



HOWARD COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TASK FORCE

December 9, 2014

Guidance to Work Groups

Our goal is to create an action plan that defines Howard County's behavioral health system that supports individuals (adults and children) while reducing the frequency and intensity of behavioral health crises. (executive order #1)

Scope of Work:

1. Succinctly define the topic of the work group as it relates to the goals of the Task Force.
2. Pull in as many providers of the continuum of services and others as is possible given the timeframe.
3. Review the Directory of Providers (NOTE: we are using the Howard County Mental Health Authority's directory and updating it with providers licensed by their professional organization in the state. Please let us know who to encourage to be included. Also look at www.networkofcare.org and identify any gaps in services providers. Describe what would be needed to fill that gap. And, consider if current providers can collaborate, tweak, or otherwise move toward filling that gap. (executive order #2, #3)

Defining Howard County's CURRENT Behavioral Health System

- a. Prevention programs
- b. Recovery-oriented services
- c. Adults
- d. Children
- e. Inclusion of ethnically diverse communities

What are the relationships among the providers in the System?

What is the CURRENT capacity of the System?

Identifying System gaps/weaknesses

- a. Availability
- b. Access
- c. Treatment
- d. Recovery and Support
- e. Adults (projected needs)
- f. Children (projected needs)
- g. Prevention

4. How is Trauma Informed Care used in this area of behavioral health? What would be recommended to strengthen service to clients and coordination among providers?
5. Identify what additional funding or support (public and private) should be directed to this area in the future. What is needed to enhance synergies among providers in this area (i.e. new materials, training, intake)? What is needed to form something new as identified by the work group?
6. Identify any policy issues related to this work group and make recommendations on how these might need to change. The Task Force focus is on what Howard County can influence directly.

Schedule:

Convene Groups: December 9

Task Force members interested

Define topic

Non-Task Force members to invite

Set meeting dates

Initial Updates: January 15

Issues working on: program, policy, funding

Any drafted recommendations

Questions from full Task Force

Presentation of Recommendations: February 12

Final questions from Full Task Force

Final reports will be due by February 20 so that an action plan can be draft for full Task Force consideration prior to the March 11 meeting.

Presentation of Final Task Force Report draft for discussion and approval: March 11