



**Mental Health Core Service Agency Advisory Council
Cecil County Health Advisory Committee
July –December 2017 Update
1/18/18**

The Cecil County Mental Health Core Service Agency maintains an Advisory Council which meets on a monthly basis. The purpose of the Cecil County Mental Health Advisory Council is to collaborate with local behavioral health providers to develop goals, review progress, identify barriers, and provide input for planning. The Mental Health Core Service Agency Advisory Council has taken an active role in reviewing the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), selecting goals and strategies to improve the overall community’s behavioral health needs.

The Cecil County CSA meets regularly with volunteers from the Advisory Council to discuss and prioritize strategies to address the CHAC goals. Two committees continue to address objectives 1.2.1 and 1.2.2. Workgroups for Objective 1.2.1- “By June 30, 2019, reduce the percentage of youth in grade 9-12 who felt sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more during the past 12 months to no more than 24.8%” and Objective 1.2.2 - “Decrease the suicide rate in Cecil County by 5%” were combined. There are ongoing meetings and the committees are continuing to communicate and share information.

Goal 1.2: Improve the mental health and well-being of Cecil County residents.

Objective 1.2.1, and 1.2.2: By June 30, 2019, reduce the percentage of youth in grades 9-12 who felt sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more during the past 12 months to no more than 24.8%.

Strategies:

- 1. Promote depression screening during wellness checkups**
- 2. Research programming to promote the health and well-being of youth.**
- 3. Promote Behavioral Health Integration in Pediatric Primary Care (B-HIPP).**

Status:

1. The committee reached out and made contact to local pediatricians and primary care doctors to survey their use of depression screening tools. During this exercise, approximately 20% responded and each of those doctors requested a depression screening tool and a short reference resource list.

Healthy People. Healthy Community. Healthy Future.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.....	410-996-5550	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.....	410-996-5160
ALCOHOL AND DRUG RECOVERY CENTER.....	410-996-5106	HEALTH PROMOTION.....	410-996-5168
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS.....	410-996-5113	MENTAL HEALTH AND SPECIAL POPULATIONS SERVICES.....	410-996-5112
COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES.....	410-996-5130	TTY USERS FOR DISABLED: MARYLAND RELAY.....	.800-201-7165
DISEASE CONTROL.....	410-996-5100	EN ESPAÑOL.....	410-996-5550 EXT 4680

2. Reviewed Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data regarding youth sadness among Cecil County high school students, and identified LGBTQ youth as a subpopulation reporting significantly higher prevalence of sadness (68.1% vs. 24.3%) and thoughts of suicide (57.3% vs. 13.4%).
 - a. The committee researched several programs targeting LGBTQ youth and discussed barriers to implementing a program. During the last committee meeting, committee members identified several supports and resources for LGBTQ youth currently active in Cecil County.
 - b. The CSA presented a LGBTQ workshop on August 16, 2017 which was well received by participants.

Goal 2: Improve Access to Behavioral Health Services in Cecil County

Objective 1.3.1: By June 30, 2019, decrease the rate of emergency department visits related to mental health conditions by 10% and emergency department visits related to substance use disorders by 5%.

Strategies:

1. Increase awareness of behavioral health resources and services in the community.

Status:

1. A committee was formed to provide input on a combined Behavioral Health Resource Directory being created by the Health Department. The committee continues to coordinate with the Resource Directory QI project at the Health Department regarding the launch of the electronic resource guide. The QI project had been inactive, and participants have been assigned new tasks to update the directory.