



Meeting Minutes

November 5th, 2025

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

Motion was made to approve the October 1st, 2025 minutes. Motion 2nd. All approved.

Carla Thorpe, Acting Health Officer/Director - A.F. Whitsitt Center - The Health Department Community Vaccine Flu Clinics have been completed. Individuals that have medical assistance or Medicare that need to get a flu shot can come to the Health Department on Lynchburg Street.

Coming soon, Managed Care Support will have an additional person at the Whitsitt Center to do in-person applications and redeterminations. If anyone needs medical assistance upon arrival, they can get them a determination that day.

- Crisis Beds are available 24/7 you can call 410-778-6400 and press 1.
- Walk-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 am - 9:00 pm Friday's 8:00 am - 12 noon
- The Second Annual Whitsitt Wardrobe Wishlist was a success.

Presenter: Heather Howes, MSW, LCSW-C
Residential Crisis Director and Therapist
Channel Marker, Inc.
8865 Glebe Park Drive, Unit 2 Easton, MD 21601
Phone: 410-822-4611 Fax: 410-822-6186
www.channelmarker.org Email: hhowes@channelmarker.org

Katie Dilley & Team - Mid Shore Behavioral Health -

- The Maryland Department of Health(MDH) Behavioral Health Administration is seeking informal public comment on Draft Assisted Outpatient Treatment regulations ahead of the July 1, 2026 implementation date.
 - MDH welcomes informal public comments on the proposed regulations. Comments will be accepted through November 30, 2025. mdh.maryland-model@maryland.gov

Pete Landon - Overdose Stats - 1 non fatal for the month of October

Melanie D. Jones-Dalziel - MDH - State Care Coordination/Overdose Fatality Review(OFR) - 9 enrolled, 7 went to recovery housing and received MDRN funding. 1 referrals from the Detention Center for treatment. 4 warm handoffs to another county.

Brett Forrest - RIM/OPT/NHIH -

- Outreach Trainings and Events
 - a. Fall Fest at Red Acre Farms
 - b. The Pumpkin Carving event at RIM was well attended by the Community
 - c. Thursday, November 13th, Narcan Training at Washington College
 - d. Friday, November 14th at the YMCA from 2-4pm

- Other Trainings and Events
 - a. Brett attended the START Convening on October 22nd
- RIM will be closed November 27th and 28th

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.

Chief Ron Dixon - Law Enforcement - Chestertown Police Department has been restocked with new Narcan with longer expiration dates. A new academy graduate will leave one spot open for recruitment.

Vandrick Hamlin - Kent County Public Schools - The second marking period has begun. This month, the district is focusing on substance awareness. Additionally, Challenge Day, an event aimed at fostering unity among students and the community, will take place to address key issues such as violence, teasing, racism, harassment, conflict management, suicide, peer pressure, alcohol, and drugs. The event is scheduled for November 13th at the High School and November 14th at the Middle School.

Christina Russell - DHS - START - The START Convening discussed new initiatives on kin placements and they are working to maintain families. The START program has 1 out of home case. The agency is servicing 14 in-home families, nine of which are affected by substance use disorder.

Annette Duckery - Prevention -(per Jennifer McCready) Annette wanted to thank everyone that participated at Fall Fest, which was well-attended by over 600 individuals. A special thanks to Red Acre Farms for hosting. Educational literature, safe storage, and disposal items were handed out.

New News & Other Information

Natalie Hagan - Kent County Public Library - Grant was received to work with families who have loved ones in the detention centers or prisons, providing them with vocational and substance abuse books. Also reaching out to families to provide holiday connection programs. Families can come in and take professional portrait photos. Photos will be printed and given to their loved ones who are in facilities.

- For more information: <https://kent-md.libcal.com/event/15451623>

Joanne McNamara - Grants Program Administrator - The Kent County Opioid Restitution Fund Grant is still open. Applications are due Tuesday, November 25th. For those that were unable to attend the informational webinar it is posted on the following website https://kentcounty.com/government/grant_opportunities

- Anyone with questions can contact me at jmcnamara@kentgov.org

Taylor Smith -MDH- OMPP campaign materials have been officially approved by BHA and are set to launch on November 27th to connect with communities during the holiday season.

Rosemary Ramsey Granillo - LMB - Releasing the Cannabis Reform Act Fund application(CRRF). There are 8 allowable uses. The focus is on recovery and opioid use and abuse, it can go towards after school, transportation, re-entry and homelessness and housing and a few others. The webpage can be found on kentcounty.com

- A resource directory for the food pantry is available in English and Spanish
- The Local Care team meeting will be on November 25th
- A new coordinator will be starting soon.
- Kent County Residents can use MA transportation through the Health Department for rides to appointments by calling to create a ticket.

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Record of Attendance

Latoyna Cotton, Christina Russell, Shelly Neal-Edwards, Kathryn Dilley, Chief Ronald Dixon, William Dwyer, Natalie Hagan, Vandrick Hamlin, Jonte Holliday, Heather Howes, Lori Jacobs, Pete Landon, Joanna Mack, Joanna McNamara, Brett Forrest, Carla Thorpe, Desiree Rochester, Jennifer McCready, Melanie Jones-Dalziel, Taylor Smith, Tamara Stofa, Brian Pearsall, Rosemary Ramsey Granillo, Jacqueline Salb, Ann Simpers, Trish Todd, Bobbie Jo Trossbach, Sheriff Dennis Hickman

Next meeting date: December 3rd, 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!