



**Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition (HCLHIC)**

Healthy Minds & Suicide Prevention Coalition (HMSPC) Workgroup Meeting

Virtual via Zoom

March 12, 2026

2:00 – 3:00 pm

Meeting Goal: To share updates on mental health legislation, coordinate Mental Health Awareness Month activities, and confirm next steps to strengthen suicide prevention efforts in Howard County.

Meeting Agenda

*Meeting will start promptly at 2 pm*

- 2:00 – 2:05 pm    **Welcome and Ice Breaker**  
*Jessica Fisher, Co-Chair*  
*Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Bureau of Behavioral Health,*  
*Howard County Health Department*
- 2:05 – 2:30 pm    **Mental Health Legislation Presentation**  
*Tiffany Erbelding,*  
*The Horizon Foundation*
- 2:30 – 2:55 pm    **American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) Presentation**  
*Bill White,*  
*Senior Manager, Policy and Legislative Analysis*  
*American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)*
- 2:55 – 3:00 pm    **Next Steps & Wrap-up**  
*Stephanie Foster,*  
*Community Engagement Coordinator,*  
*Howard County Health Department,*  
*Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC)*

## Healthy Minds and Suicide Prevention Coalition Workgroup FY26-28 Goals and Objectives:

- **Goal 1.** Promote safe home practices such as safe storage of medications, firearms, and other harmful materials, and reduce stigma of mental health support through education and community engagement.
  - **Objective 1.1.** By June 2028, collaborate with workgroup members to create and promote culturally appropriate, accessible and inclusive materials to make homes safer to prevent suicide.
  - **Objective 1.2.** By June 2028, increase community engagement to support mental health among priority populations through local partnerships and peer support programs.
- **Goal 2.** Develop initiatives highlighting community violence intervention programs, promoting safe firearm storage and ownership practices, and collaborating with law enforcement agencies to address illegal firearms and reduce gun violence.
  - **Objective 2.1.** By June 2028, support community-based initiatives to reduce firearm-related deaths among priority populations in Howard County.
  - **Objective 2.2.** By June 2028, expand partnerships with local organizations, schools, and law enforcement agencies to provide support and address the unique mental health needs of priority populations in Howard County.
- **Goal 3.** Promote culturally appropriate and accessible mental health and behavioral resources through partnerships with local organizations and businesses serving priority populations.
  - **Objective 3.1.** By June 2028, collaborate with organizations and social groups hosting mentorship programs to promote culturally appropriate, accessible and inclusive mental health resources.
  - **Objective 3.2.** By June 2028, collaborate with organizations and social groups providing resources for community members seeking help to improve behavioral health priority populations.

## HCLHIC Calendar of Events QR Code

