

Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition (HCLHIC): Healthy Minds and Suicide Prevention Coalition (HMSPC) Workgroup Meeting Agenda

Date: September 10, 2026

Time: 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Location: Zoom

Healthy Minds and Suicide Prevention Coalition Co-chairs: Barbara Allen and Jessica Fisher

1. Meeting Purpose:

To engage HMSPC Workgroup members in identifying future discussion topics and priorities, share upcoming Suicide Prevention and National Recovery Month events and activities, and establish next steps for continued collaboration and suicide prevention efforts in Howard County.

2. Agenda Items

2:00 PM – 2:10 PM Welcome and Icebreaker

Jessica Fisher, Co-Chair
Suicide Prevention Coordinator,
Bureau of Behavioral Health,
Howard County Health Department



2:10 PM – 2:40 PM Suicide Prevention and National Recovery Month Announcements, Observances and Reflections

Jessica Fisher, Co-Chair
Suicide Prevention Coordinator,
Bureau of Behavioral Health,
Howard County Health Department

2:40 PM – 2:55 PM HMSPC Workgroup Future Discussion Topics Questionnaire

Jessica Fisher, Co-Chair
Suicide Prevention Coordinator,
Bureau of Behavioral Health,
Howard County Health Department

2:55 PM – 3:00 PM Next Steps & Wrap-Up

Stephanie Foster,
Community Engagement Coordinator,
Howard County Health Department,
Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC)

3. 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.