

Health and Welfare Committee Meeting Notes

January 2, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

Virtually Via Zoom

Attending COA Board Members and Alumni: Laurie Pross, Barbara Selter, David Engel, Virginia Cain, Kate Stein, Joyce Dubow, Kendell Mathews, Linda Begofsky, Wayne Berman

Attending COA Alumni: Marcia Pruzan, Marsha Weber

Attending County Staff: Tina Purser Langley, Kimberly Johnson

Others: Anna Stokes, Oasis

Welcome	Action items Responsible Party
Approval of Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes approved 	Virginia Cain
Responsibility for Note Taking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No one volunteered to be the note taker for entire year • Different individuals will be asked to take notes for each meeting 	Virginia Cain, H&W Meeting attendees Barbara Selter and Virginia Cain will contact individuals each month to ask them to take notes for a given meeting
Mental Health Discussion – refining the topic to enable future research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back ground: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not yet in a position to say what we want to do ○ Last meeting focused on recreation centers and priorities of the rec centers via a vie mental health ○ Other areas need to be considered – need for discussion on these other areas including people who don’t leave their homes or come to rec centers - the rec centers are a good place to start but the Committee needs to go further to look at such things as mental health services in Affordable Housing, shut ins, specific communities and so forth • Joyce Dubow: Unmet need is the workforce, we need to be able to provide the service and shortage of mental health workers will affect that ability • Linda Bergofsky: It is important to know how many seniors do use rec centers; hospitals in the area must do a community health needs assessment which may provide important information; other sources include hospitals that offer mental health services – meet with discharge planners 	Virginia Cain provided background Pazit Aviv: Start with Pazit to get information from Villages Consortium Other individuals will let Virginia Cain and Barbara Selter know if they have an interest in a specific area to research Tina Purser Langley: Will help identify others working on this issue in the County Laurie Pross: Will talk to mental health professionals to see if they can be sources of information or suggest other sources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurie Pross: Work with villages that have access to some sort of idea of the level of fragility of villagers in mental health arena, hospital case managers • Tina Purser Langley: Dr. Santiago from MoCo Mental Health Department, Discharge Planners are sources • Joyce Dubow: who is our target – need to clarify audience – those in crisis, bereavement, hospitalized, treatment outside of hospital – there are diverse audiences that need to be considered • Linda Bergofsky: Talk to hospital discharge planners not necessarily about people with primary mental health diagnosis, but for whom mental health is a complicating factor • Laurie Pross: How do we get data on individuals in treatment – this is likely to be very difficult • Tina Purser Langley: Meet with Dr. Santiago from Mental Health Department, perhaps he could be speaker for next meeting • Laurie Pross: What is the status of the Multi-factor Plan and how does it address mental health issues • David Engel: Josey Macon from the County, Crisis Intervention Team would have information on situations that need immediate attention • Wayne Berman: Non-profits such as Jewish Council on Aging, NAMI local chapter has resources, talk to social workers in large assisted housing • Kate Stein: look at general sources of information such as the Kaiser Family Foundation, U of MD research topics, other agencies that compile data on mental health • Kimberly Johnson: talk to Avatal Graves, Manager – Mobile Integrated Health Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service Emergency Medical and Integrated Healthcare Services • Barbara Selter: Go to leaders of community groups that serve minorities and try to find community leaders who have knowledge of their individual communities 	<p>Kendell Mathews: Will pursue village sources</p> <p>Barbara Selter to work on contacts in minority communities who might be sources of information</p>
<p>Integrating Mental Health Services into Affordable Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marsha Weber: HOC in charge of resident services about referrals, issues in the building • Tina: Talk to Stephanie Moore at HOC – • Linda: Are there organized programs to bring health care into housing – just mental health or larger issue of health care in general 	<p>Tina Purser Langley to look for report on integrated services in affordable housing buildings</p> <p>David has a report about Leslie Mark' training program for housing managers and will share it</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tina: Before pandemic – connection with WISH program, coordinate care through senior housing in the county, but this program has gone away • Laurie Pross: Gemena Murchishon is the case manager assigned to Villages in Mo. Co. • David Engel: Monthly Meeting speaker, Gemena Sieme, who has been providing programs in HOC building; Meals on Wheels are boots on the ground – go back to front line people to identify unmet need; Leslie Marks did a program in the community housing, as well as a training program for housing managers, but Covid killed it: there is an interesting model in a development in Rockville – Mainstreet- that provides services for residents 	<p>Marsha Weber and Marcia Pruzan: Will contact Leslie Marks for additional information about her work</p> <p>Barbara Selter: Will pursue how to reach “difficult to reach” members of different minority communities</p>
<p>Mental Health Topic for Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forum Topic: Reimagining Affordable Housing – to focus on accessibility, mental health, and other housing issues - agenda currently being shaped – it will be a challenge to focus the forum as housing is such a broad topic - the next forum planning meeting will focus on the contribution from faith based organizations • Marsha Weber: Viers Mill Road development will have integrated services indicating that it can be done • Wayne Berman: Wants to focus the forum on a model of what could be done in the future to reimagine housing and how to get there – likes the approach of “reimagining” housing rather than attempt to rehash old issues, but rather where we want to go forward in the future and how to get there • Virginia Cain: How should this committee proceed to help the forum – Wayne Berman is very interested in H&W ideas 	<p>H&W members with ideas about mental health issues for the forum should send their suggestions to Wayne Berman</p>
<p>Other issues related to Mental Health topic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Bergofsky: Importance of normalizing services, reducing stigma • Laurie Pross: Need to be cautious in how we approach this topic, as it can be very controversial in some communities 	<p>Committee members will consider these concerns while pursuing this topic</p>

<p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue sources of data • Get speakers for upcoming meetings • Identify representatives to forum meeting – Marsha Weber, Marcia Pruzan, Wayne Berman, and David Engel are current members of the forum committee and others who are interested should let Wayne know • Identify specific areas of interest for committee members to work on 	<p>Committee members will let Virginia Cain and Barbara Selter know if there are research issues or speakers they want to work on</p> <p>Committee members will let Wayne Berman know if they want to attend forum planning meeting</p>
<p>Adjourn: 10:57 pm</p>	<p>Laurie Pross: Made motion to adjourn</p> <p>Barbara Selter: Seconded motion</p>