**HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**OVERDOSE PREVENTION PLAN**

**ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE ADVISORY BOARD (ADAAB)**

***(Plans, strategies and priorities for meeting the identified needs of the general public and the criminal justice system for alcohol and drug use disorder prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery systems of care)***

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

**FY16-17**

**July 1, 2015-June 30, 2017**

**Updated January 2017**

**Vision**

**An integrated service system that addresses the county’s behavioral health (substance use disorder and mental health) needs on demand.**

**Mission**

**Foster, promote and facilitate a collaborative effort among entities in education/prevention, treatment/rehabilitation and law enforcement/criminal justice to reduce substance abuse in Howard County.**

**Data Driven Analysis or Listing of Data Used to Inform Process:**

* Maryland Public Opinion Survey (MPOS) 2015
* US Census 2010
* http://factfinder.census/gov
* http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/24/24027.html
* Howard County Police Department Report on Heroin and Other Deaths and Arrests
* Three Key Informant interviews with health care providers
* Four Focus Groups (two with treatment providers; two with clients)
* Conversation with ADAAB members April 15, 2015
* 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
* State of Maryland Automated Records Tracking (SMART)
* Beacon Health Options
* Maryland Statewide Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW), February 2014: Maryland Epidemiological Profiles Chartbook
* Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC)/State Inpatient Databases (SID)
* Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH)/VDU
* Outlook and Outcomes in Substance Related Disorder Treatment: Maryland Behavioral Health Administration (BHA)
* Community Awareness Surveys

**Goals in Order of Priority**

***Goal 1:***

*Reduce Drug-Induced Deaths in Howard County*

**Objective 1: Support efforts to recruit, train, and certify 500 individuals to**

**administer naloxone.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Inform the public of free trainings, kits, and naloxone.

**Progress:** The Health Department continues to actively recruit the public to overdose response program trainings using social media, emails, newsletters, posters, handouts, presentations, and outreach efforts in the community.

* Provide certified individuals free naloxone kits.

**Progress:** 212 individuals were certified to administer naloxone year to date December FY17 by the Health Department.

* Provide certified individuals free naloxone and nasal atomizers (2 doses/2 devices).

**Progress:** 212 individuals were offered free naloxone and nasal atomizers (2 doses/2 devices) year to date December FY17 by the Health Department.

**Objective 2: Support efforts to offer Medication Assisted Treatment to those**

**at risk of overdose.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Enhance efforts to offer Medication Assisted Treatment to those at risk of overdose to include medications such as buprenorphine, naltrexone (oral and injection), methadone, etc.
* **Progress:** Clients within the system of care in Howard County are being offered Medication Assisted Treatment to include medications such as buprenorphine, naltrexone (oral and injection), and methadone.

* Enhance reentry efforts from incarceration to the community to include Medication Assisted Treatment for those at risk of overdose.

**Progress:** Individuals within Howard County reentry programming are being offered Medication Assisted Treatment to include medications such as buprenorphine, naltrexone (oral and injection), and methadone.

**Objective 3: Support efforts to enhance reentry interventions for those**

**transitioning from a sheltered environment to the community.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Enhance partnerships with community agencies to promote collaboration and integration of services.

**Progress:** Community agencies are encouraged to strive for enhanced collaboration and integration.The Reentry Coordinating Meeting is actively attended with agendas focused on enhanced collaboration and integration.

* Enhance the development of Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) between providers to enhance coordination of care.

**Progress:** Agencies within the system of care have established MOAs with community providers for enhanced coordination of care.

**Objective 4: Support the use of treatment planning that includes overdose**

**prevention planning to reduce the risk of overdose.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Promote the importance of implementation of overdose prevention planning to reduce the risk of overdose.

**Progress:** The Howard County Local Addiction Authority promotes overdose prevention planning for all individuals at risk of overdose.

* Encourage providers to train staff to implement overdose prevention planning to those at risk of overdose.

**Progress:** The Howard County Local Addiction Authority offers information/training on person centered planning including overdose prevention planning.

**Objective 5: Support the continuation of Medication Drop Box initiative**

**Performance Targets:**

* Continue Drug Take Back Days as needed given the implementation of permanent Medication Drop Boxes.

**Progress:** On September 26, 2015, April 30, 2016 and October 22, 2016 medication Take Back Days were held at HC DrugFree’s office and the 3 Howard County Police sites housing permanent medication boxes. HC DrugFree collected 455, 721 and 718 pounds of medications on those days.

* Maintain and increase permanent Mediation Drop Boxes as needed.

**Progress:** Currently, 3 boxes are provided by the Howard County Police Department. The box purchased by HC DrugFree with Opioid Misuse Prevention Program (OMPP) funds in FY15 remains in storage and waiting for HCPD to move to a Columbia location later in 2017.

**Objective 6: Support the establishment and maintenance of an Overdose Fatality**

**Review Team (OFRT)**

**Performance Targets:**

* Develop an overdose fatality review team.

**Progress:** The Health Department leads the OFRT meetings on a quarterly basis. The Health Officer chairs the meeting and the Opioid Misuse Prevention Program Coordinator organizes the meetings. The OFRT Annual Report was recently submitted including statistics, trends, key findings, and recommendations.

* Formulate meeting process including dates and locations.

**Progress:** The OFRT meeting process was restructured to focus on data driven recommendations after each quarterly meeting based on the cases reviewed. The OFRT meets quarterly at the Health Department.

* Implement and maintain the overdose fatality review team meetings on a quarterly basis.

**Progress:** OFRT meetings are well attended and meet quarterly at the Health Department.

***Goal 2:***

*Develop and maintain an accessible community system of intervention, treatment, and recovery services in Howard County.*

**Objective 1: Support efforts to offer a full continuum of care in Howard County.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Establish a detoxification program/clinic (residential/outpatient) in Howard County.

**Progress:** Research is being conducted on the need and feasibility of residential detoxification programming in Howard County. Some of the new private providers entering the system of care are planning to open outpatient detoxification programming.

* Maintain current psychiatric services, as well as, encourage new providers to enter the continuum of care as needed.

**Progress:** Several new private providers have entered the continuum of care in Howard County.

* Maintain current substance use disorder treatment providers in offering outpatient services including early intervention, outpatient, and intensive outpatient for adults and adolescents**,** as well as, encourage new providers to enter the continuum of care as needed.

**Progress:** The Health Department closed its outpatient office the end of December 2016. New private providers have entered the continuum of care as well as expanded programming. Additional private providers are working toward establishing programming in Howard County. The Health Department recently contracted with six private providers and is in the process of awarding outpatient substance use disorder treatment start-up funds to assist in opening and expanding their services.

* Maintain current recovery housing providers, as well as, encourage new providers to join the continuum of care as needed.

**Progress:** Current provider networks have been maintained and new providers are encouraged to enter Howard County.

* Offer Care Coordination which links individuals to resources and services to promote recovery.

**Progress:** Care Coordination continues to be offered by the Health Department. The service is offered to Howard County residents with low income and in treatment or involved in12-step support services. State Care Coordination and Maryland Recovery Net Care Coordination services are both available.

* Offer Peer Recovery Support Specialist services to promote recovery.

**Progress:** Peer Recovery Support Specialist services have expanded in Howard County. The Health Department and Howard County Mental Health Authority jointly fund The Wellness and Recovery Center operated by On Our Own of Howard County which is run by integrated behavioral health peer staff. The Health Department offers peer recovery support to clients and the public in partnership with several county agencies such as Howard County Detention Center, Howard House, Grassroots Crisis Intervention, Rt. 1 Resource Center, Howard County Police Department, and private providers. Since the launch of the peers’ work with the police over a 3 month time frame, the peers have responded to or followed up on over 35 overdose crisis calls.

**Objective 2: Support enhancement of collaboration and integration within local partners to avoid duplication of services and funding.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Enhance local collaboration of Howard County Mental Health Authority and

Howard County Local Addiction Authority.

**Progress:** The Howard County Local Addiction Authority and the Howard County Mental Health Authority co-located July 2015 at the Health Department. The two agencies work closely together and have made efforts to enhanced partnerships and collaboration.

* Enhance local integration of mental health and substance use disorder services.

**Progress:** Integrated mental health and substance use disorder treatment is encouraged and promoted with local providers. The Howard County Local Addiction Authority and Howard County Mental Health Authority offers integrated provider meetings, trainings, and an accreditation workgroup. A Behavioral Health Learning Collaborative focusing on system development and integrated care is set for March-October 2107.

* Encourage collaboration and partnership of local committees and boards.

**Progress:** The Howard County Local Addiction Authority and Howard County Mental Health Authority co-chair and co-attend many committees and boards.

* Enhance Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) Change Team efforts.

**Progress:** The ROSC Change Team continues active monthly meetings. Restructuring and enhanced efforts are set to start February 2017 to assist with the future direction of the Change Team’s efforts.

* Enhanced integration of mental health and substance use disorder recovery efforts at the Wellness and Recovery Center operated by On Our Own of Howard County jointly funded by the Howard County Mental Health Authority and Howard County Health Department, Bureau of Behavioral Health.

**Progress:** The Wellness and Recovery Center operated by On Our Own of Howard County has enhanced integrated behavioral health programming through training peer staff, hiring new peer staff, and hiring new leadership, and with efforts of restructuring their programming.

* Continue strategies and interventions that provide an integrated prevention and treatment approach.

**Progress:** Prevention strategies and interventions are incorporated into treatment approaches through offering overdose prevention planning, overdose response training, strengthening family programming, smoking cessation, and sexual transmitted disease education and prevention.

**Objective 3: Increase access to behavioral health services reimbursable through a full array of health insurance.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Encourage current providers to accept a full array of health insurance to increase access to care, as well as encourage new providers to join the continuum of care as needed.

**Progress:** The Howard County Local Addiction Authority encourages current providers to accept a full array of health insurance to increase access to care.

**Objective 4: Encourage providers to work toward gaining accreditation.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Encourage providers to develop a work group to prepare and implement accreditation efforts.

**Progress:** The Howard County Local Addiction Authority and Howard County Mental Health Authority co-lead the accreditation workgroup which was implemented November 2015. The workgroup meets every other Friday.

* Encourage providers to support each other in working toward accreditation.

**Progress:** Bonds have formed between the private providers in the accreditation workgroup. Providers utilize each other for support and resources. This support is valuable to the providers to gain and maintain accreditation status.

**Objective 5: Advocate for increased health insurance reimbursement rates and**

**enhance array of coverage.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Raise awareness of low health insurance reimbursement rates and limited array of coverage to include limited inpatient treatment coverage.

**Progress:** ADAAB sent a recommendation letter on the subject to the County Executive in June 2016. Reimbursement rates continue to be an issue for outpatient treatment; however, some relief is coming with fee for service Medicaid rates launching for inpatient treatment effective July 1, 2017.

* Advocate for increased health insurance reimbursement rates and enhanced array of coverage to increase access to care for needed services and increase the provider network.

**Progress:** ABAAB sent a recommendation letter on the subject to the County Executive in June 2016. To assist with these efforts, the Howard County Local Addiction Authority and Howard County Mental Health Authority are launching private insurance ombudsman positions. The staff will work together to combat these issues in an integrated fashion.

***Goal 3:***

*Educate and assist individuals, families, organizations and communities to*

*live healthy lives free of the negative consequences of substance misuse in*

*Howard County.*

**Objective 1: Encourage the establishment of a coordinated prevention effort that collaborates with community stakeholders to aggressively seek funding sources to develop and implement an effective, broad-based prevention effort that focuses on environmental change.**

**Performance Targets:**

* Support the Howard County Health Department, Bureau of Behavioral Health through HC DrugFree, to continue prevention efforts through the Prevention Grant and the Opioid Misuse Prevention Program (OMPP) grant through the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) and seek additional funding to further the county’s prevention efforts.

**Progress:** HC DrugFree continues to provide prevention services in FY17 on behalf of the Howard County Health Department. The Health Department continues to provide OMPP services in FY17. The two agencies work closely together in partnership and collaboration and work to not duplicate efforts.

* Encourage the use of environmental strategies that focus on the appropriate stages of change.

**Progress:** HC DrugFree launched the*In the KNOW* Media Campaign in August/September 2015 and educational materials remain displayed throughout the county at pharmacies, in prescribers’ waiting areas, senior centers, etc. Campaign materials focus on education about opioid misuse leading to heroin use as well as promote the locations of permanent medication collection boxes in the county. HC DrugFree staff continues to visit pharmacies to restock materials and build relationships with pharmacy staff. Pharmacy staff continues to guide customers to HC DrugFree to answer questions regarding safe storage and proper disposal. In addition, HC DrugFree continues to distribute personal medication storage boxes and educational materials throughout the community.