

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
Behavioral Health Action Team (BHAT)
June 9, 2017 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)

Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Greg Reuss – American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Gerry McGloin – Pathways, Laura Webb – Walden Jessica Hartman – St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD), Gary Wilkerson – SMCHD, Meena Brewster – SMCHD, Dee Rathbone – Parents Affected by Addiction (PABA), Jenna Mulliken – SMCHD, Tammy Loewe – SMCHD, Maryellen Kraese – SMCHD, Richard Russell – St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) Lauren Abell – MedStar St. Mary's Hospital (MSMH), Jessica Gardiner – MSMH and Pete Cucinotta – Circuit Court.
2. **Local Opioid Update:** Dr. Brewster shared a local update on the opioid issue and related prevention programming. Slides from the 6/6/17 Board of Health Meeting were shared. Information included data on opioid intoxication deaths and a review of local strategies across the spectrum of prevention. The group will continue to review and discuss gaps so that St. Mary's can build a more comprehensive response to this issue.
 - a. Jessica Hartman provide an update on the [SmartMedicine](#) communications campaign. A SmartMedicine commercial is currently in production and will be coming out in local theaters soon – thank you to all the team members that reviewed the commercial outline and provided feedback. SMCHD can do presentations on opioid prevention topic in the community by [request](#).
 - b. SMCHD is also working to improve utilization of the [PDMP](#) – soon use will be mandatory for prescribers and pharmacists.
 - c. A question was raised on if doctors are notified when if their patients overdose using prescribed medications. Dr. Brewster indicated that SMCHD could do this and will bring it up at the next Overdose Fatality Review Team meeting.
 - d. Maryellen Kraese provided information on the Second Step Program, an early prevention program being offered to elementary students to teach coping skills.
 - e. A question was raised about capturing SBIRTs that are done in non-clinical settings such as at the Cove or in other youth programs.
 - f. Laura Webb wanted to add [International Overdose Awareness Day](#) activities to the list of local prevention strategies.
 - g. Jessica Hartman provided an update on [Naloxone Trainings](#) and changes as a result of the new [HOPE legislation](#). Organizations can still request on site training for employees or patients/clients. School nurses will be trained this year and will then be able to train other staff in the school system. The team discussed targeted outreach to at-risk individuals. A question was raised about the emergency room's policy/protocol for referring individuals that are emergency petitioned after an



overdose to treatment. There was some discussion on peer recovery support specialists and the importance of follow up with individuals experiencing a non-fatal overdose. It was also mentioned that resources for first responders should be updated on a regular basis so that they can leave information with families.

- h. PABA shared an example of a statistics sign from Anne Arundel County as a possible way to raise local awareness.



- i. The group also discussed the challenge of evaluating these strategies over time to measure success. Evaluation of trends in the Community Health Improvement Plan, Healthy St. Mary's 2020 will measure long term change. Process measures (number of people reached, trained, etc.) will measure short term impact.

3. Behavioral Health Transition: Gerry provided a brief history/overview of the Core Service Agency and Local Addictions Authority – the local arm of the Behavioral Health Administration, responsible for monitoring behavioral health services at the local level to ensure quality and accessibility. These two bodies have been merged at the state level and will now be combined at the local level. This responsibility will transition from the Department of Aging and Human Services to the Health Department officially on July 1. The new Local Behavioral Health Authority (LBHA) staff was introduced.

4. Suicide Prevention Initiatives:

- a. Nevada has given permission for us to use their campaign materials. Gerry is now waiting for permission from New Hampshire for use of their posters.
- b. AFSP held a presentation last month at Sanner's Lake Sportsman Club which has opened up communications for other gun clubs for presentations on suicide prevention through firearms safety. AFSP and the Health Department will work together to further this initiative.
- c. AFSP is hosting an Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training ([ASIST](#)) in Towson on July 8 & 9.
- d. SMCHD and CSM are hosting a free [training](#) on providing affirmative behavioral health care for the LGBTQIA community on June 14. The training is full! If you



signed up but are unable to make it please notify the health department so that someone on the waitlist can attend.

- e. Panel Event: Save the Date – September 28, 2017 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the College of Southern Maryland. Panelists confirmed: Sean Lare (clinical expert), Amy Loudermilk (Trevor Project), SMCM Student (peer perspective). Jenna will follow up on MSDE representative and with Laurie to develop marketing. At the next meeting the team will look back over the questions for panelists.

5. Partner Updates:

- a. PABA discussed the high incidence rate of overdose deaths in Maryland. PABA is working on advocacy efforts at the federal level.
- b. The NAACP will be hosting a back to school event on August 26 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. at the Lexington Park Library and are looking for experts on various health topics to speak. Contact [Maryellen Kraese](#) for more information.

6. Upcoming Meetings & Events:

- a. **BHAT:** July 14, 2017 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. at the SMCHD.
- b. **HSMP Annual Meeting:** September 21, 2017 at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center, register at <https://hsmpannual2017.eventbrite.com>.
 - i. Keynote speaker will discuss nutrition and the brain – Thank you Gerry for securing this speaker!
 - ii. Still need a BH breakout topic. Topics from the last meeting were reviewed. Military mental health was also suggested.
 - iii. Considering a bonus afternoon session all about opioids and a HSMP 2020 data review lunch session – more information coming soon.
- c. **Maryland's 29th Annual Suicide Prevention Conference:** October 4, 2017 in Baltimore, contact: eunicej.harvey@maryland.gov for information.

