



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Marc Elrich  
*County Executive*

James C. Bridgers, Jr.,  
Ph.D., MBA  
*Acting Director*

### Commission on Juvenile Justice Meeting

**Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

**Online meeting**

**CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kimberly Alfriend, Bonnie Beavers, Gerda Gallop-Green, Melissa Goemann, Scott Joftus, Ashyia Johnson, Elizabeth Pentecost, Joshua Pestaner, Michael Pinard, Kevin Redden, Jonathan Scriven, Tom Smith, Tony Summers, Heather Sweren, Shuaa Tajammul, and Erin Whaley.

**AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joanna Bonner, Francha Davis, Frank Duncan, Elizabeth Emen, Susan Farag, Steve Neff, Jordan Satinsky, Nathaniel Tipton, and Carlotta Woodward

**ABSENT MEMBERS:** Carol Cichowski, Tracey Friedlander, Brett Lonker and Andrew Messick,

**PRESENT EMERITUS MEMBERS:** Carole L. Brown.

**ABSENT EMERITUS MEMBERS:** Chris Fogleman.

**GUESTS:** Sara Rose, Tia Scott, and Rolando Santiago.

**STAFF LIAISON PRESENT:** Diane Lininger

- I. **Welcome** – The meeting opened by Kevin Redden, Chair of the Montgomery County Commission on Juvenile Justice (CJJ). **Legislative Committee – Bonnie Beavers**
- II. **Legislative Committee** discussion on upcoming legislation  
Update on the Leadership's Juvenile Law bill  
<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/hb0814#>
  - Bonnie Beavers
    - Overview of HB0814 bill
      - Hearing was on Feb 9<sup>th</sup>
      - The JJC voted to oppose the bill
      - Carol's thought is the bill will pass, with amendments.
  - HB 1136 (Melissa Goemann)
    - Hearing is March 7th
    - Funding bill for youth services bureaus

**Behavioral Health and Crisis Services • Child and Adolescent Outpatient Mental Health Services**

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- For each FY beginning on 2026, budget would include at least \$4.8 mil to fund youth services bureaus
- Would provide at least 200K for each youth services bureau.
  
- HB694 94/SB 482 (Melissa Goemann)
  - Introduced by House and Senate Leadership
  - Would establish Governor's Office for Children
  - Idea is to provide grants for child services – would start with appropriation of \$15 mil for FY 2025
  
- Comments on HB 1136/HB 694
  - Is there data that supports need for these services/bills?
  - How do we know that these bills would provide the best use of funding?
  - Diane: MoCo does not have a "youth services bureau" but we have the "Collaboration Council on Children Youth and Families"
    - Sara Rose: there are 19 youth services bureaus in Maryland (not even one per jurisdiction)
  - Rolando Santiago HB 1136 seems worthy of support given various needs
    - Melissa: This may be a way to get funding for the Children's Center\*
  
- **Votes on HB 1136 & HB 694/SB 482**
  - **HB 1136**
    - Legislative Committee recommendation is to provide written testimony in favor.
    - Motion to support Motion to support HB 1136 via written testimony is seconded.
      - 12 (in favor), 1 (No), 6 (abstain)
  - **HB 694/SB 482**
    - Legislative Committee recommendation is to provide written testimony in favor
    - Motion to support HB 694/SB 482 via written testimony is seconded.
      - 14 (in favor), 5 (abstain)
  
- **HB615/SB512**, <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebbsite/Legislation/Details/hb0615#> decriminalizing disruption in school (Michael Pinard)

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- Legislative Committee recommendation is to provide written testimony in favor
- Motion to support HB 615/512 via written testimony is seconded
  - 12 (in favor), 8 abstentions
- Discussion of HB 855  
<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgaweb/legislation/details/hb0855#> Juvenile Law, Restrictive Housing (Bonnie Beavers)
  - Not enough time to submit testimony because hearing is in two days
  - Minor cannot be placed in restricting housing for disciplinary/punitive reasons; may be placed to clear and convincing evidence of immediate and substantial risk of harm to the minor, other incarcerated individuals, or staff.
  - Legislative Committee recommendation is to support bill through statement but not written testimony
    - Motion to support HB 855 is seconded (not through testimony, but statement that we are in favor)
      - 13 in favor, 5 abstentions

### III. New Business

- A. January Minutes - Minutes adopted- All were in favor.
- B. Children's Center Ad-hoc Committee – Carlotta Woodward and Jordan Satinsky. Carlotta reported that the committee rescheduled their meeting to March as they are continuing working on a vision statement.
- C. Legislative Committee – Already has presented.

### IV. Upcoming Meetings

- A. **March 19, 2024** – What would Commission members like to have meeting about. If have an idea of topic, please email Diane and/or Kevin.
- B. **April 16, 2024** – **Need plan**
- C. **Announcements from Members – Commission members have any announcements about events or activities?** None

- V. **Meeting Adjourned** - Meeting adjourned at 8:43 P.M.

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