

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



Department of Behavioral Health Behavioral Health Planning Council (BHPC)
In-Person/Virtual Meeting
January 27, 2023, 10:00am-12:00pm

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 10:00 am

Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call: Senora Simpson

Approval of Agenda and Minutes: Senora Simpson

- Nadine Parker affirmed that she was present at the last meeting.

BHPC Members: Charles Garvin, Cheryl Doby-Copeland, Elizabeth Maldonado, Eric Scharf, Gail Avent, Hilary Kacser, Ifeoma Muoka, Jacklyn Verner, Jean Harris, Jenise (Jo) Patterson, Luis Diaz, Mark LeVota, Nadine Parker, Nicole Gilbert, Rachael Shpak, Ramon Carmona, Rosalind (Roz) Parker, Senora Simpson, Theresa Early.

DBH: Anthony Hall, Barbara Bazron, Dan Riffle, Jean Moise, Lanada Williams, Laquita Howard, Laura Heaven, Mia Olsen, Philippa Stuart, Phyllis Jones, Richard Bebout, Trina Logan.

DC Government: Jennifer Joyce.

Public Attendees: Andrea Jones, Bryan [No Last Name Provided], Sarah Barclay Hoffman.

Department of Behavioral Health Updates (Dr. Bazron):

- DBH Performance Oversight Schedule – February 2 and February 9 before DC Council Committee on Health
- Recognition of Dr. Senora Simpson for her work as chair of the Behavioral Health Planning Council. Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation. Presentation of framed painting of 35 K Street completed by a patient at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital. Applause by members and guests.
- Dr. Bazron announces movement toward population health approach to community behavioral health.
- Sobering and Stabilization Center to open this quarter.

Communications and Public Engagement Report (Phyllis Jones):

- Mayor Bowser’s December 22, 2022 press conference for mental wellness at Latin American Youth Center
- Suicide prevention signage at suicide-prone bridges now up at Taft and Calvert bridges. Reviewing opportunities to place at other bridges. First step toward placing suicide barriers.
- ANC Public Safety meeting – Highlighted DBH programs that help with violence reduction and supporting families experiencing community violence
- 2023 Peer Specialist Certification Program

Standing Committee Reports:

- **System and Benefits Design Committee (Mark LeVota):** DBH adopted community recommendations to move forward with creating a Medicaid reimbursement option for High-Fidelity child wrap-around and CCBHC State planning grant
- **Advocacy and Outreach Committee (Dr. Cheryl Copeland):** DBH involved BHPC in planning for signs for suicide prevention
- **Connection to Care Committee:** No report
- **Planning and Accountability Committee (Jean Harris):** Need additional information from DBH about Block Grant uses and SAMHSA feedback
- **Ad hoc Bylaws Revisions Committee:** No report

Elections:

- Nominating Committee (Jean Harris) – Chair nominees – Gail Avent and Mark LeVota, Vice Chair – Esther Ford and Jean Harris, Secretary – Tonia Gore and Eric Scharf
- Move to closed session breakout room at 10:43 AM for voting members
- Session reconvenes at 11:08 AM. Chair – 14 votes, 6 for Gail Avent, 8 for Mark LeVota; Vice Chair – 14 votes, 1 for Esther Ford, 13 for Jean Harris; Secretary – 14 votes, 6 for Tonia Gore, 8 for Eric Scharf

Announcements & Public Comments: None.

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 am.

Behavioral Health Planning Council Meeting



January 27, 2023

GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

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 - 10:40	Department of Behavioral Health Updates	Barbara Bacon
10:40 - 10:45	Communications & Public Engagement Report	Phyllis Jones
10:45 - 11:10	Standing Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• System & Benefit Design• Advocacy & Outreach• Connection to Care (35 K Ad Hoc)• Planning & Accountability• Bylaws Revisions (Ad hoc)	Mark LeMota Cheryl Doby-Copeland Esther Ford Joan Harris Senora Simpson
11:10 - 11:45	Elections	Joan Harris, Nominations Committee
11:45 - 11:55	Announcements & Public Comments (Please limit comments to 3 Minutes)	Senora Simpson
11:55 - 12:00	Members Roll	Senora Simpson
12:00 PM	Adjournment	Senora Simpson



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DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UPDATES

Dr. Barbara J. Bazron, DBH Director



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COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Phyllis Jones, DBH Chief of Staff



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Mayor Bowser: Mind Your Mental Health



Mayor Bowser held a press conference on December 22, 2022, to draw attention to mental wellness during the stress of the holiday season, provide self care strategies, and promote 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and available services.

Many thanks to our host: Lupi Quinteros-Grady, Latin American Youth Center President and CEO, and the LAYC Team! LAYC also operates the Wards 1&2 DC Prevention Center.



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Suicide Prevention Signage



The 988 Advisory Council and the Behavioral Health Planning Council were instrumental in developing the wording of the signage. Signs have been installed on the Taft and Calvert Bridges.



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Public Health Approach to Public Safety

- **Prevention, Intervention, and Trauma Support:** Community and school-based prevention programs such as anger management, violence prevention, and anti-bullying, and trauma support for children and families.
- **Healthy Futures Program:** Promote social-emotional wellbeing for staff and families in child development centers for ages 5 and under.
- **Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program:** Voluntary mental health treatment program in the DC Superior Court Juvenile Division for eligible youth 18 years old or younger instead of prosecution.
- **DC Prevention Centers:** Build youth leadership and provide resources to support a drug-free community.
- **988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline:** Free telephone support by a crisis counselor, and onsite if needed.
- **Emergency Mobile Crisis Support for adults, children and youth:** Crisis and emotional support at home, in school, or the community.
- **Community Response Teams:** On the spot counseling, grief counseling, and community support in the aftermath of tragic events.
- **Joint MPD/DBH Training:** Mandatory Mental Health First Aid training for all officers and advanced Crisis Intervention Officer training.



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2023 Peer Specialist Certification Program

2023 Peer Specialist Certification Training Program and Waiver Application Schedule

Location	Application Deadline	In person Classes Monday-Friday 9 am - 12:30 pm	Interview Dates Waiver testing schedule TBD	Orientation
61 New York Ave NE	February 3, 2023 12 noon	February 13 – March 21, 2023	Scheduled upon selection	TBD
61 New York Ave NE	February 3, 2023 12 noon	March 27 – April 27, 2023	Scheduled upon selection	TBD
61 New York Ave NE	May 12, 2023 12 noon	June 5 – July 10, 2023	Scheduled upon selection	TBD

Practicum Assignments

In addition to classroom instruction, the program includes an 80-hour practicum. Consumer and Family Affairs will coordinate the placement and schedule with the goal of completing each assignment within four weeks.



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NEW BUSINESS

Standing Committee Reports

- System & Benefit Design
- Advocacy & Outreach
- Connection to Care
- Planning & Accountability
- Bylaws Revisions (Ad Hoc)



ELECTIONS



Jean Harris, Nominations Committee



Teller's Name: Mia Olsen
(TOTALS)

Tellers Report

For illegal votes, state cause (e.g., not eligible, 2 persons circled or ballot not official, etc.)

1. For Chairperson

Number of Votes Cast	14
Necessary for Election (majority)	8
Ms. Arent Received	6
Mr. LeVota Received	8
Nominee from Floor Received	1

Illegal Votes (Cause)

2. For Vice Chairperson

Number of Votes Cast	14
Necessary for Election (majority)	8
Mr. Ford Received	1
Mr. Harris Received	13
Nominee from Floor Received	1

Illegal Votes (Cause)

3. For Secretary

Number of Votes Cast	14
Necessary for Election (majority)	8
Ms. Gore Received	6
Mr. Scharf Received	8
Nominee from Floor Received	1

Illegal Votes (Cause)

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