

Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, Inc (AACMHA)

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MENTAL HEALTH AGENCY BRIEF SHEET

MISSION

The mission of the Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, Inc. (AACMHA) is to provide leadership and collaboration for planning, monitoring, and managing of a comprehensive continuum of mental health care to eligible residents of all ages.

STRUCTURE

- AACMHA is established by State Law (HG§10-1201-1203) and enabled by County Ordinance (Article 2, §2A-102)
- The County opted for a not-for-profit management structure with a Board of Directors appointed by the County Executive and accountable to the County Council for its activities.
- The establishment of AACMHA created a local single point of accountability, planning, funding, and coordination for the care of eligible residents of the County.

FUNCTIONS and SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- AACMHA is established specifically to assure that persons with serious and persistent mental illness get the services they need in a coordinated manner and in a community setting.
- AACMHA seized opportunities such as Federal Block Grant Funds for the most comprehensive Crisis Response System in the United States.
- AACMHA closed numerous other service gaps, such as Mental Health Services in the Detention Centers.
- AACMHA has increased the fiscal accountability and program outcomes to a level that allowed new service provision without additional funding in numerous cases.
- AACMHA has established a comprehensive planning process that has effected changes in state level budget priorities that resulted in more responsive services at the local level.

LOCAL NEEDS

- AACMHA has met local needs by establishing:
 1. The mental health jail project
 2. The Crisis Response System
 3. A Program of Assertive Community Programs (PACT) for the homeless and seriously mentally ill
 4. A self help program called On Our Own
 5. A rapid eligibility determination system and providing urgent care appointments
 6. A Case Management Program
 7. A Mentoring Program for emotionally disturbed children and their families.
 8. Expanded Residential Rehabilitation Programs (Adult Supervised Living Units)
 9. Co-created a Housing Development Corporation to provide independent housing opportunities for the mentally ill
 10. Collaborating with other agencies to help multi-disabled children and their families get responsive care
 11. Developed a way to get in-patient psychiatric care at North Arundel Hospital for uninsured people

Board of Directors

Philip Livingstone, Chairman; Katherine Boucher; Betty Coleman; Betty McGarvie Crowley; Rodney Davis;
Kathleen Gilson; Ronald Hendler; Michael Irwin; Carolyn Kirby; Lynn Krause; Phyllis Marshall;
Frances Phillips; Jana Raup; Thomas Shanahan; Werner Rug; Linda Skreptack