



MEETING MINUTES

Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission

Wednesday, Sept 17, 2025

7:30am – 9:00am

In Person Location: *Executive Office Building*

(101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD 20850)

Auditorium (Located on the Lobby Level of the Building)

&

Virtual: [Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only): [+1 443-692-5768,,269416772#](#)

Phone conference ID: 269 416 772#

Members Present: Dawn Luedtke (Chair), Maxwell Uy, Eric Schneider, Marc Yamada, Ben Stevenson, James Bonifant, Sherri Koch, Monica Martin, Marielsa Bernard, Karen Bushell
Earl Stoddard (Staff), Lindsay Bolt (Minute Taker)

(Online)- Florence Jewell (Vice Chair), Lori Garibay-Aquino, John McCarthy, Shan Anderson, Jeff Ewart, Jason West, Mary Schaller, Sean Mukherjee, Shakirra Haynes, Marcus Jones, Lakeisha Robinson, Antonio DeVaul

Members Absent: Richard Madaleno, Stefan LoBuglio, Jeff Waldstreicher, Kurt van der Walde, Gail Roper, Mark Sroka, John Nesky, Carole Brown, Debra Grandy

Guests: Darren Francke, Susan Farag, Arnecia Moody, Lisa Mandel-Trupp, Tamera Bulla, Dr. Davis, Laurie Edberg, Keena Jones, Christopher Feldenzer, Stephen D’Uva, Eric Stancliff, Ben Stevenson II, Kathy Estrada, Sierra Gray, Dr. Briders, Diana Carrillo, Willie Parker-Loan, Tazeen Ahmad

1. General Business

Dawn Luedtke, Councilmember,
CJCC Chair

Summary

- Review of 7/23/2025 Minutes for approval
- Vote to approve CJCC Juvenile Justice Subcommittee

Action:

- Board voted (18 Yes, 0 No) to approve the 7/23/2025 Minutes (1st Sheriff Uy/2nd John McCarthy)
- Board voted (18 Yes, 0 No) to approve the CJCC Juvenile Justice Subcommittee (1st Eric Schneider/2nd Karen Bushell)

2. Standing Agency Updates

- District Court (Judge Koch)
 - Currently working on the State of the Court Report which reports out how the District Court is doing within time standard of their cases
 - In 2018, DUI cases were 45% within time standard, we are pleased to report we are now at 98.3% within time standard
 - Judge Koch notes this would not be possible without the push/collaboration between MCPD/SAO/OPD
 - This year, Traffic Must Appear cases are 93.1% within time standard and Criminal cases are 96.1% within time standard
 - District Court is currently down 2 judges which will become 3 by end of year.
- Circuit Court (Judge Bonifant)
 - The Circuit Court just completed its FY2025 Case Processing Performance Analysis Report
 - For Criminal Cases -the Court completed cases within the 180 day time standard 74% of the time. This is similar to the prior year
 - You can find Court Report and Statistics:
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cct/Statistics.html>
 - The Court continued to be down 2 judges throughout the year
 - Earlier this month, Gov. Moore appointed James Dietrich to Montgomery County Circuit Court
 - His investiture is scheduled for Oct 9, 4pm at the courthouse
 - Judge Bonifant raised concerns that the OPD is down 4 attorneys and his understanding is that due to budget constraints, the positions will not be immediately filled.
 - The Expanded Voir Dire Program continues through the end of the year
 - Security doors have been added to the Circuit Court, with more planned. Judge Bonifant appreciated the County Council and Maryland Judiciary for funding the project. The Court continues to work with the Judiciary's Judicial Safety Committee to implement other best practices. The number of threats to judges has increased.
 - Judge Bonifant has held numerous Show Cause hearings which resulted in limiting individuals' access to the courthouse, which is an

extraordinary remedy but necessary due to the interference being caused to other individuals coming to the courthouse

- MCPD (Chief Yamada)
 - Highlighted the significant resource pull swatting calls have on the agency
 - Noted the agency's focus on these types of threats has led to identifying a juvenile in Florida who admitted to making over 100 swatting calls and connections to child exploitation cases
 - Multiple MCPD police districts have been investigating a South American group which commits burglaries of wealthy homes or victims who keep their cash in their homes instead of banks
- State's Attorney (John McCarthy)
 - Congratulated MCPD on their successful arrest and conviction in a 2001 Cold Case
 - Excited that Councilmember Luedtke is the Chair of Truancy Court
 - Introduced Darren O'Brien, Chief Technology Officer within the State's Attorney's Office and an idea to create a new subcommittee
- Office of the Public Defender- Montgomery County (Sean Mukherjee)
 - Raised concerns regarding the recent [Administrative Order](#) which requires detained individuals shackled while in the courtroom
 - Noted Sheriff's office needs more staffing

Action:

- A motion was made by SA John McCarthy to create a new Standing subcommittee focused on IT collaboration between the public safety agencies and Judicial services.
 - This subcommittee would be focused on creating a unified process for gathering, categorizing, and tagging evidence between the agencies for more efficient delivery of judicial services.
 - Long term, this subcommittee could look at other collaborative efficiencies such as procurement
 - Suggested Darren O'Brien would lead this subcommittee
- Board voted (15 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain) to approve the creation of a new Standing CJCC Subcommittee focused on IT collaboration. (1st Sheriff Uy/2nd Vice Chair Jewell)

3. Briefing: Problem Solving Courts Update

Judge Sherri Koch, District Court

Jenna Davis, Director, Montgomery
County Problem Solving Courts

- Montgomery County, MD has 4 active Problem-Solving Courts:
 - Circuit Court
 - Drug Court
 - Mental Health Court
 - District Court
 - DUI Court
 - Mental Health Court
- Montgomery County, MD also currently offers an “Alternative Track” in Circuit Court Drug Court, an “Accelerated Track” in Circuit Court Mental Health Court, and a “Diversion Track” in District Court Mental Health Court
- Currently looking to add a Veterans Treatment Court and a Behavioral Health track
 - Both of these are in the early stages of discussion/funding and staffing are the current barriers; along with finding Peer support
- The difference between an official “Court” and a “Track” is,
 - A Court has a list of defined requirements that must be met and approved by the Supreme Court of Maryland, a “Track” is embedded in a problem-solving court to ensure participants enrolled, receive services that best fit their needs.
- Funding/Staffing:
 - Funding for the current courts offered is through grants, the judiciary, and the county; recently funding also became available for a ½ time defense attorney (Jenna is working with OPD to explore)
 - Each Court in District Court has a Coordinator who reports to Jenna. Jenna serves as the Coordinator for the Circuit Court programs.
 - Jenna is currently hiring a Case Management position focused on Career and Education linkage for the participants, this person will also carry a small case load
- Ms. Davis notes that all these problem-solving courts now have 1 referral form which helps streamline the intake process and who can or should go in which court/track

Questions/Comments from the Committee:

- Judge Bonifant noted the AOT (Assisted Outpatient Treatment) Law and the challenges under the law which would require Psychiatrists to attend court

4. Briefing: Overdose Prevention Team Update

Dr. Kisha Davis, Public Health Officer, DHHS

Monica Martin, Chief, Behavior Health and Crisis Services, DHHS

Ben Stevenson II, Manager III Prevention and Harm Reduction Services, BHCS, DHHS

- Formerly known as the Opioid Intervention Teams, the Overdose Prevention Team (OPT) focuses on all overdoses including but not limited to alcohol, cocaine, opioids, etc.
- Montgomery County's OPT meets every other month; co-chaired by Dr. Davis (Public Health Officer) and Latonia Rich, Tree of Hope Executive Director.
- The OPT is focused on updating our strategic plan to reduce overdoses and hosting public discussions
- A Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Prevention Intervention Program pilot in the Aspen Hill, Wheaton, Glenmont area is being led by Identity. This county wide initiative helps support youth and young adults dealing with SUD and help them get into treatment or support them and their families where they are.
- Working on a public awareness campaign, "Pieces"
- Training of Bridges to Wellness (MCPS Middle School and High School Staff)
- Latino and African American Males are disproportionately affected by substance use
- MDH Data Dashboard which includes an Overdose Data Dashboard is Live - <https://health.maryland.gov/dataoffice/Pages/mdh-dashboards.aspx>
 - On this link you can also find data on Biosurveillance, Firearm Violence, Women's Health, and the Maternal Health Hospital Report
- Reviewed Montgomery County Substance Use Disorder Data/trends

Questions/Comments from the Committee:

- Committee members discussed what we are seeing with regard to reuse/relapse after rehab
 - Rehab hopes to build up your protective factors through medicated assisted treatment, infusion of peer and familial support, giving back to the community
 - Relapses are part of recovery! An Overdose is a brain injury!
 - The most dangerous times for users is directly before they go into treatment, immediately after they are released from treatment or incarceration
 - The right length of treatment depends on many factors including insurance, substance, etc

See PowerPoint Presentation enclosed proceeding the Minutes

5. Subcommittee Reports Dawn Luedtke, CJCC Chair
- Legislative Subcommittee – No update at this time

6. Wrap-Up and Adjourn Dawn Luedtke, CJCC Chair
- County Council will be hosting a ½ day Symposium on our Montgomery County SIM- Oct 10 (8:30am-Noon) at the East County Recreation Center
 - Meeting adjourned at 9:01am (1st Sheriff Uy/2nd Vice Karen Bushell)

Next Full Commission Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 (7:30am-9am)

***In Person Location: Executive Office Building (101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD) Auditorium
& Virtual via Microsoft Teams link***

Overdose Prevention Team (OPT)

CJCC Meeting
September 17, 2025

Roadmap

- Overview of MC Overdose Prevention Team
 - Structure
 - John Hopkins Principles
 - Initiatives
- Current opioid trends
- Q&A

What is an OPT?

- Formerly known as the Opioid Intervention Teams (OITs)
- Shift in focus from opioids to all overdoses
- To receive funding from the Maryland Office of Overdose Response (MOOR), counties must host these meetings at least quarterly and report to the Office on annual basis
- OPTs must include representatives' various disciplines
- OPTs are the entities responsible for allocating block grant funding from MOOR

OPT Structure

- Chaired by the local health department, has a co-chair from any local partner organization (co-chair can be from any local government agency or community organization), and includes partners from local agencies, providers, and community groups.
 - Currently chaired by our Health Officer Kisha N. Davis, MD, MPH, FAAFP
 - Co-chair Executive Director Tree of Hope Latonia Rich
- Steering Committee



County gov't | County agencies | State/regional partners | Community partners |
Healthcare partners | Public Safety partners

1. Use the money to save lives
2. Use evidence to guide spending
3. Invest in youth prevention
4. Focus on racial equity
5. Develop a fair and transparent process for how to distribute the money

**NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED GUIDANCE FOR
OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF FUNDS FROM THE OPIOID LITIGATION

Developed by a coalition of organizations across the spectrum of the substance use field, including public health, law, medicine, and recovery, these Principles for the Use of Funds From the Opioid Litigation provide planning and practical guidance for state and local policymakers on how to effectively spend money from the settlements.

EXPLORE THE PRINCIPLES

Expectations of OPTs

- Responsible for developing a local strategy to reduce overdoses in their communities
- Hosting meetings to discuss updates

OPT Meeting Themes

Understanding which populations are most vulnerable allows for the creation of focused, effective intervention and/or strategies.

- Youth
- Older Adults
- Incarcerated Populations





Funding and Initiatives



OPT Block
Grant



MOOR
Competitive
Grants



Opioid
Abatement
Funds

Use of Opioid Abatement Funds

Youth Residential
Treatment

Expanding Office of
Prevention and
Harm Reduction
Services

Emergency
Interventions

Public Awareness
Campaign

Community grants

Training and
Curriculum

Acquired Narcan
Kiosks



Current work and upcoming Initiatives

- Community Awareness efforts
 - Pieces Campaign coming soon
- Community Grants Program
- SUD Prevention Intervention Program
- Expansion of Peer Support Specialist

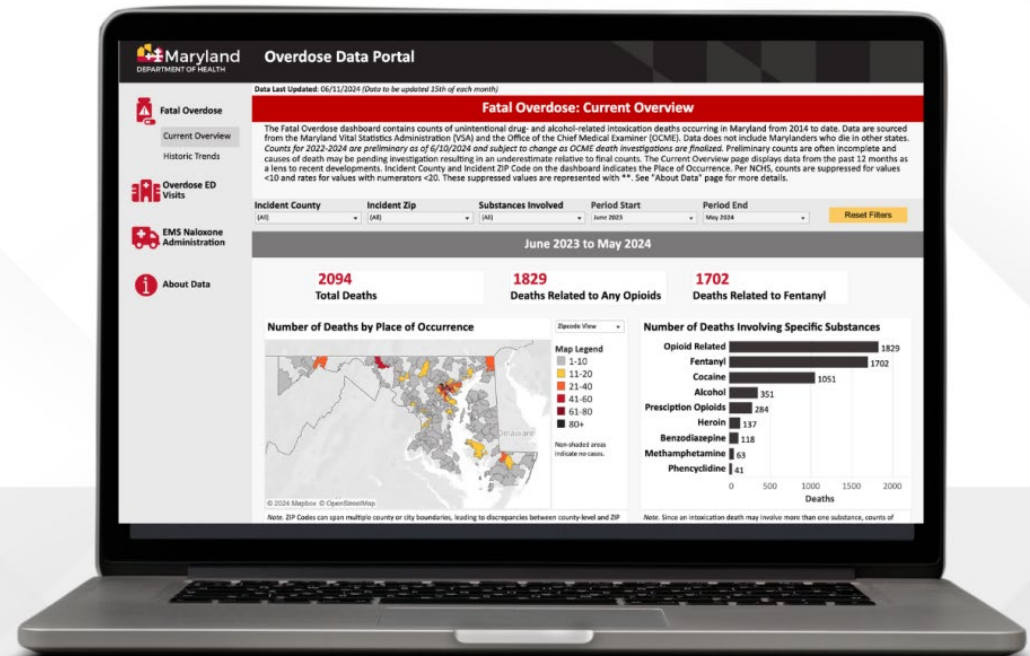


MDH DATA DASHBOARD

Access data at:

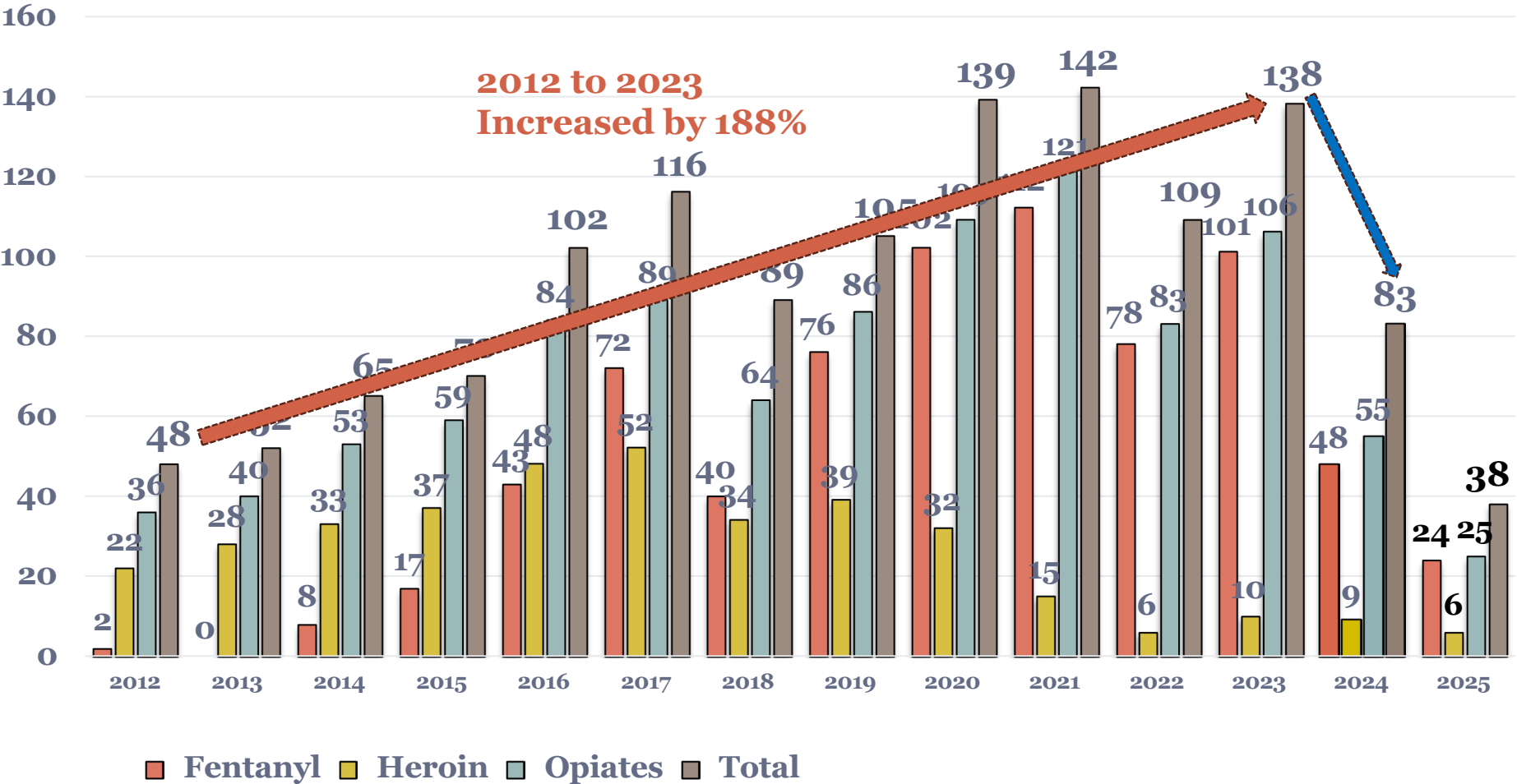
- <http://health.maryland.gov/data/office/Pages/mdh-dashboards.aspx>

Overdose Data Dashboard Website is Live



Montgomery County Trend of Intoxication Deaths by Selected Substances 2012-2025 YTD (up to July 31, 2025)

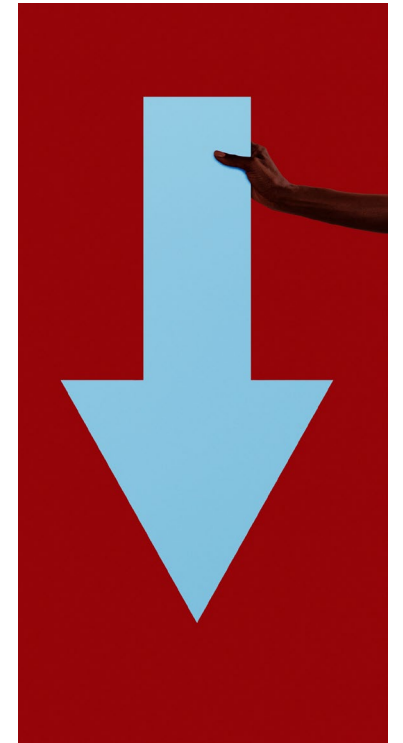
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Source: MDH Reports on Drug and Alcohol Intoxication Deaths up to end of July 2025, An overdose death may involve more than one substances. The counts related to specific substances do not sum to the total number of overdose deaths.

Opioid Trends

- Polysubstance is observed
- 1st seven months we have had 38 fatal overdoses
- In FY25, we have seen a 21% decrease in fatal overdoses



Montgomery County SUD Data

- Montgomery County has seen decreases of:
 - 21% (10 fewer cases) in fatal overdoses during 2025
 - 29% for fatal overdoses involving opioids
 - 23% for fatal overdoses involving Fentanyl
 - 40% for fatal overdoses involving alcohol

Youth

- From FY23 to FY24, youth 10-21 experienced a 17 % reduction in ER visits related to all drug overdoses (111 fewer cases)
- From FY23 to FY24, youth 10-21 experienced a 25 % reduction in ER visits opioid overdoses (23 fewer cases)
- From FY23 to FY24, youth 10-21 experienced a 12% reduction in ER visits due to Alcohol Use/Abuse/Dependency/Intoxication (47 fewer cases)

Seniors

- From CY23 to CY24, our 55 and older group saw a 2% increase in all drug poisonings (which was 10 more cases).
- In 2024, White residents account for 58% of ER visits related to all drug poisonings and African American residents account for 22% .
- During CY2023-25 YTD, a total of 207 ER visits due to Opioid overdose and 1929 ER visits related to alcohol use/dependency were reported for 55 and older age group.

Trends Jan-July 2025

Substance	Montgomery County	State
Fentanyl Involved fatal overdoses	63%	73%
Cocaine involved	37%	53%
Alcohol related	32%	16%

Learnings and Recommendations

Learnings

- Prevention and harm reduction efforts are effective
- Saturation of Narcan can and has helped to save lives.

Recommendations

- Continue to pursue diversion over incarceration
- Employ public health interventions for drug offenses



The background of the image is a dense, out-of-focus pile of light-colored wooden question marks. The wood grain is visible on the surfaces of the question marks, which are scattered across the entire frame. The lighting is soft and even, highlighting the texture of the wood.

Questions & Answers

Contact Information

Ben Stevenson II, MA, CPP

MLS Manager III, Prevention & Harm
Reduction Services

Ben.stevensonii@montgomerycountymd.gov