

# Mental Health Advisory Committee

April 4, 2019

Members Present	Members Absent	Ex-Officio and Staff Present	Ex-Officio and Staff Absent	Guests
Jeannette Bjorklund	Scott Davis	Raymond Crowel	Deborah Phillips	Cari Guthrie Cho
Michelle Grigsby-Hackett	Daphne Klein	Meredith Peace		Ziva Azhdam
Jennifer Jones	Tami Mark			Sami Sapkota
Garrett Mannchen	David Myles			Jennifer Grinnell
Libby Nealis				Jessica Kronstadt
Elizabeth Rathbone				
Celia Serkin				
Susan Smith	Jasmine Pearson			
Karishma Sheth				
Amy Sutter				

I. Welcome MHAC Members and Guests (Jeannette Bjorklund, Chair)

II. **Speaker** – Cari Guthrie Cho, LCSW-C

President and CEO of Cornerstone Montgomery; to speak about the TAY (Transition Age Youth) program and how MHAC can assist her program.

See <https://www.cornerstonemontgomery.org/services1>

- Working with parent groups has helped the TAY clients

- Supportive employment programs having great success
- Multiple grants coming in and pilot program to employ more nurses to support medical issues and co-occurring conditions;
- Challenges with bringing people in, never full, discussed other housing challenges, resident rehabilitation-- State set: 212 beds in residential, multiple smaller more intensive units (e.g. 5-8bed)
- Cari suggested updates/clarifications to the budget cuts opposition letter, those were made. She thanked the committee and urged our continued advocacy on these programs and proposed budget cuts.

**IV Review and Approval of March meeting minutes** - Motion to approve, seconded, passed.

- A. Spring Forum Update – Spring Forum will be on May 2, 2019 6pm-8pm at Bohrer Park. Theme is Wellness in the Family. Speaker will be Sara Rose, who is a Supervisory Therapist for Behavioral Health and Crisis Services -Children and Adolescent Behavioral Services Screening and Assessment Services for Children and Adolescents (SASCA), Family Intervention Services and Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention Program). In addition, she was the Clinical Director of Avery Road Combined Care (Maryland Treatment Services) and has worked with Family Services, Inc.

**Everyone is STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to attend the Spring Forum in lieu of the regularly scheduled monthly meeting. This will count as one of your meetings.**

- B. Restoration Center – Diane emailed with Sydney Katz's office and received the following information from his Aide Lisa Mandel Trupp - To date, there are no plans for a Restoration Center in the County. Diane spoke with but has no update – the Council will receive the FY20 budget from the Executive on Friday morning and likely will not include funding for any part of these efforts.
- C. Diane gave the interview update for our 6 vacancies, thanking the recent interviewers. We will be finished with interviews at end of next week.

## **V Behavioral Health and Crisis Services Update**

Cuts minimize negative impacts – residential rehabilitation was unfortunately one of the targets based on high reimbursement levels and lower need

Letter to Council to oppose budget cuts, reviewed, suggestions and edits made.

**Motion to approve, seconded, passed.**

Letter to Council on supporting state Medicaid plan changes to bring in more Medicaid funding for schools. Letter drafted by Libby and Elizabeth, reviewed, edits suggested, e.g. include MA, NC state examples of approved SPAs. There were questions about last months' presentation, still some confusion about how this would work in MD, and it was also suggested we first seek out allies in the county who may be working on state Medicaid issues. The letter and discussion will be tabled until June meeting, when further discussion and updates can take place.

## **VI. Springfield Hospital** – Representative absent

**VI. Announcements –**

- A. Parity at 10 – Toolkit shared
- B. MCPS rolling out new Framework -- Physical, Social and Psychological (PSP) framework, now called -Wellness 360 (per Elizabeth Rathbone) – She or Dr. Brice may present in June meeting.
- C. Everymind beginning a support group for Survivors of Suicide attempts – pilot support group, looking for participants 18 and older.