



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Acting Secretary

Behavioral Health Administration

Aliya Jones, M.D., MBA
Deputy Secretary Behavioral Health
55 Wade Ave., Dix Bldg., SGHC
Catonsville, MD 21228

January 22, 2021

Dear Behavioral Health System Stakeholders,

On behalf of the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Behavioral Health Administration (BHA), I want to thank you for your continued efforts to support those affected by a behavioral health problem. We know that the work you are doing is critical to those you serve, especially during the coronavirus pandemic.

In May of 2020, as well as in September of 2020, BHA conducted surveys about the effects of COVID-19 on the impact of individuals receiving behavioral health services and supports. The results of these surveys can be found on the BHA website. Prior survey results can be found at <https://bha.health.maryland.gov/Pages/bha-covid-19.aspx> under the Community section.

BHA continues to be interested in learning about the impact of the pandemic on individuals currently receiving services and supports as well as those who may be seeking services and supports. BHA is also very interested in how individuals' needs for services and supports have changed over the last three months. To this end, BHA, in partnership with the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) has created a third brief follow-up survey to help BHA understand the current needs of individuals needing behavioral health services and supports.

The link to this survey is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9LFNDKH>

BHA will use the responses to this third survey to develop interventions to address the consequences of this unprecedented crisis on behavioral health consumers' health care-seeking behaviors. The information will not be used to negatively evaluate service providers or other stakeholders. We are asking that the follow-up survey be completed by Monday February 8th. We know that you may be interested in the results; therefore, we will post them on the Behavioral Health Administration website.

Thank you again for all of your efforts to address the needs of those in our behavioral health community. Your work is truly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Aliya Jones, M.D., MBA
Deputy Secretary Behavioral Health