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COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session

1992

Bill No. _____ CB-4-

1992

Chapter No.

43

Proposed and Presented by The Chairman (by request -

_____ County

Executive

Introduced by Council Members MacKinnon and

Pemberton

Co-Sponsors

Date of Introduction May 19,

1992

BILL

AN ACT concerning

Mental Health Advisory Committee

FOR the purpose of changing the membership and certain duties
and obligations of the Mental Health Advisory Committee.

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

Sections 2-172,
2-173, and
2-173.1,

The Prince George's County Code
(1991 Edition).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Sections 2-172, 2-173, and 2-173.1 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

DIVISION 10. COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEMS.

Sec. 2-172. Mental Health Advisory Committee: Composition, Appointments, Terms of Office.

(a) The Mental Health Advisory Committee for Prince George's County [is continued as an advisory committee to the County, to] , hereinafter referred to as the "Advisory Committee," is established pursuant to Section 10-308, et seq., Health-General Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, to serve as advocate for a comprehensive mental health system for persons of all ages and shall have and exercise the powers, duties, and functions provided hereinafter. [Hereinafter in this Division it may be referred to as the "Advisory Committee."]

(b) The voting membership [of the Mental Health Advisory Committee] shall be [so constituted as to provide the following

representation] representative of the County's major socio-economic and ethnic groups and shall consist of:

- (1) [One (1) member representing the County Executive;
- (2) One (1) member representing the County Council;
- (3) One (1) member representing the County Department of Education;
- (4) One (1) member representing the County Department of Social Services;
- (5) One (1) member representing the County Medical Society;
- (6) One (1) member representing a County consortium of clergy;
- (7) One (1) member representing the County Bar Association;
- (8) One (1) member representing the Mental Health Association of Prince George's County;
- (9) One (1) member representing a County Council on alcoholism or representing related addictive concerns, where one exists;
- (10) Two (2) members, one (1) mental health professional as a provider representative and one (1) consumer representative, each from Prince George's County, Maryland;
- (11) At least six (6) members representing the County as a whole and the interests of consumers of health services, including one (1) representative from each mental health

catchment area advisory committee in the County, where said catchment area committees exist.]

(1) Seven (7) representatives to be selected from among the following groups or agencies:

(A) The County Board of Education;

(B) The County Department of Social Services;

(C) The County Medical Society;

(D) Mental health professionals who are not physicians;

(E) Member of the clergy;

(F) The Prince George's County Bar Association;

(G) The Mental Health Association of Prince George's County;

(H) The Police Department;

(I) The Sheriff's Department;

(J) A local general hospital that contains an inpatient psychiatric unit;

(K) A local agency working with the elderly;

(L) The Department of Juvenile Services;

(M) A local alcohol and drug abuse agency; and

(N) A local community rehabilitation or housing program.

(O) Members of the general public;

At least two members shall be appointed from (G) and (O) above.

(2) At least seven (7) but no more than nine (9) individuals shall be selected from among the following groups or organizations:

(A) At least two (2) individuals who are currently receiving or who have in the past received mental health services;

(B) Parents or other relatives of adults with mental disorders;

(C) Parents or other relatives of children or adolescents with emotional, behavioral, or mental disorders the onset of which occurred during childhood or adolescence;

(c) The nonvoting ex officio members shall be the following individuals or their designees:

(1) The County Executive;

(2) A Member of the County Council;

(3) The County Health Officer;

(4) The Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration, Southern Regional Office;

(5) A representative from at least one of the State inpatient facilities that serves the County to be appointed by the Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration,

(6) The Director of the Directorate of Mental Health of the County Health Department;

(7) The Director of the Core Service Agency.

~~[(c)]~~ (d) The term of office of each voting member of the Advisory Committee shall be for three (3) years, commencing on

the first day of July of the year of an appointment[; except, that members presently serving on the Advisory Committee on the day this Division becomes law shall, unless removed, serve out the remainder of their present terms of appointment.] The terms of one-third of the members shall end each year. Members who have served two (2) consecutive, full three-year terms shall not be eligible for reappointment for a period of [three (3)] two (2) years following completion of such terms.

Sec. 2-173. Same; Officers; Meetings; Bylaws; Subcommittees; Ex-Officio Members; Staff Support.

(a) [The] A chairperson and other officers [of the Mental Health Advisory Committee] shall be elected annually from among and by the membership of the Advisory Committee. [The chairmanship of the Advisory Committee shall not be held by the same person] A member shall not serve as chairperson for more than two (2) consecutive years.

(b) The Advisory Committee shall meet in public session [on call by the Chairman] as frequently as required to perform its duties and exercise its responsibilities at least six times per year at the times and places that the Advisory Committee determines. The minutes of each meeting of the Advisory Committee shall be recorded and copies thereof shall be made available at cost to any interested party upon request. Any member of the Advisory Committee who fails, without an excused absence, to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Advisory Committee, or six (6) or more of the meetings of the

Advisory Committee in any given calendar year, shall be considered to have resigned from the Advisory Committee. Any member of the Advisory Committee may be removed by the County Executive, pursuant to Section 507 of County Charter.

(c) The Advisory Committee shall adopt bylaws governing the conduct of its meetings and other official duties and activities.

(d) The Advisory Committee may create internal subcommittees and solicit the assistance of additional participants as needed.

[(e) In addition to the voting members of the Advisory Committee, there shall be five (5), ex officio, nonvoting members of the Advisory Committee, one (1) each representing the County Health Officer, the Director of the Directorate of Mental Health of the County Health Department, the Regional Mental Health Director, the Regional Psychiatric Hospital for Prince George's County, and the Psychiatric Services Division of the County Department of Hospitals and Health Services. Appointees to these five (5) positions shall not require appointment and confirmation pursuant to Section 322 of County Charter, but shall serve at the pleasure of the respective appointing official or body. There shall also be one (1) ex officio, nonvoting member of the Advisory Committee representing the psychiatric department of a privately operated general hospital which is located in the County and offers psychiatric in-patient care. The Advisory Committee shall

adopt bylaws to govern the selection, appointment and term of office of this member.]

(e) [(f)] The County Health Officer shall annually confer with the Advisory Committee in order to ascertain the need for and provide such staff services to the Advisory Committee as are, in [his] the Health Officer's judgment, essential to insure that the Advisory Committee's work is facilitated. Upon establishment of a County Core Service Agency, the Director of that agency shall assume the above duties.

Sec. 2-173.1. Same; Duties and Responsibilities.

[(a) To assist the County Health Officer in the initial preparation of, and the revision of, on an annual basis thereafter, a mental health plan for the County;

(b) To periodically review, with the advice and assistance of the County Health Officer and the Regional Mental Health Director, available services and facilities and determine local mental health needs;

(c) To advise and report annually to the County Health Officer, the County Executive, the County Council, and the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene on the progress of the County's mental health program and of actions needed for further improvements; and

(d) To make recommendations to the County Health Officer, the County Executive, the County Council, and the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene for the appropriate allocation of funds associated with mental health grant proposals and requests in

accordance with the priorities set forth in the County's current mental health plan, as prepared under Subsection (a), above, and in consideration of available financial resources.]

The Advisory Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

(a) To monitor, review and evaluate the allocation and adequacy of publicly-funded mental health services for County residents through means such as conducting or participating in site visits;

(b) To determine the needs of the County mental health system, including quality of services, gaps in the system and interagency coordination;

(c) To participate in the development of the local mental health plan and local mental health budget;

(d) To prepare and disseminate an annual report to the following:

(1) The Health Officer;

(2) The County Mental Health Director;

(3) The County Executive and County Council;

(4) The director of the local Core service agency, if any;

(5) The regional mental health director;

(6) The Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration;

(7) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; and

(8) The Maryland Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene.

(e) The annual report shall include the following:

(1) A description of the progress of the County mental health system;

(2) Recommendations on actions needed to improve the system;

(3) Recommendations on priorities for allocation of funds; and

(4) In accordance with those priorities and after consideration of financial resources, recommendations on appropriate allocation of funds;

(f) To review and comment on the annual core service agency or County mental health plan and preliminary budget, prior to submission of the budget to the State; and

(g) To review and comment on the annual fiscal report.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the members serving on the Advisory Committee on the effective date of this Act shall, unless removed, serve out the remainder of their present terms of appointment.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 21st day of July, 1992.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY:

Richard J. Castaldi
Chairman

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Acting Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____

BY:
Parris N. Glendening
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.