



Meeting Minutes

February 5th, 2025

Welcome/Introductions – Jennifer McCready, Director of Community Addictions Services

Motion was made to approve the January 8th, 2025 minutes. Motion 2nd. All approved.

William Webb, Health Officer - KCHD - The federal leadership transition has caused uncertainty. We are in a waiting pattern that many programs that are grant funded could be impacted by the changes coming. We will pivot as necessary.

Welcome to Joanne McNamara, the new Kent County Grants Administrator.

Carla Thorpe, Director - A.F. Whitsitt Center - There was a climb in the census this month as we anticipated after the holidays. Transportation to Treatment is coming along as more people are aware of its availability.

PRESENTATIONS

Presenters for: Opioid Restitution Funds Letters of Interest

1. **Kent Goes Purple - Andy Meehan**
2. **Eastern Shore Alano Club - Patti Walls**
3. **Minary's Dream Alliance, Inc. - Doncella Wilson**
4. **A.F. Whitsitt Center - Carla Thorpe**

Brigitte Kealy - Mid Shore Behavioral Health - Currently working on the Community Behavioral Health Plan. The plan is to have it done by the 14th of February and will need LDAAC to endorse the plan. Meeting on March the 6th from 4 to 6 pm, hybrid or in person. MSBH has decided not to pursue AOT, will be pushed back to the state. Working with providers and Carelon with issues.

Ashley Strazza - MSBH - A new 4th Safe Station in the region, located in Talbot County at Grace Street which is open and running 24 hours a day. Mid Shore continues to work with AF Whitsitt Center on a proposal for a non-opioid withdrawal device to be used in the crisis beds.

Lisa Short - MSBH - Mid Shore's Caliber Award nominations are being accepted. Information has been disseminated through our distribution groups but can be found on our website.
<https://midshorebehavioralhealth.org/>

Avery Meyer - Maryland Office of Overdose - A press release out of the Governor's office related to a big decrease in fatal overdoses. 38% decrease which is phenomenal because there were decreases in 2023. Our competitive grant process is currently accepting applications. Due February 28th.

Melanie D. Jones-Dalziel - MDH - State Care Coordination/Overdose Fatality Review(OFR) OFR reviewed 2 cases. 13 enrolled in State Care Coordination, 9 went to recovery houses. Completed 4 MDRN applications. Working with the ED charge nurse to get a process going for overdose survivors. Maryland Addictions Consultation Services(MACS) helps patients that have substance use disorder with medications and the providers with pharmacies and doctors. For more information contact: melanied.jones-dalziel@maryland.gov

Brett Forrest - RIM/OPT/NHIH - Attended a presentation at Washington College for Maryland Corps. 392 people were trained to use Narcan. 247 people received a box of Narcan. In February, RIM will attend Frederick Douglas Day of Acknowledgment at Washington College and Galena Library, where we will have a resource table set up. You can reach the No Harm In Helping phone 24/7 to talk with a peer and ask about resources and transportation assistance. **410-490-4715**

Vandrick Hamlin - Schools/Education - Beyond Your Mental (BYM) mentorship program started February 4th, 2025. (Findlay House Global was awarded a grant.) 8 week program, 15 8th graders, 15 high school students will come together to build connections, share experiences, and grow through this meaningful student-designed program. Every Tuesday for 8 weeks, beginning February 4th at Kent County High School(KCHS). 8th grade BYM Mentees will be excused from their classrooms and will travel by bus with a BYM Coordinator to KCHS. They will spend an hour participating in mentorship sessions with BYM Mentors from KCHS(who will be excused from their classes). After the session, the Mentees will return to the middle school.

The BYM program is designed to create a positive, supportive space for students to learn from each other, develop leadership skills, and build lasting relationships.

Christina Russell - DHS - START - 5 START active cases, 1 possible referral, equals 5 to 6 families with almost 10 kids being serviced. Have seen an increase in Xylazine use.

Rosemary Ramsey Granillo - Local Management Board(LMB) - Funds have been awarded through the Enough Act for Local Management Boards Capacity Building. Will be working with various non-profits and a consultant. The purpose is to do some training and strengthen operations. In partnership with Queen Anne's and Talbot counties.

Another Hiphop Time Capsule will take place this summer, where high school students will be paid to participate in 6 weeks of learning, creation, and sharing. LMB is asking for help with getting the word out and getting students to apply for the program, in partnership with Washington College. Minary's Dream Alliance will also be tied to a lot at the new innovation plant at 800 High Street.

Record of Attendance

Andrew Meehan, Ashley Strazza, Avery Meyer, Brett Forrest, Brian Pearsall, Chenelle Pettiford, Chief Ronald Dixon, Chloe Campbell, Christina Russell, Dennis Hickman, Jacqueline Salb, Joanne McNamara, John Nunn, Latonya Cotton-Tilghman, Lauren Scarce, Lisa Short, Melanie Jones-Dalziel, Minary's Dream Alliance(Doncella Wilson), Patti Walls, Racheal C., Rosemary Ramsey Granillo, Shawn Hart, Shelly Neal-Edwards, Steven Jones, Vandrick Hamlin, Vanessa Holloway Truxon, William Webb

Next meeting date: March 5th, 2025 Virtual

REMINDER: *If there is anyone from your agency that you would like to add or delete from the LDAAC meeting list, please reach out to Desiree Rochester at desirees.rochester@maryland.gov.*

Thank you!