

**Kent County
LDAAC
Meeting Minutes**

July 1st, 2026

Welcome/Introductions – Jennifer McCready, Director Community Addictions Services

Motion was made to approve the June 3rd, 2026 minutes. Motion 2nd. All approved.

Carla Thorpe, Health Officer

- Due to anticipated high temperatures, cooling centers will remain operational during the holidays, and attendees are encouraged to find methods to stay cool indoors.
- Walk in hours are still available at Whitsitt Center. For more information call 410-778-6404

Katie Dille & Team - Mid Shore Behavioral Health -

- Current operations are quiet due to the beginning of the new fiscal year.
- An ample supply of gun locks, gun safes, and gun cases are available for the community. Interested parties can reach out to: jsalb@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Marcus Webster - Maryland Office of Overdose (MOOR)

- Program Inventory Surveys are due July 1st
- 2027 Opioid Restitution Fund Grant Program NOFA(Notice of Funding Availability) is anticipated for release on July 15th more info(stopoverdose.maryland.gov/grants/)
- The final report for the buprenorphine access work group has been published.
<https://stopoverdose.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/34/2026/06/Maryland-Buprenorphine-Access-Workgroup-June-2026.pdf>

Pete Landon - Kent County Office of Emergency Services

- 2 suspected overdose calls

Melanie D. Jones-Dalziel - MDH - State Care Coordination/Overdose Fatality Review(OFR)

- 7 individuals referred to State Care Coordination 5 of them were screened
- 4 went to recovery housing and 4 received MDRN funding
- 3 warm transfers to other counties
- OFR reviewed 2 cases with no recommendations
- For more information contact: melanied.jones-dalziel@maryland.gov

Brett Forrest - RIM/OPT/NHIH -

- The Peers and RIM team have been active in various community outreach activities and events.
 - Overdose Prevention Team (OPT) 911 phone received 2 calls from the emergency department
 - 2 calls on the No Harm In Helping phone,
 - 172 boxes of Narcan, 37 wound care kits, and 112 sets of testing strips were distributed.
 - Outreach is scheduled at Worton pool on July 1st, and Rock Hall pool on July 8th
 - Men's and Women's groups will be cancelled the weeks of July 13th and July 27th for CCAR training.
- Backyard Bash was a success with 308 individuals signing in, noting a high turnout of youth in attendance

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 24/7/365 at 410-490-4175.

Chief Ronald Dixon - Law Enforcement

- Expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the Back Yard Bash
- There were no new updates to report from law enforcement

Christina Russell - DHS - START

- Focusing on training new staff and peer mentors
- Extended an offer to conduct mandated reporting training for any interested staff members

Taylor Smith - Mid-Shore OMPP Coordinator

- Post-campaign survey reports have been completed and are available to anyone interested in reviewing the findings.

New News & Other Information

- Health Officer Carla Thorpe shared that the Whitsitt Center has named Jennifer McCready as its acting director during the search for a permanent candidate.

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Record of Attendance

Michael Blair, Chief Ronald Dixon, Margaret Dowling, William Dwyer, J Howard, Melanie Jones-Dalziel, Brigitte Kealy, Pete Landon, Jennifer McCready, Joanne McNamara, Shelly Neal-Edwards, Cherie Patchett, Brian Pearsall, Rosemary Ramsey Granillo, Desiree Rochester, Christina Russell, Jacqueline Salb, Ann Simperts, Taylor Smith, Tamara Stofa, Ashley Strazza, Carla Thorpe, Marcus Webster, Sheriff Dennis Hickman, Judge John Nunn

Next meeting date: August 5th, 2026 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!