



# State of Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council

Larry Hogan, Governor – Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor – Robert R. Neall, Secretary, MDH

## THE MARYLAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Minutes

July 17, 2018

#### **Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council Members Present:**

Barbara L. Allen, Robert Anderson for Michael Ito, Dori S. Bishop, Lori Brewster (**by phone**), John-Pierre Cardenas, Kenneth Collins, Kathryn Dilley, Kate Farinholt (**by phone**), Shannon Hall, Carlos Hardy, Dayna Harris, James Hedrick, Sylvia Lawson, Sharon M. Lipford, The Hon. George Lipman, Theresa Lord (**by phone**), Dan Martin, Dennis L. McDowell, Nick Napolitano for Jonathan Martin (**by phone**), The Hon. Dana Moylan Wright, Luciene Parsley (**by phone**), Mary Pizzo, Charles Reifsnider, Keith Richardson (**by phone**), Kirsten Robb-McGrath, Jacob Salem for Kelby Brick, Nicholas Shearin for Elaine Hall, Jeffrey Sternlicht, Tracey Webb (**by phone**), Anita Wells (**by phone**)

#### **Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council Members Absent:**

Makeitha Abdulbarr, Barbara J. Bazron, Karyn M. Black, Mary Bunch, Jan A. Desper Peters, Lillian Donnard, Catherine Drake, The Hon. Addie Eckardt, Robert Findling, Ann Geddes, Lauren Grimes, Christina Halpin, Rosanne Hanratty, Virginia Harrison, The Hon. Antonio Hayes, Stephen T. Moyer, Kathleen O'Brien, William Patten, Keisha Peterson, Catherine Simmons-Jones, Clay Stamp

#### **Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) Staff Present:**

Cynthia Petion, Marian Bland, Kathleen Rebbert-Franklin, Richard Ortega, Sarah Reiman, Judith Leiman, Brendan Welsh, Tsegereda Assebe, Eleanor Dayhoff Brannigan (**by phone**), Risa Davis, Latanya Barnes, Greta Carter

**Guests and Others:**

Julia Jerscheid, Mid-Shore Peer Support Specialist/Consumer Advocate;  
Lisa Kugler, Beacon Health Options Maryland  
Jacqueline Pettis, Beacon Health Options Maryland  
Victoria Scofield, Stepping Stones Recovery Houses;  
Virginia Spence, Recovery Peer Specialist, Caroline County Health Department;  
Catherine Gray, Anne Arundel County CSA;  
Rianna Matthews-Brown, Johns Hopkins;  
Wendy Kanley, Maryland, Office of Healthcare Quality (**by phone**)  
Jessica Walker, Advocate/Peer Support  
Joy Ashcraft, Maryland Army National Guard-Substance Abuse  
Ann Walsh, CBH of Maryland  
Lisa Lowe, F.A.C.E. Addiction MD  
Andrew Garrison, Maryland Department of Legislative Services  
Melissa August, Serenity Acres Treatment

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Co-chairs Barbara Allen and Dan Martin opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests. The minutes of the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and approved with a correction: SB111 should read SB211. The discussion of the bill was also removed from the minutes, since the presentation only included bills that passed. The Minutes will be posted on the Behavioral Health Administration's (BHA) website at:

<https://bha.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Maryland-Behavioral-Health-Advisory-Council.aspx>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

### **Membership Updates:**

New Members: John-Pierre Cardenas, Maryland Benefit Health Exchange; Rosanne Hanratty, Maryland Department of Aging and Katie Dilley, the Maryland Midshore Regional Behavioral Health Advisory Council.

Dr. Jeffrey Sternlicht will be giving Emergency Department tours at GBMC. Please contact Dr. Sternlicht at [JHSTERNY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JHSTERNY@GMAIL.COM) to arrange a tour.

### **Recovery Month Kickoff Activities:**

Brendan Welsh, Director, BHA's Office of Consumer Affairs updated members on the upcoming September Recovery Month activities. BHA will host the Recovery Month kickoff on Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup> in the Rice Auditorium. CEUs will be offered for both Peer professionals and other professionals. For more information, please visit BHA's web site at

<https://bha.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Index.aspx>

There will be several Recovery month activities in the following jurisdictions: Allegany, Anne Arundel, Carroll, Charles, Howard, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties. The various counties will host "Going Purple and Rain Purple events. Brendan encouraged the local behavioral health entities to contact Margie Donahue, BHA's Director of Public Awareness, with any Recovery month activities so that she can get information out to stakeholders and affiliates.

Additionally, Barbara Allen shared that August 31st is International Overdose Awareness Day. It is the kickoff to Recovery Month. There are many activities going on around the state. There will be a number of resources, demonstrations and informational sessions and a candlelight vigil for those who we have lost to overdose. October 3rd is the tenth anniversary of the parity act, information on activities are to be determined.

Cynthia Petion, Deputy Director, Systems Management, BHA, announced that BHA's Division of Planning have begun a series of regional stakeholders meetings across the state to inform the local, state and federal planning processes. The first meeting was held on Friday, July 13th in Charles County for the Southern Region and the second meeting was held on July 16th in Hagerstown for the Western Region. The final two meetings will be held on July 19th in the Eastern Shore Region at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills and the final meeting will be held Wednesday, August 8th in Central Maryland at the Behavioral Health Administration. If you would like to attend please contact Ms. Greta Carter at [greta.carter@maryland.gov](mailto:greta.carter@maryland.gov).

BHA's combined mental health and substance use block grant (2nd year update) for FY 2019 will be due to SAMSHA on September 4th. All states have received notice of their estimated allotment. Maryland's proposed mental health block grant (MHBG) allotment for FY 2019 is \$10 million. The substance abuse block grant (SABG) proposed FY2019 allotment is \$34 million.

**THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Marian Bland, Director, Clinical Services for Adults and Older Adults, Behavioral Health Administration**

**Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) – Updates:**

Marian Bland, Director of Clinical Services for Adults and Older Adults presented BHA's report on behalf of Dr. Barbara Bazron, Deputy Secretary, Behavioral Health/Executive Director, Behavioral Health Administration, who was on vacation.

**Maryland Opioid Rapid Response (MORR) Grant:**

- The Maryland Opioid Rapid Response (MORR) grant is funded through the state targeted response SAMSHA grant. BHA recently completed year 1 of the MORR grant and moved into year 2 on May 1, 2018. Highlights of year 1 (which ended April 30, 2018) include:
  - 753 individuals received treatment for services, 657 received recovery support services, 33,295 individuals received naloxone training, 35,393 individuals received a dose of naloxone, 56 Nurses and 58 school staff received the Botvin LifeSkills training through the student assistance program and our public awareness outreach program. There was a total 47,238,013 impressions, via Maryland Public TV (MPT), radio or digital billboards that were viewed by people.
  - One of the anti-stigma PSAs that was produced called "Less Judgement, More Compassion" received the Bronze Telly Award in the category of regional TV, public service. Also under this grant, thirteen Harm Reduction sessions were completed.

- 45 providers and 13 non-providers received consultation through the Maryland Addiction Consultation Services (MACS) program
- Funding was provided for crisis beds in 4 jurisdictions, ASAM 3.1 treatment, and for the Maryland Crisis Stabilization Center

BHA moved into year 2 of the MORR grant \$10,036,000 (May 1, 2018 thru April 30, 2019) and will continue activities that were started in year 1.

### **State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant:**

On June 14, 2018, SAMHSA released a funding opportunity announcement that \$930 million (which includes a 15 percent set aside for ten states hardest hit by the opioid crisis). Maryland is one of those ten states. BHA did apply for this grant on July 9, 2018 Medication Assisted Treatment – Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction (MAT-DOA 2). Maryland is eligible to receive \$524,000 for the grant and BHA requested the grant be expanded to include medication assisted treatment to pregnant women and women with children (MAT-PDOA 2).

In addition, BHA is applying for the State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant which is a formula grant and will provide Maryland \$32,874,550 a year for 2 consecutive years. BHA has been working with our state partners: the Maryland Opioid Operational Command Center, the Governor’s Office of Crime, Control and Prevention; the Maryland State Department of Education; the Maryland Department of Safety and Correctional Services, as well as Secretary Neall and the Maryland Department of Health; to develop a strategic plan for this grant. The grant is due August 13<sup>th</sup>. The focus will be on preventing deaths. The department has key areas in which they would like to expand services and they are:

- SBIRT in hospitals, schools and OB/GYN Providers
- Overdose Survivors Outreach Program (OSOP)
- Expansion of “Safe Stations” statewide
- Build upon Peer Recovery services
- Recovery Housing
- Medication Assistance Treatment (MAT) in correctional facilities
- Naloxone in the jurisdictions

### **House Bill 1092 – Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant**

A workgroup has developed recommendations around the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant which are under review by Secretary Neall. Once the information is approved, the information will be shared.

### **ASAM Level 3.1 Implementation**

ASAM 3.1 is treatment criteria for Addictive Substance-Related, and co-occurring condition for clinically managed low-intensity residential services. ASAM 3.1 transition to fee-for-service is in the third phase in the behavioral health integration process. There was a stakeholder meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup> to get input from ASAM 3.1 providers on current practices. The next meeting will be in the Dix Building, Lower Level Conference room on Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will include representatives from Medicaid who will share the proposed regulations and rates with the group, which will go into effect on January 1, 2019.

### **Maryland's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)**

Maryland's PDMP went into effect on July 1, 2018. The program requires that prescribers request and access PDMP data:

- Before they begin a new course of treatment with an opioid or benzodiazepine, and
- When a course of treatment with an opioid or benzodiazepine extends beyond 90 days. In this case a prescriber must query again at least every 90 days thereafter.

### **House Bill 772 (SB 765) – Maryland Department of Health reimbursement for services provided by certified Peer Recovery Specialists-Workgroup and Report**

Brendan Welsh is leading BHA's efforts to look at reimbursement for services provided by Peer Recovery Specialists. There have been two meetings so far and Brendan indicated that the group has outlined the current system's infrastructure and has reviewed what is eligible for reimbursement using different models. The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am in the Dix Building, Lower Level Conference room. This meeting will be identifying service providers and locations. He stated that is an open meeting to all. If you have any questions, please contact Brendan at [brendan.welsh@maryland.gov](mailto:brendan.welsh@maryland.gov)

### **Council Comments:**

The Council requested that BHA develop a document that shows the grants funds and how the money is being spent by jurisdiction and services.

**PRESENTATION: Right-Sizing Maryland's Community Behavioral Health System** – Shannon Hall, Executive Director, Community Behavioral Health Association of Maryland (CBH). The CBH is an advocacy organization for over 50 of Maryland's community-based mental health and addiction treatment providers state-wide.

**CBH provides:**

- High quality, community-based care for families and individuals
- Advocacy around operational, regulatory and legislative levels
- Discounted education products and data analytic tools for CBH members
- Affiliate leverage of our collective strengths to increase access to resources and funding opportunities

Ms. Hall provided an overview of the hospital's perspective of issues related to:

- ER length of stay
- Too few community psychiatrist
- Community resources to support patient discharge

**CBH shared the following perspective:**

- The Department of Legislative Services looked at this issue for the past 2 years and determined the through-put-Hospitals are responding to are the incentives to the all payer waiver (being penalized for readmissions). Hospitals are not discharging people unless they have safe, appropriate community placement, which CBH feels is a good thing. It pushes care downstream and increases quality of care and reduces the number of patients being discharged with a referral to a homeless shelter. Which creates a healthcare ecosystem that:
  - ER length of stay grows (to ensure lower readmissions)
  - Total Cost of Care invests downstream
  - Maryland insurance carriers rarely credential behavioral health providers as facilities
  - Affordable Care Act (ACA) expanded insurance to commercially insured
  - Medicaid rates not at pace with cost (for 20 years)
  - ACA expanded Medicaid enrollment
  - Opioid crisis
  - Medicaid expands SUD coverage
  - Suicide rise
  - Behavioral health stigma decreasing

Ms. Hall emphasized the importance of having all of this work around capacity building an all payer system and wants the commercial carriers to be part of the conversation.

**Council Comments:**

- Need for forensic providers
- Developing a database for patient beds

**THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (BHAC) COMMITTEE  
ACTIVITY REPORTS**

**Cultural and Linguistic Competency Committee** - Co-Chair: Allysa Dittmar

- CLC Plan is still in circulation and the Office of Planning is still accepting comments. The plan will be finalized at the end of August.

**Criminal Justice/Forensics Committee** – Co-Chairs: Kathleen O’Brien and George Lipman

- The Council of Circuit Court Judges met and has decided to appoint an administrative court Judge for mental health and 8-507s (court order for placement in a treatment facility) issues in every circuit.
- Looking at some of the system related issues with 8-507s and providers.

**Planning Committee** – Co-Chairs: Doris Bishop and Dennis McDowell

- Dennis McDowell, Co-Chair of the Planning Council will be retiring from the BHAC Council at the end of his term (September 30<sup>th</sup>) and once a replacement is found. The Council thanked him for his service.
- Dan Martin asked members to contact Sarah Reiman at [sarah.reiman1@maryland.gov](mailto:sarah.reiman1@maryland.gov) in the BHA’s Division of Planning if they would be interested in Co-Chairing the Planning Committee.

**Lifespan Committee I** – Co-Chairs: Ann Geddes and Mary Bunch

- No updates

**Lifespan Committee II** – Co-Chair: Barbara Allen

- Barbara Allen stated that the Committee has struggled with direction, recruiting members and keeping a co-chair.
- The Committee is requesting a name change to Recovery Services and Supports. There is a great deal of work for programs to address prevention, treatment, and a continuum of care which includes mental health and substance use. The focus will be health, home, purpose and community.
- Barbara asked that if anyone is interested in becoming Co-Chair of this Committee please contact Ms. Sarah Reiman at [sarah.reiman1@maryland.gov](mailto:sarah.reiman1@maryland.gov) in BHA’s Division of Planning.



**Council Comments:**

Dan Martin asked about the status of the Prevention Committee and Cynthia Petion stated that she would be contacting Michael Baier about resuming Committee activities and working on the Strategic Prevention Framework plan.

Dan requested that Crisis Services Strategic Plan Committee be taken off the agenda for updates because it was an Adhoc Committee and they are not meeting.

Ms. Petion stated that the Council will need to revisit the by-laws to make any changes to the Committees and the changes have to be approved by the BHAC.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS – Co-Chair Barbara Allen**

Dan Martin asked that the Council receive proposed by-law changes a couple of weeks before September 18<sup>th</sup> so that changes can be voted on at that meeting.

BHAC Co-Chair elections will be coming up in November. Any member that is interested in becoming a Co-Chair should contact Ms. Sarah Reiman at [sarah.reiman1@maryland.gov](mailto:sarah.reiman1@maryland.gov) BHA's Division of Planning.

There will be several changes to the BHAC with a clean-up bill in the 29<sup>th</sup> legislative session that have been submitted to BHA's Office of Government Affairs and Communication which are:

- Drug Policy Clinic for the University of Maryland School of Law seat, needs to be removed because the clinic is no longer in operation.
- Youth seats between the ages 16-25 have been difficult to fill and would like to have one seat and not two in the statute
- The BHA Executive Director and MDH Deputy Secretary was merged into one job and the BHA Executive Director seat can be removed.
- It was recommended that the Governor's appointed seats tenure be changed from 3 years to 4 years.

The next Meeting of the Council is on September 18, 2018.

Meeting adjourned.