

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



Department of Behavioral Health Behavioral Health Planning Council (BHPC)
Regularly Scheduled Virtual Meeting
June 24, 2022, 10:00am-12:00pm

MINUTES

To assist in the reduced transmission of the novel Coronavirus COVID-19 and out of the abundance of caution for the safety and well-being of our members, The Behavioral Health Planning Council has continued with teleconference meetings, ensuring a Quorum was reached via WebEx.

Meeting was called to Order at 10:01am

Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call: Senora Simpson

Approvals of Agenda & Minutes Motion: Senora Simpson read, approved the amended agenda and minutes.

BHPC Members: Gail Avent (TFCC), Tia Brumstead (OSSE), Ann Chauvin (Woodley House), Nicole Gilbert (CFSA), Jean Harris, Hilary Kacser (DisordR), Mark Lavota (DCBHA), Elizabeth Maldonado (CAN), Senora Simpson, Jaclyn Verner (Disability Rights), Harry Willis.

DBH: Richard Bebout, Bernadette Boozer, Maura Gaswirth, Charles Gervin, Laquita Howard, Sharon Hunt, Phyllis Jones, Trina Logan, Jelani Murrain, Randy Raybon, Philippa Stuart, Julie Wiegandt.

DC Govt: Theresa Early (DHS), Elizabeth Garrison (DHCF), Jennifer Joyce (DHCF), Ifeoma Muoka (DDS).

Public Attendees: Lorenzo Baylor (MBI), Donna Flenory (FAPAC), Andrea Jones, Tom Karl (R1 Learning), Jo Patterson, Michael Pickering (RAP Inc.), Eric Scharf (DBSA), Nicholas Weil, Alicia Woodward, + 4 unidentified callers.

Department of Behavioral Health Updates:

- **Communications & Public Engagement Report.** Phyllis Jones reported on Mental Health Awareness Month activities: hotline, symposium, consumer forum, and community resource pop-up fairs. Nalaxone distribution and social media outreach efforts are ongoing. Applications are welcome for the Peer Specialist Certification Program.
- **988 Transition Report.** Bernadette Boozer reported on preparations for the 988 soft launch on July 16, 2022. Monthly coalition meetings are ongoing. 988 will be an enhancement to current Access HelpLine and Warm Line services.
- **Live.Long.DC. & SOR 3 Grant Report.** Sharon Hunt and Julie Wiegandt reported overdose data, FY22 accomplishments and proposed initiatives for the SOR 3 grant. Phyllis Jones will provide clear guidance regarding fentanyl test strip distribution laws.

Old Business:

- **Membership Solicitation for FY23 Update.** Philippa Stuart and Jelani Murrain reported on key dates and actions. Those strong applications for most vacancies were submitted; no applications were received for Ward 3. Jelani will consult Dr. Bazron regarding next steps to solicit for Ward 3 applications.

New Business:

- **Standing Committee Reports**
 - **System and Benefit Design Committee.** Mark LeVota reported on outcomes of the May 25 meeting and efforts toward the goal of supporting system's transition to managed care. Received the following updates:

DHCF report on MCO transition (how providers can best get paneled with MCOs to get paid for eligible services; short-term bridge policies needed to ensure services are rendered during transition; rate study underway); DBH report on providers receiving national accreditation (DBH providing financial assistance to providers to cover fees; applications due 9/30); and CRISP's SUD consent management tool demonstration. Next meeting will be in late July, date TBD.

- **Advocacy and Outreach Committee.** Jacklyn Verner reported (in Dr. Copeland's absence) on outcomes from meeting two weeks ago: overview of DBH system redesign; foster collaboration with Communications Director to ensure goals are aligned; identify ongoing questions the public may have and how best the committee can engage in public outreach amid system redesign. Next meeting TBD. Phyllis Jones will serve as point of contact until the Communications Director position is filled and Anthony Hall is the new Public Engagement Director. Both are eager to increase collaboration efforts with this committee.
- **Connection to Care Committee.** No report.
- **Planning and Accountability Committee.** Jean Harris reported that the committee did not meet. She will schedule a meeting with Jelani Murrain regarding next steps. Jelani submitted last year's full application to the BHPC Executive Committee as reference. DBH is preparing to submit this year's mini application which will be opened on July 1.
- **Ad hoc Bylaws Revisions Committee.** Senora Simpson appointed an ad hoc committee to review the Bylaws (e.g., online attendance). Membership includes Donna Flenory, Jean Harris, and Senora Simpson.
- **BHPC Self-Assessment.** Senora Simpson would like to reimplement the self-assessment tool. The BHPC Support Staff will send the tool to members for review/edit and further discussion at the next meeting. Senora Simpson will also designate a meeting evaluator to ensure each meeting is productive and inclusive.

Announcements – No Announcements.

Public Comments

- Erick Scharf: *Will DBH make grants/funding available to providers and other organizations?* DBH will connect Eric with the appropriate person(s) to respond to this inquiry.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20am

Behavioral Health Planning Council Meeting



June 24, 2022



District of Columbia Department of Behavioral Health

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Agenda

10:00 AM	Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Roll	Senora Simpson
10:05 - 10:10	Approvals of Agenda & Minutes	Senora Simpson
10:10 - 10:20	Communications & Public Engagement Report	Phyllis Jones
10:20 - 10:30	988 Transition Report	Bernadette Boozer
10:30 - 10:40	Live.Long.DC Report SOR 3 Grant Update	Sharon Hunt, Julie Wiegandt
10:40 - 11:00	Old Business Membership Solicitation for FY23 Update	Philippa Stuart, Jelani Murrain
11:00 - 11:40	New Business Standing Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• System & Benefit Design• Advocacy & Outreach• Connection to Care (35 K Ad Hoc)• Planning & Accountability	Mark LeVota Jaclyn Verner for Cheryl Doby-Copeland Esther Ford Jean Harris
11:40 - 11:55	Announcements & Public Comments (Please limit comments to 3 Minutes)	
11:55 - 12:00	Members Roll	Senora Simpson
12:00 PM	Adjournment	



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COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT REPORT



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Mental Health Awareness Month

Mayor Bowser held a press conference on May 13 to publicize the Mental Health Hotline. Thank you to the Hillcrest Family Center for hosting the event.

Mayor Muriel Bowser Presents

Mental Health Awareness Month

In recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, we invite you to join Mayor Bowser and the Department of Behavioral Health to spotlight the District's 24/7 Mental Health Hotline and mental health services and supports.



Friday, May 13, 2022 | 11 a.m. | Hillcrest Child & Family Center,
3029 MLK Jr. Avenue SE

dbh.dc.gov



D.C. GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



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Mental Health Awareness Month

The Behavioral Health Planning Council was a partner. Thank you, CEO Juanita Price and Hillcrest Child and Family Center for hosting the event.



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Mental Health Awareness Month



<https://twitter.com/i/status/1525200599402393604>



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Mental Health Hotline

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
**MENTAL HEALTH
HOTLINE**

YOU ARE NOT ALONE.
Trained mental health specialists are available 24/7.

Call: 1-888-793-4357
888-793-HELP



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
**MENTAL HEALTH
HOTLINE**

Call: 1-888-793-4357
888-793-HELP

Feeling depressed, anxious, or just not yourself?
You are able to overcome, now let help set you on your
path and get the support you need.
At least one mental health specialist is available anytime.



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Mental Health Awareness in Schools



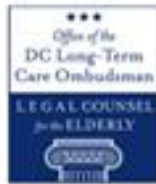
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Public Engagement

2022 Mental Health Symposium

Breaking Down Barriers and Stigmas of Mental Health



Wednesday, May 11, 2022
9:30 am to 12:30 pm ET
Virtual via Zoom

DC Long Term Care
Ombudsman's 2022 Mental
Health Symposium: Breaking
Down Barriers & Stigmas of
Mental Health

SPEAKERS



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Public Engagement: Consumer Forum

THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND
PEER-LED CENTERS PRESENT:

COVID-19—What We've Learned



QUESTIONS. FACTS. MYTHS.

Did you know people living with mental illness are at higher risk of severe illness, hospitalizations, and death from COVID-19?

Let's talk about your concerns, answer your questions, and hear from peers who decided to get vaccinated.

Event Details

Date:
Wednesday, May 25, 2022

Time:
11:00AM - 12:00PM EST

Join the Conversation:
t.me/DBHEvent



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Public Engagement

Join Mayor Bowser and the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety & Justice for a

COMMUNITY RESOURCE POP UP FAIR

FRIDAY, MAY 20TH, 2022

GEORGIA AVE - PETWORTH METRO STATION (W4)

3-6 PM

MEET WITH AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES TO
LEARN ABOUT DIFFERENT SERVICES AND
CONNECT WITH NEIGHBORS!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE OR NEED MORE
INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JASHIKH.BENAB@DC.GOV



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Public Engagement



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Social Media



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2022 Peer Specialist Certification Program

2022 Certified Peer Specialist Training Program Schedule				
Location	Application Deadline	In person Classes	Interview Dates	Orientation
64 New York Ave NE Wash, DC 20002	July 1, 2022 at 12pm	July 11 - Aug 8, 2022 Monday - Friday 9:00am - 12:30pm	Scheduled upon selection	July 11, 2022
Practicum Dates				
August 15 - September 16, 2022				



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988 TRANSITION REPORT



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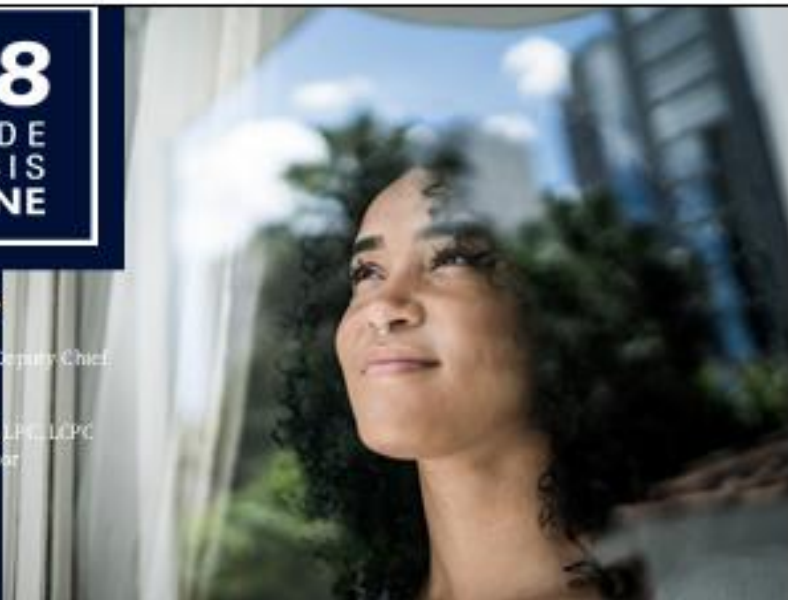
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988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

DBH 988 Transition Update

Bernadette Booser, Ph.D., Deputy Chief
Crisis Services

Lanada Williams, MA, NCC, LPC, LCPC
Suicide Prevention Coordinator



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DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

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988 Implementation Coalition Committee

Wanda Alston, Len Williams

Jordan House/SOME, Susan Nightingale

Metropolitan Police Department, Melanie Minges, LPC, NCC

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, Eric Scharf

DC National Alliance on Mental Illness, Jean Harris

DC Office of Unified Communications, Trayshelle Jackson, CMCP

Office of the Chief Technology Officer, Cynthia Romero

Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Claudia Price

GWU Prevention & Community Health, Dr. Olga Acosta Price

Transition Age Youth Director, LeslieAnn Byam

DC Department of Health Care Finance, Jennifer Joyce, LICSW

Education Development Center, Amy Loudermilk, MSW

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Deborah Steinberg

District of Columbia Behavioral Health Association, Mark LeVota

GWU Prevention & Community Health, Kaila Crow

GWU Prevention & Community Health, Jonathan Lee

Washington Hospital Center, Keith Gastel

Washington Hospital Center, Chandra Colvin

Washington Hospital Center, Larry Gentry

Psychiatric Institute of Washington, Bonita Bolden

Catholic Charities - ChAMPS, Ethlynn Thomas



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Where we are now!

988



UPDATES:

- Thanks to the BHPC members' contributions to 988 Coalition meetings!
- The follow up with Deaf Reach informed us of the unique challenges meeting the crisis service needs of the deaf and hard of hearing community.
- DBH is still actively working and meeting with the 988 Implementation Coalition comprised of three workgroups to develop the 988 plan.
- 988 State and Territory Cooperative Agreement was recently awarded to build capacity. DBH will utilize this funding to hire staff and prepare a communication plan for the soft launch July 16, 2022.



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Future State of 988 and Crisis Services

988

July 16, 2022: A transformative moment for the crisis care system in the DC



A strengthened "Front Door" for all behavioral health expanding AHL infrastructure to respond to crisis calls, texts, and chats anytime

We envision a day when everyone across our system has someone to call, someone to respond, and a safe place to go for crisis care.



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LIVE.LONG.DC. REPORT & SOR 3 GRANT UPDATE



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Today's Goals

- Review current state of overdoses,
- Overview of a few FY 22 LIVE.LONG.DC. accomplishments
- New proposed initiatives for upcoming SOR 3 grant



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94% of the District's overdose deaths in 2020, 95% in 2021, and 97% in 2022 (2 months) involved fentanyl or a fentanyl analog.

The individuals who overdose in the District are predominately:

- African American (84%)
- Male (75%)
- Between 40 and 69 years old (74%)

Current Status of the Overdose Epidemic

82% of fatal overdoses are occurring in residences - homes, shelters, long-term care, etc.). 73% of fatal overdoses occurred in the decedent's own residence.

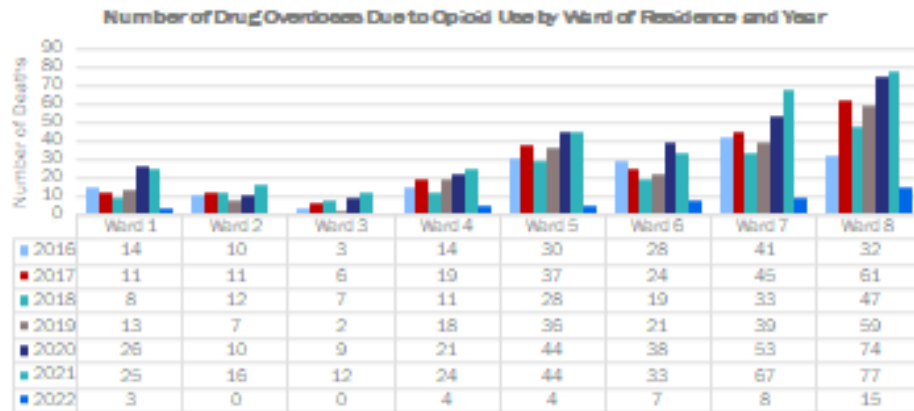
After increasing 46% between 2019 and 2020, overdose deaths increased 3.6% from 411 to 426 in 2021



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OCME Fatal Overdose Data



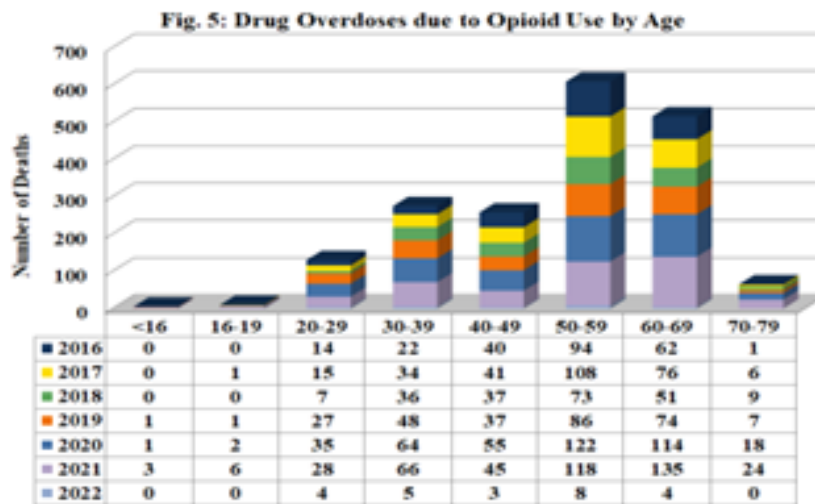
** 2022 data is only representative of January 1 - February 28 **



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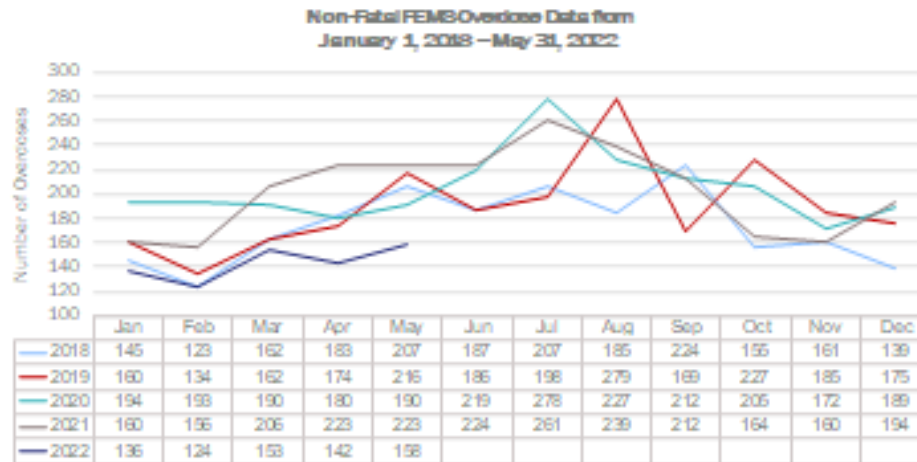
Overdoses by Age



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Non-Fatal FEMS Overdose Data



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Harm Reduction

A Sample of Accomplishments in FY 22

- Hiring a Harm Reduction Supervisor.
- Increased naloxone distribution 78% from 2020 to 2021 and in FY 22 we have been distributing about 6,000 units a month.
- Pharmacy distribution program in 32 locations is back on track.
- Fentanyl test strips (FTS) now available at Unity pharmacy at 2nd and D for non-SOR grantees.
- Conducted a naloxone trainer course in June 2022 for eight individuals.
- Implementing International Overdose Awareness Day (August 31) events in all Wards.



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Target Overdose Hotspots with Coordinated Outreach

A Sample of Accomplishments in FY 22

- Held ward-level meetings to identify and coordinate around known hotspots and residences and held two ad-hoc meetings in Wards 5 and 6 to create a more in-depth strategy.
- Began producing weekly reports and overdose spike reports using real-time OD data from FEMS, which allows DBH to identify specific areas to target for interventions.
- Finalizing a communications plan for disseminating real-time information to outreach teams and impacted neighborhoods during overdose spikes.



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Expand Treatment Access Points

A Sample of Accomplishments in FY 22

- Finalized MOU with FEMs and it is in the process of hiring four community outreach specialist to intervene with individuals refusing transport following an overdose.
- Linked a SUD provider with a long-term care facility where there were multiple overdoses; provider conducted assessments and linked residents to treatment.
- Re-released DC Stabilization and Sobering Center RFP on June 17, 2022.
- Revamped the BUP-DAP program.
- Sustaining support for pregnant and parenting individuals in the community through Hillcrest.



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SOR 3: Proposed New Initiatives

- Provide SUD training and technical assistance to child welfare, parole and probation, and long-term care/skilled nursing facility staff.
- Implement SBIRT at children's hospital.
- Place peers in shelters.
- Provide fourier-transforminfrared spectroscopy to harm reduction teams.
- Expand capacity for mail-order naloxone.
- Hire a ward-level initiative coordinator.
- Implement AIM bundle to support pregnant and parenting women.
- Recovery housing that supports individuals who are struggling with recovery.
- Expand youth peer workforce and prevention activities in schools.



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OLD BUSINESS

Membership Solicitation for FY23 Update



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Membership Solicitation Timeline

- **May 19 – Today:** DBH announced to provider, consumer, LLDC, BHPC and employee networks via webpage, email blasts and staff meetings.
- **May 20 – June 18:** DBH received applications to fill four vacancies.
 - One vacancy each for persons with (or parents/family members of persons with) lived experience of behavioral health issues who are currently residing in District Wards 1, 2, or 3; and
 - One vacancy for a current DBH employee/labor union member.
- **June 19 – July 18:** DBH reviews applications and Dr. Bazron makes appointments.
- **July 19:** DBH sends written notifications to all applicants.

For more info visit <https://dbh.dc.gov/service/behavioral-health-planning-council-bhpc> or email dbh.bhpc@dc.gov.



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NEW BUSINESS

Standing Committee Reports

- System & Benefit Design
- Advocacy & Outreach
- Connection to Care
- Planning & Accountability



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