



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**

**Meeting Agenda | May 28, 2024 | 8:30-9:30 AM
Harford County Department of Emergency Services (DES)**

Opening: Jennifer Redding

- Mental Health Awareness Month
- Before the pandemic, ⅓ adults reported being lonely and that has only increased after COVID
- Loneliness affects both physical and mental health
- Mission vision and values need to stay clear and intact
- We all should be working together for a common goal

Behavioral Health Legislative Updates: Mathew Swinburne

- Director of LRC - Cannabis
- LRC is here to understand the big impact of legalized cannabis use on adults
- BH204/SB165 Bill - allows the state to develop guidelines for public schools to train coaches to recognize indicators of mental illness and distress (Passed)
 - coaches in athletic programs
- HB 400/ SB 124 - annual behavioral health visits with coverage and reimbursement (failed)
- SB 244/ HB 238 - clean indoor air act now includes vaping devices (passed)
 - creates a workgroup to study cigar bars in regards to allowing liquor
- SB 220/HB 42 Tobacco sales Military exemption (passed)
 - removes the active duty exemption that allows 18-20 years old to purchase tobacco products
- Tobacco tax (Passed)
 - increased tobacco tax from \$3.75 to \$5.00 per pack
 - 2nd highest tax in the country
 - funds will go towards Blue Print for MD fund (schools)
- HB 8-8/SB 456 - Alcohol beverages, retail delivery, local delivery service permit (passed)
 - retailer cannot do so unless the local government permits it

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- SB 1041/HB 1217 Delivery directly to residents from breweries, wineries, and distilleries (passed)
 - Only 24, 750 ML bottles can be delivered
- SB 399 Outdoor Cannabis advertising (failed)
 - Current law prohibits outdoor advertising other than the sign of the shop for cannabis
 - This bill would have removed this restriction
 - Advertising would negatively impact children as they are more easily susceptible to signage
- HB 805/ SB537 - Local zoning authority and community protest (passed)
 - dispensaries cannot be within 500 feet of public schools, playgrounds, public parks, or places of worship
 - The buffer zone cannot be more than 500 feet
 - Local governments can have control and have buffer zones between dispensaries that can be ½ mile away from each other and 100 feet from residential areas
 - Residents can protest the renewal of a business license to those dispensaries within reason
- The next LRC Cannabis webinar is on 6/24/24. Critical topics: public health impact of the new cannabis regulations and cannabis consumption sites in Maryland

Intercept Mapping Exercise: Silvana Bowker

- What is intercept Mapping? → Evidence-based prevention practices for suicide and or mental health crises in veterans
- 4 intercepts: First contact, Acute Care, Care transitions, and Outgoing Treatment and Support. Each intercept lists areas/facilities of support
- Exercise: Create an intercept map for Harford County residents to seek care for mental health. We will circle back with a concrete plan at the next meeting

CONTEXT: Individuals who experience mental illness/substance use disorder in Harford County

- **Intercept 1:** First Individual Contact: Contact can come from anyone/anywhere in the community.
- **Intercept 2:** Acute Care: Typically, in the Emergency Room or hospital setting.
- **Intercept 3:** Care Transitions: After the behavioral health crisis is somewhat resolved, what next?
- **Intercept 4:** Ongoing treatment and recovery support. What is already available?

Upcoming Meetings: Tuesday, September 24th, 8:30-9:30 a.m. Harford County Department of Emergency Services 2220 Ady Rd, Forest Hill, MD 21050

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