

	<h1 style="margin: 0;">Mental Health Advisory Committee</h1> <p style="margin: 0; color: red;">Minutes – June 4, 2024</p>
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Members Present	Members Absent	Ex-Officio and Staff Present	Ex-Officio and Staff Absent	Guests
Michelle Grigsby-Hackett	Bill Ellis	Meredith Peace	Michael Mayer	Jeffrey Patrick Innocenti
Jennifer Grinnell	Marissa Leslie	Jordan Satinsky	Rolando Santiago	Bradley Leposa
Kelly Gruitt	Garrett Mannchen			Monica Martin
Stephanie Joseph	Tami Mark			Laura Mitchell
Susan Kerin				Sara Rose
Libby Nealis				
Alan Orenstein				
Celia Serkin				

- I. **Welcome** – The meeting came to order at 7:00 p.m. Libby Nealis chaired the virtual meeting.
  
- II. **Bradley Leposa (Baltimore County Public Schools)** – Mr. Leposa shared the role and training for school psychologists. There is a national push to allow Medicaid reimbursement for these services. Work is still needed to pass the legislation at the State. Work is also being done to push for an interstate compact.
  
- V. **Old Business**
  - A. **April Minutes** – The April minutes were unanimously approved with no edits.

## **VI. New Business.**

**A. BHCS update** – Monica Martin introduced herself as the Acting Director of Behavioral Health. Sara Rose gave an overview of the organizations structure and priorities of the local behavioral health agency (LBHA). The LBHA has three goals:

- a. Promote behavioral health wellness by strengthening and expanding suicide prevention and substance misuse prevention programs.
- b. Increase access to care, especially for those typically underserved by behavioral health services.
- c. Improve coordination of care and quality of services for all ages across systems.

Sara also provided some background on a meeting related to mapping of a sequential intercept model.

**B. Best Wishes to Dr. Santiago** – While he wasn't able to attend the meeting, MHAC extended their best wishes to his upcoming retirement.

**C. County Executive Budget Hearing**– Celia attended the County Executive's Budget Hearing. There were a number of priorities mentioned and mental health was one of them. Celia encouraged MHAC to begin working on our priorities as early as possible. Susan requested that we try to meet with the County Executive and Behavioral Health with our priorities (in addition to the County Council Health Committee) since they make the most decisions. Monica said she would share that request after our priorities are defined.

**D. AODAAC** – Laura Mitchell shared that AODACC will elect new officers and learn more about the impact of school budget cuts.

**E. Suicide Prevention Coalition** – Celia Serkin reported that they have several presenters. They will be doing less presentations in the future to allow for more in-depth conversations.

**F. CAYAS Subcommittee Report** – Jane Demsky with the School Avoidance Alliance presented. She was open with working with the county to address the issue.

**G. Spring Forum** – This year's theme was on recovery and there were several speakers with lived experience. There were over 150 attendees. Laura noted that SSL forms were sent to all students that attended. Diane Lininger suggested that next year's meeting be in-person to avoid technical difficulties.

**H. July Meeting** – Libby asked members to share any suggestions for the July meeting. However, it was also agreed that discussion of our budget priorities should be a meeting focus.

## **VII. Announcements**

**A. Diane Lininger Absence** – She will be out for medical reasons. Pamela Abramson will take over her responsibilities while she is on leave.

**B. School Budget Cuts** – Due to cuts in their budget, MCPS has let go of their Medical Officer and are planning to layoff several hundred teachers. Kelly Gruitt reported that no direct clinical staff have been impacted but she will keep MHAC apprised of any changes.

**VIII. Meeting Adjourned** – The meeting ended at **9:01** p.m.