

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
Behavioral Health Action Team
January 12, 2018 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
St. Mary's County Health Department

Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Dawn Sisk – Pathways, Kelsey Bush – Local Management Board (LMB)/Department of Human Services (DHS), Carolyn Cullison – On Our Own (OOO), Nat Scroggins – Minority Outreach Coalition (MOC), Karen Cozzens – Community member, Ashley Procter – Board of Childcare Treatment Foster Care Program, Dawn Tucker – Pathways, Gerry McGloin – Pathways, Barbara Herbig – The Mission, 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), Jenna Guzman – SMCHD, Meena Brewster – SMCHD, Laura Webb – Walden, Mike Shaw – SMCHD.
- 2. Discussion: Team Priorities for 2018** – The team discussed possible areas of focus for the upcoming year. Team members reviewed the behavioral health portion of the [Healthy St. Mary's 2020](#) plan and the [handout](#) prepared for the [mid-cycle data update](#) presented at the HSMP Annual Meeting. Team members were reminded that the most current data available would not reflect work done at the action team level in the past two years. There was discussion on the following topics:
 - a. Emergency Department Visits**
 - i. How could the team impact these measures? Is there more information available on why these numbers are so high?
 - ii. Data was collected prior to implementation of the ACA which could have impacted access to care.
 - iii. Raise awareness of and connect community members to other options (ER shouldn't be the "go-to"/first stop for behavioral health care & support), SMCN crisis house
 - iv. Assist the ER with diversion programs and appropriate follow-up information to reduce return visits
 - v. The Access to Care action team is considering some work on health literacy this year which may also impact these measures
 - b. Issues with access to Psychiatry**
 - i. Education for the community on available services (including telehealth, crisis services, etc.), what to expect when accessing services (timelines/wait times), and other options (medication management from a NP or primary care physician)



- ii. Create an inventory of behavioral health providers and services, push out this information through a collaborative communications campaign (all partners put out the same messages to reach max audience), include information on Family Support Services (NAMI Family-to-Family class is starting in Prince Frederick but there aren't current classes in St. Mary's)
- iii. Create a Navigation Network with champions from different agencies that are trained to help navigate the system
- iv. Connect with primary care offices – Would you be willing to provide medication management for patients who are engaged in regular therapy? Possibly utilize the Primary Care Collaborative (run by SMCHD) to educate/engage physicians on this topic.

c. Provider Recruitment

- i. Break down barriers for providers coming in from other states
- ii. Collect information from provider partners – get specific examples of barriers and provide to support work happening at the state level around licensing, credentialing, etc.
- iii. Build skill set of local behavioral health providers through training so they can best meet the needs of the community

d. Marijuana Use

- i. Contributor to the overall drug crisis
- ii. Changes in laws lead to increased use
- iii. Communication strategies aren't enough – need more prevention programs

e. Suicide Prevention

- i. A lot of positive work was done on this topic over the past year (outreach with gun retailers, base, colleges, etc., LGBTQ panel event). Outreach will continue through the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and Greg will bring opportunities for collaboration and updates to the group.
- ii. More focus on youth outreach & engagement
 - 1. Kids are feeling accountable for their peers, need age appropriate materials to take the pressure off but still educate
 - 2. Need easy points of access: library, text, web, warm line, youth resource board online
 - 3. Peer Health Educators
 - 4. TAY group training

3. Partner Updates:

- a. SMCHD – [Opioid Learning Series](#)

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. **Next BHAT Meeting:** February 9, 2018 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. at the St. Mary's County Health Department

