

HEALTH AND HOMELESSNESS WORKGROUP UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

September, 2019

THE HEALTH AND HOMELESSNESS WORKGROUP IS RESPONSIBLE FOR GOAL 3 OF THE ICH: IMPROVE THE EMERGENCY SERVICES NETWORK FOR THE HOMELESS, BY PARTNERING WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS TO CREATE A COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT AND DISCHARGE PLANNING PROCESS USED AT INTAKE AND DISCHARGE FROM MEDICAL FACILITIES OR JAILS (A FEDERAL REQUIREMENT).

Chair: Dr. Olubukola Alonge, Program Administrative Specialist, Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (MHHD), Maryland Department of Health.

Objectives	Accomplishments	Next Steps
Assess how the homeless are accessing emergency care and study the manner in which they are being released from hospitals back into the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reached out to the Maryland Hospital Association (MHA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up with the MHA to find out about hospital policies related to determining housing status of patients Once determined, what is the protocol for linking to services
Increase access to proper respite/convalescent care for the homeless statewide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created and disseminated (Medical Respite Assessment in Maryland) MRAM Tool Assessment completed in 19 of 24 jurisdictions Determined that there are currently 3 existing medical respite programs in Maryland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up with the 3 counties planning to start a medical respite care program: Montgomery, Carroll and Charles counties Create a Maryland specific medical respite tool kit
Assess exit-planning strategies used by jails and other institutions to determine service and housing gaps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created Re-entry and Exit Planning (REEP) Tool REEP Tool disseminated by MHHD interns via phone interviews to jail staff in at least 17 counties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete assessment in the remaining jails Contact DPSCS for prison assessment for the State

MEETING UPDATE

- Most recent work group meeting was held on Thursday, May 30, 2019. We had representatives from Medicaid at this meeting to answer some of the questions the group had regarding Medicaid and how it relates to the work of the group.
- Next meeting: date TBD
- If interested in any of the efforts of this workgroup, please contact Dr. Alonge at Olubukola.alonge@maryland.gov for further details.

YOUTH WORK GROUP

The Youth Workgroup last met on June 25, 2019

The Workgroup is currently drafting a report and set of recommendations entitled "A Systems-Level Response to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness in Maryland." This will be a formal update to the 2013 Taskforce Report to highlight successes and achievements made and new challenges to be addressed. The report includes 7 sections relating to education, child welfare, health, economic stability, and housing. Monthly working sessions are held to discuss each section and invite additional stakeholders and subject matter experts to discuss and shape the language of the recommendations.

Many workgroup members are participating in the Workgroup to Study Shelter and Supportive Services for Unaccompanied Homeless Minors led by chairs of the Joint Committee on Homelessness.

Next Meeting: TBD in September

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