



Mental Health & Addictions
Advisory Council

**Mental Health and Addictions Advisory Council (MHAAC)
Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) Behavioral Health Workgroup
Harford County MOOR (Maryland Office of Overdose Response) Opioid Prevention Team (OPT)**

**Meeting Agenda | January 30, 2024 | 8:30-10:00 AM
Harford County Department of Emergency Services (DES)**

Opening: Jennifer Redding

- MHAAC LHIC OPT mission, vision, and values
 - Mission: To expand, strengthen, and sustain an integrated and comprehensive prevention, intervention, and treatment services system to reduce the incidence and consequence of substance use and mental health problems in Harford County, Maryland.
- Kahoot!
 - What does behavioral health mean to you?
 - Common themes: wellness, stability, emotion, well-being
- Meeting format
 - What's happening in Harford County: Behavioral Health specific committees/workgroups
 - County trends/gaps
 - Relevant laws/policy updates
 - Grant opportunities
 - Community partner presentations
 - Brainstorming opportunities to address gaps
- Intercept mapping
 - Intercept 1: First contact → Intercept 2: Acute care → Intercept 3: Care transitions → Intercept 4: Ongoing treatment and recovery support

Current State of Behavioral Health Data: Silvana Bowker

- LHIC behavioral health data presentation from the Harford County Health Department. See attached slides
- Topics: Overall mental health, depression, anxiety, substance use, substance-exposed newborns (SEN), Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS), and suicide
- Type of data: Hospitalizations, ED visits, and mortality rates
- Data broken down by race or zip code

Discussion: Think about where the gaps are in behavioral health

- Waitlist for services for long periods of time
- Better transportation methods
- More providers and providers who can come to the patient

- Diversity of providers so patients feel more comfortable
- Lack of ability to reach overdose survivors. More collaboration could make it possible but it doesn't seem to be a priority in Harford
- Sometimes the Klein Center isn't the best for our older population
- Finding services for adolescents
- Support and education for parents
- Recruitment of mental health providers and services
- Care Solace is a great resource
- Identifying disparities
- Could we bring a psychologist into these meetings? Or someone who teaches psychology?
- Education on what people are going through and why
- Child Life Specialists help children in the hospital setting and help them cope with the things they are going through
- More involvement of mental health specialists in police cases and education of mental health for police staff
- Kahoot!
 - What are the gaps in behavioral health in Harford County?
 - Common themes: Low-cost/uninsured services, access, hands-on care, diversity, transportation, housing

Upcoming Meetings: TBD, 8:30-10 a.m. Harford County DES 2220 Addy Rd, Forest Hill, MD 21050

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