

# **Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council**

## **NOTICE FOR RECRUITMENT OF MEMBERS**

The Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council is soliciting nominations from consumers, family members, medical professionals, and academic/research professionals (may not be state employees). Maryland residency requirements apply.

### **PURPOSE OF THE COUNCIL**

The purpose of the Council is to promote and advocate for planning, policy, workforce development, and services to ensure a coordinated, quality system of care that is outcome-guided and that integrates prevention, recovery, evidence-based practices, and cost-effective strategies that enhance behavioral health services across the state; and a culturally and linguistically competent and comprehensive approach to publicly-funded prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery services that support and foster wellness, recovery, resiliency, and health for individuals who have behavioral health disorders and their family members.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

All activities and efforts of the Behavioral Health Advisory Council take into consideration cultural and linguistic competence, diversity, and gender identity. The Council serves as a forum for the dissemination and sharing of information concerning the Public Behavioral Health System (PBHS) among: Maryland Department of Health (MDH); Behavioral Health Administration staff; behavioral health advocates; including consumers and providers of mental health, substance-related disorders (SRDs), other addictive disorders services in Maryland; and other interested parties. It advocates for a comprehensive, broad-based, person-centered approach to provide the social, economic, and medical supports for people with behavioral health needs; as mandated by Health General 7.5 – 305 and by PL 102-321 and serves as a linkage with state agencies seeking collaboration for improved behavioral health services.

### **COUNCIL DUTIES**

The Council shall:

- Review and make recommendations to the state on the behavioral health plan and federal grant documents/applications developed in accordance with any applicable state and federal law
- Monitor, review, and evaluate the allocation and adequacy of behavioral health services and funding
- Submit an Annual Report of its activities to the Governor
- Receive and review annual reports submitted by the County Advisory Committees

### **MEMBER COMMITMENT**

Members appointed by the Governor serve a three-year term; may serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms; and after at least six years have passed since serving, may be reappointed for terms that comply with the original appointment. At the end of a term, a member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

It is the expectation of this Council that members attend the majority of the meetings, participate in Council activities, and exercise the duties and responsibilities of the Council on a regular basis. All Board members are expected to be well-prepared for meetings so that the meeting time can be used most productively and efficiently. Members serve at the pleasure of the Governor and with the consent of the Council.

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS & DETAILS OF ADDITIONAL MONTHLY TIME COMMITMENT:**

The Council meets at least six (6) times a year. Fifty (50) percent attendance is expected of members. Fifty (50) percent attendance means at least three meetings per year attended. The recommended schedule is once during each of the following months: September, November, January, March, May and July. Teleconferencing is available and counts as attendance. Notice of regular meetings is announced by email and an agenda is included.

**The Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council meets as follows:**

DAY: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month

TIME: 9:30-11 a.m.

PLACE: Spring Grove Hospital Center, Dix Building, Lower Level Conference Room  
55 Wade Avenue  
Catonsville MD 21228

Council members are requested to serve on at least one of the Council's standing sub Committees and/or Ad Hoc Committees. The committees make recommendations that enhance aspects of the behavioral health system and ensure a coordinated, culturally and linguistically competent, quality system of care that is outcome-guided and that integrates prevention, recovery, evidence-based practices, and cost-effective strategies in the delivery of behavioral health services state-wide.

**The Behavioral Health Advisory Council Standing Committees (established by statute) meet as follows:**

- DAY & TIME: Determined by Committee
- Executive Committee (as required)
  - Planning Committee
  - Prevention Committee

**The Ad Hoc Committees (appointed by the Board Chair) meet as follows:**

- DAY & TIME: Determined by Committee
- Children, Young Adults, and Families
  - Recovery Services and Supports Committee
  - The Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee
  - Criminal Justice/Forensics Committee
  - Nominating Committee (as required)

PLACE: Spring Grove Hospital Center  
55 Wade Avenue  
Catonsville MD 21228

**COMPENSATION**

Council members whose transportation costs are not reimbursed by an agency, group or organization, and who need financial assistance in order to attend a Council meeting and/or when officially representing the Council at other meetings, are eligible for reimbursement by the Behavioral Health Administration. Members may not receive compensation as a member of the council; but are entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses as provided for in the state budget. Travel expenses shall be consistent with the Standard State Travel Regulations and are dependent upon resource availability. Council members are responsible for completing all expense reporting forms in a timely manner, and submitting appropriate accompanying documentation as required.

**APPLICATION**

Those interested in membership to the Council must submit an application. The link to apply is <http://govappointments.maryland.gov/instructions-for-filling-out-the-general-application-form/>