

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
Behavioral Health Action Team
December 13, 2019 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
St. Mary's County Health Department

Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Jessica Thompson – Empowered Connections, Greg Reuss – American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Kelsey Bush – Department of Aging & Human Services/Local Management Board (DAHS/LMB), Robin Schrader – St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS), Jameika Butler Turner – St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD), Amy Higgins – SMCHD, Dee Rathbone – National Institute of Citizen Anti-Drug Policy (NICAP), Brenda Payne – SMCHD, Jessika Hall – SMCHD, Karen Carloni – Southern Maryland Community Network (SMCN), Stephanie Scharmen – SMCHD, Chris Shea – SMCHD, Tammy Loewe – SMCHD, Maryellen Kraese – SMCHD, Natalie Lynch – SMCHD, Laura Stewart Webb – Pyramid Walden, Ed Evans – St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO), Jacquie Heaney – SMCHD
- 2. Co-Chair Elections**
 - a. The team voted for the new team co-chairs. The 2020 Steering Committee members will be announced in the December 19 newsletter.
- 3. SMCHD Prevention Programs Update**
 - a. Through the Overdose Response Program, the team is doing naloxone trainings at the libraries, in businesses, and with emergency services. There will be a new media campaign starting soon.
 - b. The RU Ok? Campaign is geo-fencing target audiences with digital messages. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is adding a 3 digit number soon.
 - c. The Community Alcohol Coalition will not be moving forward with advocating for a local social host ordinance. Based on survey results they will be focusing on more education in the community with an awareness campaign that targets parents. They are also developing a best practices booklet for retailers.
 - d. The team is working to increase the number of buprenorphine prescribers in the county. The Maryland Addiction Consultation Service is supporting providers with lunch & learns, trainings, and has phone support for prescribers.
- 4. Objectives & Goals for 2019 Team Priorities**
 - a. **ED Utilization for Behavioral Health**
 - i. Before her winter break, Jamie was doing research on crisis services models specifically in counties where the health departments do not provide direct services. She will be back in early January to continue this research and will present information to the team as needed. The Sheriff's Office is looking into options for a Day Reporting Site and a LEAD program.
 - ii. The team discussed youth ED utilization based on Robin reporting that the schools are sending more students to the ED and that there is a rise in the use of the home/hospital teaching program due to emotional concerns. There was discussion



around the availability of adolescent beds and EDs suggesting youth being taken to a different hospital with a specialty unit.

b. Youth Mentoring

- i. Jacquie researched possible dates to host quarterly youth mentoring meetings at the Lexington park library. The team agreed on the following dates/times:
 1. Tuesday, February 11, 2020 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
 2. Tuesday, May 12, 2020 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
 3. Tuesday, August 11, 2020 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
 4. Tuesday, November 10, 2020 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- ii. The team discussed having trainings/presentations scheduled for the meetings. Jameika will reach out to her contact, Robert Price, about speaking at one of the meetings. Robin and Stephanie offered to provide an ACEs and Brain Game combination training. It was suggested that we ask for requests for future topics at the first meeting.
- iii. We will be moving forward with starting a BHAT Jr team at one of the high schools in the New Year. Robin is reaching out to her staff to see who could be a possible school sponsor. Laura suggested looping Kadesha Mitchell, the Young Adult Peer Recovery Specialist at The Cove, to help with this project.
- iv. The Cove is having an Open House on December 18. Jacquie will send an invitation out to the youth mentoring contact list that has been developed inviting them to the event as a meet up before the quarterly meetings begin in February. Jacquie is providing Laura with sample Botvin materials to have available at the event.

5. Partner Updates

- a. Chris and Maryellen are offering [Mental Health First Aid](#) trainings on January 30 and February 20.
- b. The School Health Council has broken up into 3 subcommittees : Behavioral Health, Healthy Eating & Active Living, and Vape Free. Maryellen is co-chairing the Behavioral Health subcommittee and they will be working to develop a resource page for parents.
- c. The County Times released an [article](#) titled, “County Health Officials Concerned Over Suicides.”
- d. Southern Maryland Community Network’s Housing Stabilization Program has openings. If you would like to be added to the email list for when this program has openings – contact [Karen Carloni](#).
- e. Register for Southern Maryland Community Network’s New Year’s Day 5K Resolution Race [here](#).
- f. Walden has new brochures. Contact [Laura](#) if you would like copies.
- g. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Coalition meets the 2nd Thursday of each month from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the St. Mary’s County Health Department. The next meeting will be on January 9.
- h. The Harm Reduction program now has a van, so they will begin doing more extensive mobile outreach in the county. The team is reaching out to providers that do therapeutic discharge and encouraging them to refer clients to the program. The Harm Reduction Office now has a small amount of fentanyl test strips that they will be distributing in the community.



- i. The Maryland Governor's Office for Children is seeking feedback through [this survey](#) to help decide what Indicators - or data points - are most important in measuring well-being in Maryland. Answers will be compiled and will inform recommendations made to the Children's Cabinet.
- j. Dee shared the Fall 2019 MDGASP Newsletter and [this](#) research article.
- k. Empowered Connections is working with the Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy to offer 12 free sessions to clients through a referral system.
- l. Kelsey shared information on [this translation device](#).
- m. LMB has an [open bid](#) out for transition navigators.

6. 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

7. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. **BHAT:** January 10, 2020 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. at the St. Mary's County Health Department

