

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Mental Health Advisory Committee</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Minutes – November 5, 2024</p>
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Members Present	Members Absent	Ex-Officio and Staff Present	Ex-Officio and Staff Absent	Guests
Bill Ellis	Stephanie Joseph	Sara Rose	Kelly Gruitt	Joseph Alminagor
Jennifer Grinnell	Marissa Leslie	Monica Martin	Samar Khleif	Benz Aponesto
Michelle Grigsby-Hackett	Garrett Mannchen	Meredith Peace	Michael Mayer	Julie Aynes
Susan Kerin			Jordan Satinsky	Georgi Anna Beharie
Libby Nealis				Joshua Bertiz
Alan Orenstein				Anthony Buccitelli
Celia Serkin				Jeffrey Cheng
				Marc Llacuna
				Kirsten Miller
				Anne Mishael Roncal
				Lovena Okoth
				Kim Rex
				Amira Salem
				Zarina Sribnick

- I. **Welcome** – The meeting came to order at 7:03 p.m. Libby Nealis chaired the virtual meeting. She welcomed a group of nursing students in attendance. The attending members constituted a quorum.
- II. **Subcommittees**
  - A. **CAYAS** – Michelle Grigsby-Hackett and Celia Serkin shared that the Child, Adolescent and Young Adult Services (CAYAS) Subcommittee has been meeting over the past year with a focus on student reluctance. They have had presentations and are also doing data collection (e.g., a Student survey). Sara Rose shared that the LBHA is one of ten pilot hubs to expand behavioral health services. They are working with MCPS to do a survey of parents, students and providers. Diane Lininger noted that members of the Committee on Juvenile Justice will attend the next CAYAS meeting. The CAYAS subcommittee meets on the third Tuesday of every month from 3:30-4:30. The next meeting is on November 19<sup>th</sup> and it is open to the public.
  - B. **Legislative** – MHAC members agreed to continue with the Legislative subcommittee even though they can't officially send testimony to the General Assembly.
  - C. **Ad Hoc** – Rather than have a standing subcommittee on another topic, MHAC members agreed to an ad hoc approach of having a subcommittee initiated as emerging needs present themselves.
- III. **Old Business**
  - A. **Minutes** – The October minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
- ▶ **New Business**
  - A. **HHS committee of County Council** – Libby provided MHAC's 2026 budget priorities to the HHS committee of the Montgomery County Council. Councilmember Alborno was unaware that MHAC could no longer give advice to the State and wanted more information. Councilmember Luedtke was pleased about the reference to the Sequential Intercept Model. Councilmember Sayles wanted more background on the budget figures related to peer workers.
  - B. **CERB** – Input to the Citizen Action Review Board (CERB) [was submitted](#). This review determines the value of Boards and whether any should be sunset.
  - C. **Letter from Silver Spring Justice Coalition** – Bill Ellis submitted a draft response of the MHAC letter to the Executive Committee and it has been forwarded for legislative approval. It will then be forwarded to MHAC for approval. The Department of Behavioral Health cannot submit a letter because the case (the death of a man with mental health conditions killed by police) is still legally pending..
  - D. **LBHA update** – Sara shared the final report on Montgomery County's [Sequential Intercept Mapping](#) and the [backup report](#).
  - E. **AODAAC** – Celia shared that the last AODAAC meeting has a presentation about traumatic brain injury.
  - F. **Montgomery County Goes Purple** – Celia reported that despite the rain, it was a well-attended event.
  - G. **Suicide Prevention Coalition** – Celia reported that topics covered at the last meeting focused on the expansion of mobile units as well as a discussion on gun safety.

- H. **Vacancy notice for the MHAC** – Diane reported that interviews of potential members will be done this month. She is hoping that new members can be onboarded in January 2025.
  - I. **Upcoming Meetings** – There will be no meeting in December. It was agreed to invite Shannon Hall to speak about State legislative priorities in January. Libby indicated that this might be an in-person meeting.
  - J. **Spring Forum** – Diane reported that the Suicide Prevention Coalition would like to partner on this event for 2025.
- IV. **Announcements** – Susan Kerin noted that NAMI-MC members along with Laura Mitchell did a tour of the Montgomery Detention Center’s mental health unit. They spoke with staff about the critical lack of forensic beds.
- V. **Meeting Adjourned** – The meeting ended at 8:14 p.m.