY DAY!
 - Serves clients 5 years old and older
 - Provides comprehensive, trauma-informed assessment; Psychiatric evaluation if needed and Care Coordination
 - Outpatient Therapy & Psychiatric Care
 - Scheduled appointments with a therapist and/or psychiatrist (for medication)
 - Therapy: 5 years old and older
 - Psychiatry: 18 years old and older (for now)
 - Residential Crisis Beds
 - Short-term voluntary residential care (Average length of stay is 3-5 days)
 - Group therapy, individual therapy, medication evaluation/management
 - Support from peer recovery coaches (if needed)
 - Klein Family Crisis Center (7/1/22- 10/31/22)
 - 1051 for Urgent Care
 - 708 for Residential Crisis
 - 1694 for OP Clinic
 - Primary catchment area is Bel Air followed by Abingdon and Aberdeen. Primary diagnoses are depression, anxiety and substance use disorder
 - Emergency Petition Data (7/1/22- 10/31/22)
 - Maryland's Emergency Petition statute allows a violent or suicidal person with a mental disorder to be brought to an emergency facility for rapid evaluation regarding the need for emergency treatment.
 - Law Enforcement: 213 total admitted and 104 of those discharged
 - Crisis Center: 21 total admitted and 5 of those discharged.
 - Harford Crisis Center 12 total admitted (discharge data not available)
 - Transition to Aberdeen location by 2023

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- Harford Memorial Hospital will be closing in 2023 and behavioral health services will be transitioning to a freestanding Psychiatric Hospital in Aberdeen. Services:
 - 33 beds (with the ability to expand to 40 beds as need is demonstrated). Ability to serve the Geri-psych/medically compromised population.
 - All BH services currently provided at Harford Memorial Hospital plus Intensive Outpatient Program, Outpatient Program, and Partial Hospitalization Program.
 - Emergency Department
 - 4 Behavioral Health-specific beds
- **Local Addictions Authority (LAA) – Shawn Martin**
 - The LAA did not have updates.
- **Harford County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) - Rick Ayers**
 - Rick Ayers will remain Acting Director of the EOC under the new incoming administration, and he has been meeting with the transition team.
 - Staffing remains an issue with the biggest needs in EMS, law enforcement, and dispatch. Mr. Ayers mention that the EOC is struggling to hire and retain personnel. Only four paramedics applied to a recent hiring notice, even with a generous hiring bonus, and only one passed.
 - The funded EMS station in northern Harford County should be completed by the end of the year.

Community Announcements: All

- There were no community announcements

Upcoming Meetings:

- Tuesday, January 31, 2022 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Harford County EOC 2220 Ady Rd, Forest Hill, MD 21050
- To call-in: Join with Google Meet at meet.google.com/wzu-ydmq-ejq Join by phone at 414-909-5228 PIN: 212 059 681#

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