



Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, Inc

PO Box 6675, MS 3230
1 Truman Parkway, Suite 101
Annapolis, MD 21401
Adrienne Mickler, CPA, MS, Executive Director

Web Site: www.aamentalhealth.org
Email: mhaaac@aol.com
Phone: 410-222-7858
Fax: 410-222-7881

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2018

Attendance: Lynn Krause, Janet Owens; Capt. Kenneth Arbaugh; Pam Brown; Michael Irwin; Michael Maher; Kathy Miller; Sheryl Sparer; Michele Staisloff; Frank Sullivan; Ryan Voegtlin

Excused: Sara Burden; Fran Phillips; Rosalie Mallonee; Phyllis Marshall; Livia Pazourek; Louis Zagarino

Staff: Karen Ancarrow-Rice; Catherine Gray; Adrienne Mickler, Terry Luman; Ariane Odom

Lynn Krause called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m. – Next BOD meeting will be September 25, 2018

Topic: The June and July Minutes were approved.

Topic: Lynn introduced Janet Owens to the Board members and shared some general information about the Agency, with a focus on some of the new work such as Safe Stations. Lynn then had each member introduce him/herself to the group.

Topic: Committee Reports, Budget – Met

Overall, we are spending as budgeted. As it is the beginning of the fiscal year, vendors are still working on closeout activities so their focus is not on invoicing. Our monitors are in touch to ensure services are being performed.

Close out is going as expected. The State deadline 440 submissions is August 31. All 440s will be submitted timely as the State will not grant any extensions. The Agency has taken over all of Howard County statewide contracts.

Topic: Committee Reports, Contract – Did not meet.

Topic: Committee Reports, Administrative – Did not meet.

Topic: Committee Reports, Planning – Did not meet – to meet in September.

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Announcements

Adrienne made an announcement that Fran Phillips, Acting Health Officer, is returning to the Maryland State Department of Health as the Deputy Secretary of Health. Her last day as Acting Health Officer of Anne Arundel County was August 28, 2018. She also announced the County Executive's appointment of Dr. George Arlotto, Anne Arundel County Public School Superintendent, to the Board of Directors as an ex officio member.

Director's Report

September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. An event has been scheduled for September 22, 2018 at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. Registration begins at 10am and the walk begins at 11:30am.

Disability Awareness Day will be held on October 20 from 10-2 at the Annapolis Mall. On behalf of the Agency, Adrienne will be recognized this year as the Commission on Disability Issues annual honoree and presented with an award by the County Executive.

There are numerous upcoming Not My Child presentations and we will attempt to have representation at all of the events. However, the staff is pretty busy with ongoing community requests at events and the increased number of individuals coming into Safe Stations.

The Agency had two complaints in July. Both complaints were received via Beacon Health Options and are currently being investigated.

There were three full-time new hires in July, two of whom came from Howard County as Older Adult Behavioral health PASRR Specialists. Since that time, one of the PASRR Specialists has resigned. Older adults are a current focus and Petula is doing a great job. Several staff members have received promotions due to licensure credentials. There are currently 62 full-time employees and staff. An Employee Handbook has been developed for distribution. It is a compilation of the Agency's policies.

There was a HIPAA violation due to filming at Crisis Response. As soon as the CSA became aware of the situation, the County was notified and the video was pulled. There is a report of the incident on file at the CSA. A staff member has been terminated due to accessing electronic health records inappropriately and all staff has been reminded of HIPAA policies. As part of ongoing staff training through RELIAS, all staff members are required to take HIPAA refresher courses. The CSA makes every effort to ensure HIPAA compliance is met.

The CSA had a complaint filed against it based on an EEOC action and the complaint was turned over to county personnel who agree that it is an internal CSA matter. As this is the first complaint of its kind and could potentially result in a law suit, the agency sought the advice of the human resource attorney. The law firm of Smith and Downey will be handling the complaint

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on the agency's behalf. The Board will be made aware of the outcome of the complaint when the investigation is complete.

Sole source contracts were reviewed following taking over the Howard County CSA contracts. A State auditor questioned the process of selecting providers without competitively bidding them. A briefing was prepared explaining the Agency's sole source methodology. Several examples were provided to the Board as examples of the process. In all instances, the agency was within its procurement guidelines which are designed so that the State receives the best value for its money.

Adrienne reported that over 1,000 people have entered Safe Stations since they opened, with 139 people being served in July alone. The County is seeing the percentage of overdoses decreasing, but the number of drug related deaths is increasing due to Fentanyl. Overdoses due to tainted drugs is a national crisis. We cannot sustain the Safe Station numbers without additional funds. The Department of Health surge capacity was agreed upon and we have doubled our on-call staff to meet the demand. Catherine shared that many safe station admissions need inpatient treatment, which is being covered by hospitals and Medicaid. Data is being gathered regarding outcomes and we have experienced a 47% success rate.

Crisis continues to help individuals following the June 28 shooting event and two of the appreciation letters were attached to the Board Report.

The Anne Arundel CIT program continues to shine as Corporal Allen Marcus was named CIT International Officer of the Year. An additional CIT class began on August 27, 2018. CIT programs bridge the gap between police response and mental health care by forming community partnerships.

There is a meeting scheduled for September 5, 2018 with the CEO of Trilogy, the chief programmer of Trilogy, Dr. Bazron and Adrienne to discuss the future of the website in Maryland. The Board will be informed of the outcome of that meeting.

Karen and Chelsea met with our website designer to redesign and update some elements of the CSA website, adding functionality, some design changes, and highlighting the Crisis Response System.

Purchase of Services provided 8 bus passes and tax vouchers for individuals and there were two security deposits in July. Twenty two Child and Adolescent requests for various camps and activities were processed by the Agency for August and into the fall.

Agency staff participated in a conference call to discuss our new young adult consumer program condition of award that was transferred to us this fiscal year from Howard County. The Maryland Coalition of Families (MCF) is the provider and another meeting will be set up with our Transitional Age Youth (TAY) provider, Arundel Lodge, and MCF to discuss ways to revitalize the State program. The Anne Arundel program is doing very well.

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The staff is preparing for a three-day site visit from SAMHSA. We received over 20 pages of instructions to prepare for the visit. We are working with the Partnership for Children Youth and Families to develop the agenda, coordinate attendees and participants' schedules. Pam Brown shared that dinner will be provided by the Kingdom Celebration Café in Odenton by Bishop Palmer and his wife as part of the site visit. Ann and Catherine have been working on the PowerPoint presentation for this.

The Mental Health Association of Maryland is the vendor for the new program entitled Mental Health First Aid Program, which was previously handled by the Howard County CSA. Our new Older Adult Behavioral Health Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Specialist is Petula Philander. She is also trained in ENGAGE which is a training designed for nursing homes and assisted living providers to adequately address the needs of individuals with mental illness in facilities. Petula continues to provide technical assistance and support to the five-county region on older adult issues.

Adrienne reported that all independent housing programs are full and there is pressure on the Residential Rehab providers to move people out as soon as possible. BHA has ten days after a court order is issued for an individual to receive a psychiatric evaluation at a state hospital. Due to this quick turnaround, they have created a centralized admission process vs the former geographical process.

In the community housing programs (not RRP) there is one independent 12-unit provider who is having problems with bed bugs and roaches in three of the units. This issue is being investigated before the problem gets worse and spreads to other units.

Homeless Resource Day is scheduled for October 27, 2018 at Glen Burnie High School. Some services provided are: medical services; haircuts; and personal item distribution. A bus will run between Annapolis to Glen Burnie. At last year's event, 146 people received IDs.

The State has not yet been advised by SAMHSA whether no-cost-extension for the CHES grant has been approved. The CTI team will not be hiring due to the anticipated conclusion of the grant. The CTI team has enjoyed successes and is discharging a person who was initially enrolled in PEP, but requested to work with CTI. He was homeless for 22 years, but through the grant he was connected to a community provider and has accepted a part-time job with the Under Armour factory. Frank suggested we analyze and report on the savings we enjoy from fewer ER and inpatient hospital stays and shorter stays at detention centers in order to obtain additional grant money.

Additional hospitals want to participate in the Overdose Survivors Outreach Project (OSOP), but there is no funding available. As this is a State initiative, we have requested BHA to identify funding for UMBWMC.

The Five County Program was reviewed, with focus on the ACT Program, which was at 107% capacity for the month of July.

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Adrienne has been invited to participate on the Advisory Group for the Implementation of the Behavioral Health Local Systems Management Integration Plan, providing advice to the Deputy Secretary for BHA regarding implementation of the four pathways set forth in the Integration Plan. She also sits on the Maryland Association of Behavioral Health Directors Committee. Providers will be reviewing co-occurring capability, looking at reimbursements, and studying Medicaid billing to help providers.

By 2020, we need to provide an integrated plan to the State. Since the State has not provided instructions on what this plan should be and there are many things to be reconciled between the CSA and the LAA instructions, the CSA will continue to plan based on the guidelines currently in place (i.e. focus on mental health). The Planning Committee will meet in September to look at the State plan and directives and develop a plan to present to the State. Workforce Development will assuredly be a goal and Frank continues to be the lead on that project. The data on which the plan should be based is not available until the end of October making data driven goals problematic. We will use the joint provider meeting scheduled at Kinder Farm Park in September to speak with providers and begin the planning process.

The Respond Social Marketing Plan is intended to engage the public to reduce the stigma associated with having a behavioral health disorder. The Resilience Committee grid can be found on their website at www.mindresilience.org and is a good tool for understanding mind resilience for all ages. These will become part of the mental health plan provided to the State.

Adrienne asked Frank to give an overview of workforce development strategies and goals. Frank explained the core competencies in great detail. It will be included in the plan.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Luman

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