

**HOWARD COUNTY**  
**Opioid Crisis Community Council**  
**December 2, 2020**

**5:15-6:45pm**  
**ZOOM Meeting/COVID-19**

Meeting came to order at 5:20pm

Attendance: Barbara Allen, Christina Castro, Corey Bryce, Kaymisha Knights, Debbie Santini, Cindy Johnson, Katie Dant, Roe Rogers-Bonaccorsy, Robin Bartko, Laura Torres, Sean Hughes, Teron Powell, Beth Harbinson, Theresa Collins, Shereen Bentley, Robin Bartko, Mimi Mathews, Joan Webb-Scornaienchi, Eric Kruhm, Christina Castro

Introductions of participants. None, no new participants

Minutes: Approved with a modification to add Theresa's name to attendance. Robin Bartko moved to accept minutes and Katie Dant seconded to pass with the modification of adding Theresa's name.

Updates/Announcements:

- Debbie Santini, Joanie Elder, Mark Donovan, & Debbie Nix attended the first virtual family forum meeting (Howard County drug forum) that was sponsored by MCT, OCCC, HC Drug Free and Congruent Counseling. It is open to families in the community. No families attended this first one. It will occur 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of every month. Barbara suggested starting with a topic along with the open forum to encourage families to attend. Suggestions for how to publicize & promote it were also discussed.
- Roe reminded everyone of the BH summit that is running for the next 4 mos began in Nov. The Dec event is the 16<sup>th</sup> from 12-1pm. The topic is "The Telehealth Trend: Navigating Healthcare Through Technology".
- Harm Reduction Syringe Services Mobile RV is up and running in the HD parking lot since soft launch in Nov. The public media launch will be Dec 9<sup>th</sup>.
- The Health Department (HD) Narcan trainings are virtual and narcan is being mailed to participants after they have completed the on-line training. BHA had put out some regulations around this through MDH now since HoCo was the first jurisdiction to initiate it. The Narcan must only be sent through the US Mail and any new programs needs to be approved by MDH before a jurisdiction can mail the narcan. The HD provides trainings for individuals and groups.
- Grassroots is working toward moving to an OMHC (out-patient mental This also raises the level of care available while helping assure a more stable financial status. There are a number transitions occurring within GR leadership. They continue to work on a program that serves clients with stimulant use disorder.
- GBRICS (Greater Baltimore Regional Integrative Services) - \$45million project over 5yrs through the HSCRC (Health Services Cost Review Commission) and includes a partnership with 17 hospitals across Howard County, Carroll County, Baltimore County and Baltimore City. The money is available beginning Jan 2021 and is based on the Crisis Now model. Beth H asked if there has been a decision made whether the 211 # will continue to be used for behavioral health crisis. This decision has not been made but consumers will be involved in the planning and implementation process of GBRICS as decisions such as a call line are made through the process. There is also an awareness of the

legislation passed for a national suicide hotline. Beth Harbison asked if there was a way to find sober living and halfway houses in HoCo so she can reach out to them and provide them with tickets for the Sobar Sober Living NYE party. Roe can provide a list of sober living houses. BHA also has a list on their website of all the certified and non-certified sober living houses. A presentation on GBRICS is scheduled for the January OCCC agenda.

- There was a town hall on Nov 9<sup>th</sup> for recovery house managers. The purpose of the event was for NCAAD and the policy rep to hear from residential managers what concerns and issues exist for houses.
- The Recovery Services and Supports committee (BHAC) has a focus this year of supporting recovering housing. One of the main concerns has been fire safety at the houses. The state fire marshal has made a decision to make a change across the state around the requirements for fire safety and recovery houses. It is simpler and does not require commercial sprinkler systems be installed.
- The General Assembly begins in Jan and people will not be able to attend and testify in person due to COVID. There is a process for signing up in advance to testify as well as online access to committee hearings – including those who are already meeting. A lot of pre-work is being done to facilitate as smooth and effective a session as possible.

#### 2021 Planning

- Barbara presented the draft of the OCCC logo that was designed by a graphic artist. She requested feedback on it. The plan is to have the logo available for use on various things such as a pop-up banner and correspondence sent out or on flyers in the future. The colors were chosen from the “yes and” cards Barbara made a few years ago. Participants weighed in in favor of the logo. Given COVID we’ll hold off purchasing the pop up banner until things open up for events. Events on the calendar include August 31<sup>st</sup> IOAD, September recovery walk and the ROSC baseball game on May 1<sup>st</sup>) - should restrictions be lifted. Barbara raised the question of whether we should begin planning for future events. Barbara provided dates for OCCC dates for 2021.
- Teron raised the question of whether the LEAD program is going to occur in the upcoming year. He would like the OCCC to be a supporter of the initiative to help support other programs that are within the parameters of the Enforcement and Adjudication committee. Roe reported that the HD hired the coordinator for the LEAD program (Justine) who started in Nov. The HD received funding through the Governor’s office and they are working with all of the partners involved. The HoCo state’s attorney’s office has been involved in leading efforts to coordinate partners together. There is also funding for case management services (RFP is out now) along with the coordinator for the program. The program is closely linked with the harm reduction programs and the mobile health services through Fire & Rescue. They are working to develop an advisory committee under the ROSC umbrella. Anyone from the OCCC interested in participating in the advisory committee is welcome to participate. There is a desire to have family members, people in recovery and businesses involved on the advisory group. A future presentation on the program will be scheduled for an OCCC meeting. Teron and Barbara will discuss a path forward for OCCC’s participation.
- Christina Castro volunteered to present about the various services that the mobile integrated care program (MICH) can provide to community members at an upcoming OCCC meeting.

Next meeting is January 6, 2021 – see agenda for all 2021 meeting dates.

Motion by Beth H and seconded by Sean Hughes to close the meeting at 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted by Laura Torres

**Chat box comments:**

From Christina Castro to Everyone: 05:17 PM

Good evening! I'm the Mobile Integrated Community Health Coordinator here in Howard County. We still do home visits! If you have a client or need for getting into someone's home, please feel free to contact me. mich@howardcountymd.gov 410-313-5964: my office line 410-313-6010: general referral line

From Roe to Everyone: 05:25 PM

BH Summit: The Telehealth Trend: Navigating Healthcare Through Technology 12/16 noon-1 pm.

From Christina Castro to Everyone: 05:27 PM

Hi, Kaymisha, great to meet you! please send me an email directly when you can.

[ccastro@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:ccastro@howardcountymd.gov)

From Shereen Bentley to Everyone: 05:30 PM

Link for BH Summit: Wed 12/16/2020 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

<https://howardcountymd.webex.com/howardcountymd/onstage/g.php?MTID=e999a263572839844dedf3871be4e9>

From Roe to Everyone: 05:38 PM

BH Summit: 1/20 The 2nd Curve: Staying Connected During the Pandemic, 2/17 Growing Your Wellness Toolbox, 3/17 Dealing with Unrest: Understanding Yourself & Others The Greater Baltimore Regional Integrated Crisis System (G-BRICS) will serve children and adults who experience a behavioral health crisis in four jurisdictions: Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Carroll County, and Howard County.

From Roe to Everyone: 05:47 PM

Harm Reduction (HR) Syringe Services Program (SPP) public media Facebook live event 12/9 11 am.

From Roe to Everyone: 05:58 PM

List of certified recovery housing centers in HC: 6 (3 Living in Recovery, 2 Project Encompass, and 1 Oxford House) I will ask our communication team to add this recovery housing list to the HCHD BBH website.

From Roe to Everyone: 06:00 PM

Recovery Residences Located in Maryland List of Certified Recovery Residences in Maryland List of Recovery Residences in Maryland <https://bha.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Recovery-Residences.aspx>