



Meeting Minutes

October 1st, 2025

Welcome/Introductions – Jennifer McCready, Director of Community Addictions Services

Motion was made to approve the September 3, 2025 minutes. Motion 2nd. All approved.

Carla Thorpe, Acting Health Officer/Director - A.F. Whitsitt Center - Carla shared her excitement about her new opportunity as Acting Health Officer for the Kent County Health Department. Other updates included the clothing drive for the Whitsitt Center, requesting new or gently used items.

Presenter: Ashley Kessler, Clinical Outreach Manager, SUD
Charlie Health
Cell 410-236-8220
<https://calendly.com/ashley-kessler-charliehealth>
<https://www.charliehealth.com/>

Katie Dilley & Team - Mid Shore Behavioral Health -

- The Rural Health Transformation program is submitting ideas for funding opportunities.
- Annual Sequential Intercept Model and mapping meeting on November 14th
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/12th-annual-sim-conference-tickets-1541875724799?aff=oddtcreator>
- Mid Shore Out of the Darkness Walk October 11th at Idlewild Park in Easton. Join Mid Shore Behavioral Health Team or create your own team, no cost to join.
<https://afspwalks.donordrive.com/teams/378614>

Avery Meyer, Maryland Office of Overdose Response (MOOR) - Provided updates on preparing annual reports for the general assembly and the strategic plan. Announced a personal transition to focus specifically on Opioid Restitution Fund (OFR) work, but will continue to support the office during recruitment.

Melanie D. Jones-Dalziel - MDH - State Care Coordination/Overdose Fatality Review(OFR) - 4 enrolled, 4 went to recovery housing and received MDRN funding. There were 4 referrals from the Detention Center for treatment. OFR meeting will be October 2nd at 9:00am For more information contact:
melanied.jones-dalziel@maryland.gov

Brett Forrest - RIM/OPT/NHIH -

- October 5th Open House at Rock Hall Firehouse
- Closed October 13th
- Tuesday, October 14 Millington Town Hall 2-4pm
- Tuesday, October 28th Pumpkin Carving Event at RIM 4-6pm

Narcan, wound care kits, safe sex kits, hygiene kits, and various test strips are available at RIM.

For questions and/or peer services you may call the No Harm In Helping phone 24/7 at 410-490-4175.

Cpl. Chris Schwink (Chestertown Police Department) for Chief Ron Dixon - Law Enforcement - Reported there are 10 staffed Officers, and 1 in the Academy.

Vandrick Hamlin - Kent County Public Schools - Drug prevention assemblies for both middle and high school students were a success on September 25th. Additionally, 6th-grade middle schoolers attended Echo Hill Outdoor School, and high school students will have meetings with Chesapeake College Advisors. The homecoming football game is scheduled for October 16th, followed by the dance on October 17th.

Christina Russell - DHS - START - In September, one case was closed, leaving three active cases. A statewide convening is scheduled for October 22nd in Harford County. Additionally, a Midshore direct line call will take place on the 28th at 11:00 AM. Those interested in joining the call can request an invitation by emailing christinia.russell1@maryland.gov

Annette Duckery - Prevention - A new partnership for responsible beverage server training has been established, and the "Color Run" event was successfully held. However, awareness remains low regarding prescription destroyer boxes and Dettera bags. Looking ahead, a "Fall Fest" event is scheduled for October 25th from 1-4 PM at Red Acres. Those interested in partnering and hosting a table should contact annette.duckery@maryland.gov

1500 people attended 5 events and 3000 educational materials were distributed.

New News & Other Information

Joanne McNamara - Grants Program Administrator - The county will publish a RPF for opioid restitution funds within the next week. A virtual workshop on October 22nd will be held to discuss the funding opportunities. Please see the link for more information. https://kentcounty.com/government/grant_opportunities

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Record of Attendance

Ann Simpers, Annette Duckery, Ashley Kessler, Ashley Strazza, Avery Meyer, Bobbie Jo Trossbach, Brett Forrest, Brian Pearsall, Brigitte Kealy, Carla Thorpe, Christinia Russell, Cpl. Chris Schwink, Desiree Rochester, Jacqueline Salb, Jennifer McCready, Joanna Mack, Joanne McNamara, Kathryn Dilley, Lauren Searce, Leland Spencer, Melanie Jones-Dalziel, Minary's Dream Alliance, Pete Landon, Shelly Neal-Edwards, Tamara Stofa, Taylor Smith, Vandrick Hamlin, Vanessa Holloway Truxon, William Dwyer

Next meeting date: November 5th, 2025 Virtual

REMINDER: If there is anyone from your agency that you would like to add or delete from the LDAAC meeting list, please reach out to Desiree Rochester at desirees.rochester@maryland.gov.

Thank you!