

Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 14, 2019

7:00- 9:00 pm

401 Hungerford Drive Rockville, MD 20850

1st Floor Large Conference Room

Voting Members Present:

Elyse Grossman, Kabir Singh, Edwin "Bunny" Rich, Larry Simmons, Margaret Mattson, Evelyn Saim-Lobos, Veronica Wright, Ghulam Abbas, Andrew Darby, Dawinder "Dave" Sidhu, Celia Young

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Michael "Mike" Subin (OCE), Hardy Bennett (DHHS), Anthony Sturgess (DOCR), Dr. Raymond Crowel (DHHS)

Guests/Others: LaTonia Rich, Elizabeth Leek, Yasmeen Mabry, Dorothy Raye Scott, Luke Mattey, Andrew Powers, Marcello La Rocca, Anne Ellis

Overview

The goal of the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council (AODAAC) is to express the views of the community in the formulation and administration of alcohol and other drug abuse prevention and treatment services in Montgomery County. Members of the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council serve as community representatives, who provide guidance to the County Executive and the County Council in identifying prevention and treatment needs and reviewing the county's efforts in addressing those needs. The Advisory Council will make recommendations in support of, or to improve, current prevention and treatment efforts. The AODAAC also serves as the local drug and alcohol abuse council and submits a bi-annual strategic plan to the State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration.

A call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Elyse Grossman, Chair. With 22 attendees, 10 voting members were present which were sufficient to have a quorum. Introductions were made and the February Meeting Minutes were approved.

Updates:

- Briefing on BBC Chairs Meeting with Acting DHHS Director Victoria Buckland held on February 26, 2019. Elyse advised attendees interested in issues relating to cannabis.
- AODAAC's new website was revealed and thanks given to Hardy Bennett/Mary Anderson for facilitating the development and launch of the website. <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/AODAAC>
- Briefing on AODAAC Spring Forum to be held on May 2, 2019 with Celia Young answering group questions
- Update on testimony provided by AODAAC to Maryland General Assembly
- Newly created AODAAC brochure was presented by Margaret Mattson

Sandstone Care Presentation (Luke Matthey, Andrew Powers & Marcello La Rocca)

- Marcello founded Sandstone Care
- Want to be a resource for the community. If they are not the right fit, they give a warm hand-off to another organization
- Sandstone Care has strong family and group events that are open to the community
- There are often co-occurring disorders so Sandstone has a psychiatrist / psychiatric nurse available
- Provide wrap-around services for young adults; "failure to launch"
- There is a live person available to talk to 24 hours a day (in either Colorado or here)
 - They field about 700 unique calls a month
- Also use TriggerHealth
 - This app provides 24/7 access for peer recovery coaches
 - Helps them track discharge plan engagement
 - The goal is to have 60% follow through 100% with discharge
- However, Sandstone does not take Medicaid, if there is no insurance, then must pay privately
- In Colorado (where Sandstone Care started), they have tele-health/tele-medicine options. Hoping to expand that here
- No currently relationship with Montgomery College but would be interested in expanding in that area
- Major challenges Sandstone has faced:
 - Accessibility – e.g. the insurance landscape is very challenging, parity enforcement
 - Recovery Home – e.g. "Not in My Backyard" (NIMBY), which is challenging
 - DHS – e.g. Sandstone is new but would love to explore and get help with supporting adolescences from core services aspect

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) Presentation (Elizabeth Leek & Anne Ellis)

- We are in the Chesapeake and Potomac Region (MOCONA)
 - Was formed in 1989 in Montgomery County and has ~53 meetings per week
 - www.cprna.org
- Although called “narcotics”, NA deals with all drugs
- To have an NA meeting, need 2 or more members with an interest in promoting recovery

Committee Reports

Legislative Committee: Did not meet but committee members continue to monitor relevant bills

Prevention Committee: Members present: Larry Simmons, Margaret Mattson
AODAAC brochure already discussed during Updates

Recovery & Treatment Committee: Did not meet but still planning and executing Spring Forum in lieu of our May Meeting

COUNTY REPORTS

Health and Human Services

Dr. Raymond Crowel reported on the following:

- Upcoming County Budget
- Data on overdose deaths caused by opioids
- Congressman Trone has created working group for freshman congressman on addiction

Hardy Bennett reported on the following:

- CARF-Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities will conduct a survey review of our Behavioral Health and Crisis Services clinical programs from 3/20/2019 – 3/22/2019
- Interviews were held to fill PTA representative on AODAAC. Currently our recommendation is with the County Council for approval
- Randall Ingate, Long-time Supervisory Therapist for the Adult Behavioral Health Program is retiring effective March 29, 2019 after working for the County since 1989. This will be a great loss of institutional wisdom for the County.

Police Department:

No Representative Present

Liquor Control

No Representative Present

Montgomery County Public Schools:

No Representative Present

Correction and Rehabilitation:

Anthony Sturgess Reported

- Interested in starting MAT programs
- Their Medical Director retired
- A Replacement Counselor has been hired

Board of License Commissioners:

No Representative Present

New Business/Public Comment

County Executive, Marc Elrich, invited and may attend AODAAC April Meeting

Tree of Hope reported:

- Additional opening for peer recovery training sessions occurring
- CPRS- Certified Peer Recovery Specialist- will be held there
- Freedom Center will be hosting a game night on April 20

ADJOURN

9pm