

Howard County Health Department Bureau of Behavioral Health

Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition

Behavioral Health Provider COVID-19 Resource and Response Call #5: Foreign-born Services

04/24/2020 – 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Virtual Meeting held via WebEx

Minutes

Members Present:

Kelly Arthur, Qlarant
Candace Ball, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services
Gisela Baptiste, Adult & Adolescent Counseling Services, LLC.
Benjamin Barnwell, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services
Robin Bartko, Wellness Girlfriend
Andrea Bending, BrightStar Care
Miriam Bennett, Howard County Health Department
Kayla Blasher-Burch, Howard County Health Department
Carol Boyer, Delphi Behavioral Health Group
Corey Bryce, Oxford House Inc.
Shereen Cabrera-Bentley, Howard County Health Department
Monica Castillo-Cruz, Howard County Health Department
Bianca Chang, Howard County General Hospital
Lisa DeHernandez, Howard County Health Department
Katie Downes, Congruent Counseling Services
Trish Dunn, Gladstone Psychiatry and Wellness
Kimberly Eisenreich, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services
MJ Engle, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services
Tina Field, Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center
Ana Maria Garcia Fernandez, Community Member
Stacey Grace, Stevenson Psychological Associates
Natalie Hall, Howard County Health Department
Karen Hull, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services
Anna Maria Izquierdo-Porrera, Care For Your Health, Inc.
Janet Jones, Qlarant
Genevieve LaPorte, Howard County Police Department
Jennifer Lee, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services
Vanda Lerdboon, Howard County Health Department
Sonya Lloyd, Howard County Health Department
Sarah McCoy, Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center
Lynn Mejia, United Healthcare
Melissa Miller, Central Maryland Area Health Education Center
Kristen Minor, Howard County Health Department
Andrea Morris, Christian Counseling Associates, Inc.
Colleen Nester, Howard County Health Department
Azahria Nieves, Center for Children
Cris Oviedo, Dragon Digital Radio
Sandra Ponciano, Howard County Health Department
Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Director, Howard County Health Department
Michelle Rosenfeld, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services
Ofelia Ross, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services
Claudia Salomon, Howard County Health Department
Jim Sanders, The Village in Howard
Beth Schmidt, Maryland Coalition of Family
Lauren Soummers, Howard County Health Department
Rashel Taylor, Horizon Foundation
Tiffany Callender, Horizon Foundation
Gina Teranto, Humanim
Laura Torres, Howard County General Hospital
Celian Valero-Colon, One World Healthcare
Tonya Wade, Trusted Health Plan
Tasha Walls, Maryland CASA
Joan Webb-Scornaienchi, HC DrugFree
Chong Yi, My Life Foundation

Guests Present:

Mike Mitchell, Executive Director, Foreign-born Information and Referral Network, Inc.
 Lisa Pearson, LCSW-C, Director of Behavioral Health Services, Chase Brexton’s Columbia
 Heidi Weiss-Beedie, Foreign-born Service Program Coordinator, Howard County Health Department

Staff Present:

Kelly Kesler, HCLHIC Director, HCHD
 Seojin Kim, HCLHIC Program Coordinator, HCHD
 Rodney Oldham, HCLHIC Program Coordinator, HCHD

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
<p>Welcome and Opening Remarks</p>	<p>Kelly Kesler, Director of the Howard County LHIC, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Director of the Howard County Health Department’s Bureau of Behavioral Health offered key information and resources related to behavioral health & the COVID-19 and reviewed the goals and agenda for the meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Nester, Supervisor of Youth and Family Support Services Unit in the Howard County Health Department’s Bureau of Behavioral Health as well as the LHIC Behavioral Health work group delegate, welcomed the coalition members and kicked off the meeting.</p>	<p>Coalition members are expected to obtain all the meeting materials including PPT, recording and additional resources visits LHIC website : http://www.hclhic.org/news-events/lhic-and-partner-events/seminars-and-educational-events</p> <p>Coalition members are asked to share:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavioral Health FAQ’s • Behavioral Health Provider FAQ’s <p>Coalition members who wish to add their organizations’ update to the HCHD Behavioral Health FAQ’s Sheet may contact Kayla Blasher-Burch at kblasher@howardcountymd.gov</p> <p>LHIC members are encouraged to visit the following websites to learn more about the COVID-19 updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HC Behavioral Health Providers Telehealth Service-COVID-19 • LHIC COVID-19 Update • BHA Latest Information
<p>FIRN, Inc: COVID-19 Resources and Response</p>	<p>Mike Mitchell, an executive director of Foreign-born Information and Referral Network, Inc. (FIRN), delivered his presentation about the primary services and information available for foreign-born residents in Howard County during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Mr. Mitchell also encouraged the members to use and share the COVID-19 online materials translated to several different languages on the FIRN website to promote foreign-born community education.</p>	<p>For more information about the COVID-19 referral services and other informative resources, visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIRN, Inc • FIRN COVID-19 Interpretation and Translation Resources • FIRN From Korea To Home: Global Perspectives on COVID-19

	<p>Mike Mitchell stated that FIRN planed to launch the COVID-19 Financial Resource called <i>Pay it Forward Fund</i> on May 10 to provide loan support for utility or rent payments.</p> <p>Coalition members discussed strategies to offer underinsured foreign-born clients the COVID-19 related-medical referral/assistance and learned about FIRN’s original programs including immigration and translation services.</p>	<p>LHIC coalition members may contact Mike Mitchell with more questions about his presentation at mmitchell@firnonline.org</p>
<p>Chase Brexton Health Care, Inc.: Resources and Response</p>	<p>Lisa Pearson, Director of Behavioral Health Services of the Chase Brexton (CBHC)-Columbia, shared an overview on primary modifications of clinical services and operations in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.</p> <p>Ms. Pearson stated that the CBHC-Columbia offered current medical services in different kinds of languages including Farsi, Spanish, French and Hindi via telehealth in order for their patients to continue to receive their clinical therapy at home during this pandemic. However, group-based programs are now on hold.</p> <p>Coalition members and Ms. Pearson discussed potential remaining barriers in people accessing mental health services, the way to continue to accept new patients and timeframe that patients could get connected to medical assistance during this coronavirus outbreak.</p>	<p>Coalition members who are more interested in Chase Brexton Health Care’s COVID-19 response and resources for a foreign-born population are encouraged to visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chase Brexton Health Care <p>Or contact Lisa Pearson at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lpearson@chasebrexton.org • 410-837-2050
<p>Howard County Health Department: Foreign-born Programs</p>	<p>Heidi Weiss-Beedie, the Foreign-born Outreach Coordinator for the Howard County Health Department (HCHD), provided a brief overview of the Foreign-born Outreach program of the HCHD.</p> <p>Ms. Weiss-Beedie also discussed key changes that have been made in order to continue to provide existing/new foreign-born clients with telemedicine services during the coronavirus outbreak. For example, now, new clients can complete initial intakes via FaceTime, WhatsApp, and etc., and they can also receive a service confirmation via email or text.</p>	<p>Coalition members may contact Ms. Weiss-Beedie with more questions about her presentation at hweissbeedie@howardcountymd.gov</p>

**Q&A and
Networking &
Partner Updates**

Chris Oviedo from Dragon Digital Radio shared her current project to develop a Spanish-based radio channel providing local updates to a foreign-born community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tiffany Callender and Rashel Taylor from the Horizon foundation gave a quick update on the grant funding opportunities including the COVID Emergency Fund, Mental Health Fund, and Advocacy opportunity, and also encouraged members to use and share Emotional Support Humans materials available online for community education.

Kelly Kesler stated that CAREAPP, a web-based tool that allows users to search for resources to address the Social determinants of health, would continue to be updated and available online.

Mr. Barnwell shared that the COAD Group will host a Pop-up Food Pantry scheduled to take place in the Elkridge area, and no ID or other documentation is required to access free food.

Chong Yi shared that My Life Foundation started fundraising for emergency foods and basic needs for low-income families and seniors in Korean-American community, and translation services for mental health counseling related to COVID-19 are now available.

Andrea Morris shared that Christian Counseling Associates (CCA) is also conducting telehealth mental health services through Zoom.

Coalition members who want to share their updates/events with the community via Dragon Digital Radio may contact Chris Oviedo at maria.oviedo@howardcc.edu or visit [Howard Community College-Dragon Digital Radio](#)

For more information about the Horizon Foundation's Grant Opportunities and campaign, email Tiffany Callender at TCallender@thehorizonfoundation.org Or Rashel Taylor at rtaylor@thehorizonfoundation.org

Or visit

- [Horizon Foundation](#)
- [HoCo Response COVID-19 Emergency Fund](#)
- [Emotional Support Humans](#)

Coalition member are encouraged to visit the following website to learn more about CAREAPP

- <https://www.hccareapp.org/>
- Vanda Lerdboon at plerdboon@howardcountymd.gov or
- Natalie Hall at nhall@howardcountymd.gov

For more information about the Food Pantry, contact Benjamin Barnwell at bbarnwell@howardcountymd.gov

Or call

- DCRS Careline at 410-313-2773
- DCRS MAP at 410-313-1234

Coalition members may contact My Life Foundation at info@mlfmd.org or 443-765-8949.

Coalition members may visit the CCA telehealth services website to learn more <http://christiancounselingassociates.org>.



Closing Remarks	Ms. Nester adjourned the work group meeting at 10:30 a.m.	Members who have questions for COVID-19 related supplies are encouraged to email at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q7MPHNM Coalition members who are interested in COVID-19 medical assistance are encouraged to contact HCHD COVID-19 Hotline at 410-313-6284 or email at askhealth@howardcountymd.gov For more information about the Howard County LHIC contact Kelly Kesler at kkesler@howardcountymd.gov
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Future Meeting Dates:

Howard County COVID-19 and Vulnerable Population: Homeless Populations & Detention Center- hosted by the Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition and Howard County Health Department Bureau of Behavioral Health - **Friday, April 29, 2020 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.** Register at <http://bit.ly/2KpEwdD>

Howard County COVID-19 and The Stages of Trauma and Recovery (STAR)- hosted by the Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition and Howard County Health Department Bureau of Behavioral Health - **Wednesday, May 6, 2020 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.** Register at <http://bit.ly/3bgEQas>

Howard County COVID-19 and Cultural Competency: Managing Implicit Bias within the Therapeutic Process- hosted by the Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition and Howard County Health Department Bureau of Behavioral Health - **Friday, May 15, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** Register at <https://bit.ly/3byJINJ>

Respectfully submitted by
Seojin Kim, MSW, Program Coordinator
Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition