



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

*Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary*

September 14, 2020

### **Behavioral Health Administration**

Aliya Jones, M.D., MBA  
Deputy Secretary/Executive Director  
55 Wade Ave., Dix Bldg., SGHC  
Catonsville, MD 21228

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, BHA conducted a survey about the effects of COVID-19 on the impact of individuals receiving behavioral health services and supports. The results of this survey are available on the BHA website.

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 since the beginning of the pandemic. To this end, BHA, in partnership with the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) has created a new 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/MV9RBPK>

BHA will use the responses to this follow-up 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 **Friday, September 25**. We know that you may be interested in the results; therefore, we will post them on the Behavioral Health Administration website in early November 2020.

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