

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Mental Health Advisory Committee</h1> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Minutes – March 4, 2021</h2>
--	--

Members Present	Members Absent	Ex-Officio and Staff Present	Ex-Officio and Staff Absent	Guests
Ziva Azhdam	Jeannette Bjorklund	Michael Maher		Kim Euler
Jennifer Grinnell	Michelle Grigsby-Hackett	Regina Morales		Dorne Hill
Jamie Gu	Elizabeth Rathbone	Meredith Peace		
Helga Luest		Rolando Santiago		Jessica Kronstadt
Garrett Mannchen				Jenny Lynn
Tami Mark				Darren McGregor
Libby Nealis				Laura Mitchell
Celia Serkin				Samikshya Sapkota
Susan Smith				

- I. **Welcome** - The meeting came to order at 7:05 p.m. Members were asked to announce themselves and put their microphones on mute unless speaking.

Speaker: Darren McGregor, Director, MHS, MS, LCMFT from the State of Maryland. Darren's agency division description is as follows; This division provides oversight of crisis services: crisis intervention teams (CIT), mobile and crisis response, residential crisis, crisis stabilization, disaster preparedness and response; jail-based and and/or trauma-based: Maryland Community Criminal Justice Treatment Program (MCCJTP), Trauma, Addiction, Mental Health

and Recovery (TAMAR), Substance Abuse Treatment Outcomes Partnership (STOP), Drug Court, and Data-Link. Darren is here to present on the state's efforts to improve crisis services, including the state's goals, the current projects, barriers you have identified, best practices, what data sources you rely on, and any other information you would like the committee to be aware of.

- Slide Show – Diane will email out the slide show to everyone.
- Questions 1- Are you applying for Federal block grant money – the answer was yes.
- Question 2 – Climate change disaster planning – the answer was that is a jurisdictional question. The state is having each of the counties come up with their own plan.
- Question 3 – Medicaid fee for service reimbursement – the answer was that they do have staff that are working on this issue to expand it.
- Question 4 – Where are all of the resources for the States and Counties, is there a website? DHMH is working on it.

II. Minutes – Minutes from February were reviewed. Motion was made to accept the minutes. Motion was 2nd. Unanimous Consent.

III. New Business

- a. **Spring Forum** – subcommittee has been meeting regularly. The theme is Confronting Barriers to Mental Health and Addiction services: equity, isolation and the digital divide.” We will have three speakers to address each issue and then a panel at the end to answer questions from the community. The subcommittee is looking at trying to have short vignette videos from members of the public prior to each speaker and their topic. We are researching the ability to do that.
- b. Mental Health Association of MD – Legislative briefing was on February 22, 2021. Was a great briefing and had legislators speaking on each bill that Mental health association is looking at.
- c. Introduction of Laura Mitchell from AODAAC – Laura and Margaret Mattson are our liaisons.
- d. AODAAC meeting – Zivaa and Celia are the liaisons from MHAC. Zivaa reported that at the AODAAC meeting they were discussing HB996 which is a bill that will allow grocery stores to sell and deliver alcohol. AODAAC was against the bill.

IV. Behavioral Health and Crisis Services Update – Dr Santiago/Regina Morales

- Dr. Santiago reported that they had submitted a grant to SAMSA for expansion services for the Crisis Center. This grant will give the Crisis center 2 million dollars each year for two years. We will know in August if this grant has been awarded to the county. The grant will support the expansion of the mobile crisis teams and will assist with the building of the Restoration center. The plan is to have the Restoration center in the same location as the Seven locks holding facility and will be modeled after Avery Road center. It will be a public/private partnership.
- Dr. Santiago stated that they are still working on getting the CAHOOTS program to the county which will assist mobile crisis team in being able to respond without the police being involved and will provide a model for community outreach.
- Regina Morales – reported that she recently conducted a BHCS survey about innovations and highlights from FY-20. Some of the highlights were; expansion of Medicated Assistance treatment for inmates at the jail, County received SOAR funds to develop Coaching model to support newly trained SSDI case managers, CABHS developed a model for virtual play therapy for youth, Crisis center had a 30% increase in mobile and outreach services, two technology hubs were implemented at two sights for clients to be able to access therapy during covid, Drug court team transitioned 9 hours a

week to virtual, LBHA provided 16000 PPE to providers, Mental Health court maintained 18 graduations as it has done last year and volunteers gave four thousand hours to assist Domestic Violence clients at Shady Grove hospital.

- V. Springfield Hospital Report-** Michael Maher reported that the hospital is working hard to get their staff and patients vaccinated. They are still working hard to get patients hooked up with services to assist them in transitioning out of the hospital, help getting SS cards, ID cards.

VI. Subcommittee Reports -

A. Legislative Subcommittee – Libby reported that only two members of the subcommittee attended the meeting last week. Libby and Celia wrote several letters on legislation and even though the initial hearings have been held in the legislature Diane is monitoring to see which bills are moving to the opposite chamber to submit the letters. Leslie Frye who is our legislative person thru the county will come to speak with the MHAC members possibly in June.

B. Mobile Crisis Subcommittee – Garrett reported that Darren McGregor's speech was the mobile crisis subcommittee's report.

C. Suicide Prevention Subcommittee – Michelle was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

D. Environmental Impacts on Mental Health and Resilience – Helga reported that the committee did not meet this month but a meeting will get set up for next month

VII. Comments or questions from the Public or Commissioners –

- Susan Smith reported that many MHAC members recently attended the Commission on Persons with disabilities meeting to discuss the SRO bills before the county.
- Laura Mitchell – AODAAC liaison stated that MCPTA is voting on March 23 to support the removal of SROS from MCPS.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned – meeting ended at 9pm