



## Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Healthy Minds & Suicide Prevention Coalition

May 2, 2024

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Virtual via Zoom

### Minutes

#### Members Present:

Barbara Allen, James Place/Opioid Collaborative Community Council  
Cass Crifasi, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
Jessica Fisher, Howard County Health Department  
Natalie Hall, Howard County Health Department  
LaTeisha Graham, Department of Veterans Affairs (Maryland)  
Jessica LaFave, Department of Veterans Affairs (Maryland)  
Sonya Lloyd, Howard County Health Department  
Nicole Mallette, Howard County Health Department  
Sarah McCoy, Grassroots Crisis Intervention  
Sade Parson, Howard County Health Department  
Emily Paterson, Maryland Poison Control Center  
Stephanie Reid, Howard County Health Department  
Cynthia Schulmeyer, Howard County Public School System  
Lauren Soummers, Howard County Health Department  
Janice Stanton, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center  
Eileen Zeller, Moms Demand Action Howard County

#### Staff Present:

Ashton Jordan, HC Local Health Improvement Coalition  
Reena Rambharat, HC Local Health Improvement Coalition

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
<b>Welcome/Ice Breaker</b>	Jessica Fisher, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Ms. Fisher provided a welcome to members in attendance and had members introduce themselves in the chat box.	Members are urged to review the past minutes available at: <a href="https://www.hclhic.org/home/MeetingYears/363">https://www.hclhic.org/home/MeetingYears/363</a>
<b>Opioid Overdose Response</b>	Jessica Fisher introduced Sade Parson and Nicole Mallette, Howard County Health Department, to provide a presentation on the opioid overdose response program.	Members were urged to reach out to Sade Parson for Narcan training, Narcan kits, or more

<p><b>Program Presentation</b></p>	<p>Ms. Parson shared that she conducts Narcan training and outreach and education for the Opioid Overdose Response Program (ORP). Ms. Mallette is the data analyst for the ORP.</p> <p>Topics discussed during presentation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of ORP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ORP leads and coordinates Narcan trainings, conducts community outreach efforts, and provides overdose prevention strategies and support.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Howard County, Maryland – Demographic Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Population over 332,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Non-Hispanic white make up 48%</li> <li>▪ Similar population distribution of Non-Hispanic Blacks (20%) and Non-Hispanic Asian residents (19%)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ More females than males</li> <li>○ Howard county has a higher percentage of residents under 18 years of age (24%) than any other age group</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Non-Fatal and Fatal Overdose Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Since 2020, there has been a consistent decrease in the number of non-fatal overdoses. However, there has been fluctuating numbers for fatal opioid-related overdoses.</li> <li>○ Male, adults aged 25-34, and Black non-Hispanic race had the highest non-fatal overdose morbidity.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Non-Fatal and Fatal Overdose Discussion of 19 years and under</li> <li>• Outreach Efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Narcan Training</li> <li>○ Partners include</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>information on ORP here: <a href="mailto:sparson@howardcountymd.gov">sparson@howardcountymd.gov</a></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ HCPSS</li> <li>▪ Howard Community College</li> <li>▪ Merriweather Post Pavilion</li> <li>▪ The Mall in Columbia</li> <li>▪ Various Community Events</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress in 2023             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 94 Group Narcan Trainings</li> <li>○ 2,212 people trained to administer Narcan</li> <li>○ 2,366 Narcan kits distributed</li> <li>○ 12.3% trained were aged 18 – 24, 3.8% trained were under the age of 18</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How to Obtain Narcan             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Complete HCHD online Narcan training and collect a Narcan kit once completed</li> <li>○ Receive in-person Narcan training and collect a Narcan kit at the end of the training</li> <li>○ Visit the Harm Reduction van in the health department parking lot Tuesday or Thursday from 10am – 2pm</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Eileen Zeller, Moms Demand Action, inquired about the non-fatal overdoses in Howard County and if they were showing up in emergency departments or received Narcan via police. Ms. Mallette shared that the non-fatal overdose data presented was from the police department and the totals consist of individuals who were administered Narcan on scene of an overdose. Ms. Zeller also inquired if there was a Maryland Law prohibiting legal action for calling in an overdose for oneself or another person. Ms. Parson mentioned that yes, the Good Samaritan Law is in effect in Maryland.</p>	
<p><b>Maryland Safe Storage Map Presentation</b></p>	<p>Ms. Fisher introduced Dr. Cass Crifasi, Co-director of the Center for Gun Violence Solutions, to provide an overview of the Maryland Safe Storage Map Project.</p> <p>Topics discussed during overview included:</p>	<p>Members can access the Maryland Safe Storage Map here: <a href="https://mdpgv.org/safestoragemap/">https://mdpgv.org/safestoragemap/</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe Gun Storage for Suicide Prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reducing access to lethal means of self-harm, such as firearms, is a cornerstone of suicide prevention</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Map Development: Gun Shops and Ranges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Systematic Google Maps analysis of Maryland identifying business offering voluntary temporary gun storage</li> <li>○ Marketed Safe Storage Map as a suicide prevention tool</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Map Development: Law Enforcement Agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Purchased Directory from the National Public Safety Information Bureau of relevant law enforcement agencies</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Safe Gun Storage Map <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Housed on the Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence</li> <li>○ Webpage also includes relevant information as to why gun owners sometimes want to store firearms away from the home, what questions to ask for storage options, and how to safely bring a firearm to a safe storage location.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reasons for Declining Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Gun shops that declined participation shared common concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Logistics of returning firearm to owner after temporary storage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background check requirement</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Responsibility for deciding if safe to return gun</li> <li>▪ Liability for gun during storage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not covered by insurance</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ No space for storage</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Current status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Working to update map</li> <li>○ Developing safe storage window cling</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Members can get more information on Extreme Risk Protection Orders here: <a href="https://www.mdcourts.gov/district/ERPO">https://www.mdcourts.gov/district/ERPO</a></p> <p>Members interested in more information on the Maryland Safe Storage Map and future efforts can reach out to Dr. Cass Crifasi here: <a href="mailto:crifasi@jhu.edu">crifasi@jhu.edu</a></p>
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- Liability considerations
- Funding to expand out-of-home safe storage options
- Trauma center projects

Ms. Zeller, mentioned when tabling community events she passes out Maryland Safe Storage Map materials to Maryland law enforcement and they hadn't heard of it. Dr. Crifasi, shared that the process to get Maryland law enforcement buy in on safe storage efforts and that they are currently working with the National Guard as well.

Barbara Allen, James Place/Opioid Collaborative Community Council, inquired if it's still a good idea to include gun locks in the harm reduction vending machines to go around Howard County. Dr. Crifasi mentioned that gun locks are a great option but may not be used by gun owners as many gun owners use their firearms for home defense and using gun lock means storing the firearm unloaded. Ms. Allen also inquired why Maryland State troopers are not interested in assisting with the Maryland Safe Storage Map. Dr. Crifasi shared that in their talks with different barracks there was buy-in from the lower levels of the law enforcement agencies but that higher level buy-in was necessary and was not there at the time.

Reena Rambharat, HC Local Health Improvement Coalition, inquired if there was data specific to Howard County and what agencies are listed in the Maryland Safe Storage located in Howard County. Dr. Crifasi shared that she will shared Howard County data with HMSPC co-chairs to share with the workgroup.

Ms. Fisher mentioned two concerns she has heard from community members regarding safe storage. One concern being the legality of storing a firearm for

	<p>oneself or someone else. Another concern is safe storage is free or not. Dr. Crifasi mentioned that cost is a barrier to some for using safe storage options, and they are working to get buy-in from law enforcement agencies to provide free/reduced cost safe storage options in the future. Further she mentioned that if someone living with or related to a gun owner and is concerned about said gun owner that they can apply for an Extreme Risk Protection Order.</p>	
<p><b>Announcements</b></p>	<p>Ms. Fisher, invited workgroup members to shared announcements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Eileen Zeller, mentioned that promotion efforts led to around 30+ participants in the QPR training that Moms Demand Action hosted.</li> <li>• Ms. Fisher, shared that the Howard County Crisis Intercept Mapping (CIM) team is having a Good Vibes &amp; Voices event on June 6 at Rockburn Branch Park</li> </ul>	<p>Members interested in more registering for the Good Vibes &amp; Voices event can visit here: <a href="http://www.HowardCountyMD.gov/goodvibes">http://www.HowardCountyMD.gov/goodvibes</a></p>
<p><b>Announcements Next Steps &amp; Wrap-up</b></p>	<p>The next HMSPC Meeting will be July 11, 2024, 2:00pm-3:00pm</p> <p>Jessica Fisher adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.</p>	