

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
Behavioral Health Action Team (BHAT)
November 17, 2017 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
St. Mary's County Health Department

Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Richard Russell – St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO), Sharon Gudger – Center for Children (CFC), Susan Onofrio – Southern Maryland Community Network (SMCN), Pete Cucinotta – Circuit Court, Jessica Hartman – St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD), Rebecca Jackson – SMCHD, Greg Reuss – American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Tammy Loewe – SMCHD, Dee Rathbone – Parents Affected by Addiction (PABA), Lauren Abell – MedStar St. Mary's Hospital (MSMH), Maryellen Kraese – SMCHD, Gary Wilkerson – SMCHD, Laura Webb – Walden, Shannon Bingham – SMCHD.
- 2. Action Team Co-Chairs:** The committee voted on the nominees for BHAT Co-Chairs. Laura Webb and Tammy Loewe were voted into the positions starting January 2018.
- 3. Suicide Prevention Initiatives**
 - a. Southern Maryland Survivor of Suicide Loss Day: Saturday, November 18, 2017 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the St. Mary's County Health Department
 - b. SafeTalk Training: Saturday, December 2, 2017 from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the St. Mary's County Health Department *registration link in the HSMP newsletter
 - c. Community Out of the Darkness Walk was held in October – 441 participants.
 - d. Several topics were discussed including: Social media (impact on young girls, suicide risk ↑ without positive feedback), cyber bullying, underage drinking, compassion fatigue, anti-stigma, and military cultural competence.
- 4. Communications**
 - a. Share events and news with HSMP partners through the HSMP Newsletter, calendar & social media outlets! Submit information at:
<http://healthystmarys.com/newsletter/> or email stmaryspartnership@gmail.com
- 5. Partner Updates**
 - a. Dee shared a story and prompted discussion on the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission. A handout was distributed.
 - b. Greg shared information on the AFSP's plan to decrease suicide rates by 2025 which includes education on suicide means restriction and a partnership with the [Zero Suicide Initiative](#) at the national level.
 - c. Jessica shared that SMCHD will be revamping the SmartMedicine website to include space for stories/testimonials.



- d. Sharon shared information on CFCs work in local schools. They are currently serving 1 middle and 7 elementary schools. They have 1 psychiatrist at the Leonardtown office and are working with DSS & DJS for referrals.
 - e. Laura shared information on partner efforts for Youth Mental Health Awareness month and raising awareness of the Opioid Crisis with local schools and the rotary club. She also shared information on Walden's Sober New Year party.
 - f. Team members were reminded that SMCSO can provide marked cars for events.
 - g. Maryellen discussed the Wise Owl prevention program/curriculum that is being implemented in local elementary schools. She also shared information on prevention outreach and naloxone trainings. An event will be held at the Northern Senior Center at the end of November and a Mental Health 1st Aid training will be offered between January – March.
 - h. Susan shared that a Steering Committee has formed to provide greater support to the local NAMI chapter. The 2nd CIT class for SMCSO has been completed.
- 6. Next BHAT Meeting:** December 8, 2017 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. at the St. Mary's County Health Department

