

Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction Advisory Council

Minutes - October 12, 2023 via Teams

Voting Members: Elyse Grossman, Isabelle Raquin, Nick Borowski, Malliga Iyer, Margaret Mattson, Laura Mitchell, Zayn Bandukwalla, Ed “Bunny” Rich & Denyse Dillon

Ex-Officio Members: Arnecia Moody, Dr. Rolando Santiago, Pam Abramson, Lt Peter Davidov, Celia Serkin, Gabriela Monzon-Reynolds, Jody Childers, Ben Stevenson II & Sara Rose

Guests: Tim Harwood, Samar Khleif, Ben Stevenson & Dr. Larry Epps

Welcome: Chair called meeting to order 7:00pm. There was a quorum present.

(Chair) A motion to Approve Minutes from the September 14th, 2023. There was a motion and a second. The minutes were approved.

- **Co-Vice Chair Report:** Representatives from the BCCs met with Dr. Bridgers: Isabelle attended (September 21) and reported on AODAAC’s two Priorities for the year. (Members were emailed copy)

- **Chair Report:** The Chair attended the HHS Committee of County Council meeting (October 11& 12). AODAAC presented two priorities for the year. The Priorities document was emailed to members.

- **Presenter:** Dr. Larry Epp, Director, Outcomes and Innovation, Sheppard Pratt-Gaithersburg Campus. Dr. Epps shared a PPT “Montgomery County Suicide.” Funded through the generosity of Congressman Jamie Raskin. Dr. Epps will email the entire PPT to staff liaison to disseminate to members.

- **Presenter:** Mr. Ben Stevenson, Director Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation. Mr. Stevenson provided an update on the Pre-Release Center which reopened April 2023. He also discussed the Diversion Program and the new initiatives he is putting in place. The Main Jail has 847 people; mostly pre-trial inmates who are chronically mentally ill. He mentioned expanding and serving more individuals with outreach and increase family communication. Mr. Stevenson also identified the need for more staff who can work effectively with this population and the need for additional training. If anyone is interested in a tour, please reach out.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS: Met from 6-7pm

Legislative & Communication Committee (Chair reported)

- Redo the Legislative Retreat in January.
- Newsletter meeting scheduled with Dr. Santiago.
- Meeting with Council Member Albornoz

Training & Outreach Committee (Laura & Nick reported)

- Mental Health trainings targeting Teens, young adults, and Adults.
- Harm Prevention
- Forums for youth adults and providers.
- Handle w/ Care is held up in the General Council office. This needs to be addressed.
- Training for court system as this system continues to use Stigmatizing language.
- Training parents.

III. County Reports:

Department of Health & Human Services (Dr. Rolando Santiago)

- Stabilization room is now open (4 Recliners). Twelve people have come through, most with substance use issues. Need referrals.
- Diversion center, second stakeholders meeting, nine members discussing Transportation. Will have 45 beds, 20 recliners and 20 stabilizations.
- RFR vendor for procurement by 11/1/23.
- 18.2 million State provided for the facility. Due to be open in 2-3 and or by 2021. Issue of what Medicaid is going to be able to reimburse, this is still being discussed.
- Attended a Sobering Conference in D.C. with 60 participants. Powerful documentary featuring individuals and their stories of addiction.
- In addition to the Diversion program, a Homeless triage walk in facility is being discussed with general services... more to come.
- Office of Budget Management, discussing the use of Opioid Settlement funds, which are intended to meet some of the glaring holes.
- IP residential an AODAAC advocacy effort is within this budget.
- Targeted Area, Glenmont Region area. Spanish speaking youth. Has proposal from one local organization. For Spanish-speaking youth since they appear to be the most vulnerable at this time in the Glenmont-Wheaton area, but with the possibility of replicating it to other communities as well.

Behavioral Health Treatment & Crisis Services (Arnechia Moody)

Working with youth in jail.

- Adult Behavior health Center 11/18/23 will launch.
- Adult detention center 120 kids ages 14-21 currently are not receiving treatment. Need to find funds to offer services.

Local Behavioral Health Authority: (Sara Rose)

- Journey for Hope Adolescent
- Tree of Hope
- Supports for the Concerned/ Significant others using the CRAFT Model.
- Reinforcement Development training
- LBHA Planning / Goals; will; be working with Pam.
- MD Consortium is open. RP out for providers. 17 RRP Beds will be available and active.

Police Department: Lt. Davidov had to leave early. The report was emailed to members. Should you have questions please email him peter.davidov@montgomerycountymd.gov

Alcohol Beverage Services: (Gabriela Monzon- Reynolds) announced she is leaving. She introduced her replacement, Jody Childers. Full Report emailed to Members.

- PSA Contest Safe Coalition for Under 21 Use prevention. Looking to launch its annual video contest soon.
- Working on yearly complimentary resource calendar that's mailed each year January to over 1,000 license holders, along with the renewal package.

Montgomery County Public Schools: No Report

Correction And Rehabilitation: No Report

HHS Substance Use Prevention & Harm Reduction: (Ben Stevenson II)

- Prevention Needs Assessment with prevention local evaluator currently in draft form, will share at a later meeting.
- From July 2023-Present 1700 Narcan was dispensed to people.
- 10/28 Drug Take Back Day.
- Short Staffed seeking a Trainer & Harm Reduction Outreach staff.
- Wheaton Plaza- Narcan test strips.
- Using Med Reserve Volunteers.
- Bus operator training at Bus Depos Monthly
- Asian American health initiative
- Youth Ambassador Program: 7 kids showed up for the meeting.

Board Of License Commissioners: No Report

Mental Health Advisory Committee: (Celia Serkin) Full Report was emailed to Members.

- Bolster the Infrastructure of Community-Based Family Peer Run and Adult Peer Run Organizations funded through Montgomery County DHHS Behavioral Health and Crisis Services.
- Embed Social Workers into Community Rec Centers.
- Promote and Support Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS)
- Leverage Medicaid for Mental Health Services in Schools and Communities.

Commission on Health: No Report

IV. Public Comment: Chair acknowledged Tim Harwood, Institute for Intergovernmental Research.

V. Old Business: News Release will be sent out soon.

VI. New Business: None

Meeting Adjourned -- 8:58 p.m.

CHAT Resources:

Homeless Resource Day October 19th <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:US:a2d815eb-c647-4bda-840f-2aee396f5d17>

Service members, Veterans and their families <https://www.samhsa.gov/smvf-ta-center>

larry.epp@sheppardpratt.org

ben.stevenson@montgomerycountymd.gov -240-773-9747

Black Physicians & Healthcare Network (BPHN) <https://www.bphnetwork.org/>