



**Mental Health and Addictions Advisory Council (MHAAC)
Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) Behavioral Health Workgroup**

**Meeting Agenda | March 25, 2025 | 8:30-9:30 AM
Harford County Department of Emergency Services (DES)**

Opening: Jennifer Redding

- Welcome and introductions.
- Review of the MHAAC Mission, Vision, and Values

Intercept Mapping Progress: Jennifer Redding

- Review gaps/opportunities at each intercept point identified at last meeting
 - **Intercept 0/0.5:** Law Enforcement Interaction/Co-Responder Effort
 - Training for officers: work with CIT, annual week-long training and resources. State requires de-escalation, all have body cams. Crisis negotiation team.
 - Bilingual providers
 - Officers are unable to focus extended service to people experiencing mental health crisis.
 - Getting past trust and cooperation: needs to be trust between the civilian and law enforcement
 - Members of the faith community
 - Needs to be one voice contact:
 - SUD division away from criminal system: major premises around having a co-responder model.
 - Mobile Crisis Team: least invasive intervention to solve the crisis.
 - **Intercept 1:** Identify, Screen, and Refer
 - Training interpreters
 - Not being correctly diagnosed
 - Lack of trust and fear of stigma
 - Transportation
 - Around the clock support: Harford Crisis Response. Klein Family Center
 - Screening: primary care, have a consistent understanding on who is doing what
 - Pre-Arrest Diversion: divert with intention
 - Awareness: Public, business, law enforcement, mental health
 - Looking all aspects of SDOH, how does this weave into the screening process.
 - **Intercept 2:** Evaluate, Treat, and Plan for discharge
 - Behavioral assessment in senior centers
 - Standardize screening process across organizations
 - Health Insurance
 - HIPAA

- Cultural Competency: having conversation with providers to better understand clients
 - Freedom of stigma and judgement
 - Psychiatric urgent care/same day Rx's and provider appointments
 - **Intercept 3:** Follow-up to ensure continuity of care
 - Healthcare for homeless population
 - Job training with individuals with SUD's
 - Social isolation in elder community: senior housing in Harford, attempt to have programming on a regular basis to educate residents to create less isolation
 - Wraparound care
 - Stable recovery and transitional
 - People need help but they do not come to you. Needs to be a system to help identify them, someone to go out and provide care coordination to help connect. Some in society that don't have people in their lives to help them and are not capable of getting mental health support.
 - **Intercept 4:** Provide support to enhance recovery/wellness
 - Stronger consequences for youth
 - Services for youth in Harford County
 - Data sharing platform
 - Identifying root-cause
 - Provides on-site mental health therapists for businesses and organizations to reduce barriers to care
 - Long-term case management after care. Long term inpatient treatment/halfway houses, 6-12 months.
 - Affordable resources
- Seven best practices and resources: Prevention Strategies
 - Strengthening economic supports
 - Creating protective environments
 - Improving access/delivery of care
 - Promote health connections
 - Teaching coping & problem solving skills
 - Identify and support people at risk
 - Lessen harms and prevent future risk
 - [Suicide Prevention Resources for Action / CDC](#)
- Determine how we want to proceed with prioritizing next steps/action planning
 - Select 1-2 Intercept points to initially focus on
 - Select 1-2 Action Items to focus on within each Intercept point
- Begin discussing action planning/process

What's Next?

- Action planning: what will we prioritize?
- Developing an action plan addressing the identified gaps/opportunities
- Implement the action plan

Community Comments

- Advocacy and anti-stigma: have we thought about reestablishing an anti-stigma project? It is all about empowerment. Promoting emotional and mental wellness. [NAMI](#) group in Harford County, Maryland, and the United States. Monthly steering committee meetings.

Upcoming Meetings: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 @ 8:30-9:30 a.m.
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