

Dorchester • Somerset
Counties

MAC
Maintaining Active Citizens
Your Area Agency on Aging

Wicomico • Worcester
Counties

December 5, 2018

Commissioners of St. Mary's County
P.O. Box 653
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Dear Commissioners of St. Mary's County:

With the growing number of older adults in the State of Maryland and nationally, the likelihood of older adults who have a mental illness or challenge, along with physical limitations or health concerns will likely also increase. According to the Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, nearly "20% of people over the age of 55 experience mental disorders that are not part of "normal aging", and there is a need for appropriate long-term placement options for older adults with a mental disorder needing a higher level of care.

Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico & Worcester Counties (and other jurisdictions across Maryland) has little to no placement options for seniors diagnosed with a mental disorder, especially those on Medical Assistance or Medicare. As the director of MAC, Incorporated, the Area Agency on Aging for the four lower eastern shore counties, I am in full support of the proposed legislation to designate the Maryland Department of Health (Behavioral Health Administration), in consultation with the Mental Health Association of Maryland (Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging), the Maryland Department of Aging, the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging (M4A), and other interested stakeholders to study and determine the scope of the issue, and require the Department of Health to make certain recommendations regarding increasing the number of immediate, short-term, long-term and temporary placement options for older adults with mental illness and how to fund those options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Pattie A. Tingle
Executive Director



DON MOHLER
County Executive

JOANNE E. WILLIAMS, *Director*
Department of Aging

November 30, 2018

Commissioners of St. Mary's County
P.O. Box 653
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Dear Commissioners of St. Mary's County:

With the growing number of older adults in the State of Maryland and nationally, the likelihood of older adults who have a mental illness or challenge, along with physical limitations or health concerns will likely also increase. According to the Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, nearly "20% of people over the age of 55 experience mental disorders that are not part of "normal aging", and there is a need for appropriate long-term placement options for older adults with a mental disorder needing a higher level of care.

Baltimore County and other jurisdictions across Maryland have little to no placement options for seniors diagnosed with a mental disorder, especially those on Medical Assistance or Medicare. As the director of the Baltimore County Department of Aging, I am in full support of the proposed legislation to designate the Maryland Department of Health (Behavioral Health Administration), in consultation with the Mental Health Association of Maryland (Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging), the Maryland Department of Aging, the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging (M4A), and other interested stakeholders to study and determine the scope of the issue, and require the Department of Health to make certain recommendations regarding increasing the number of immediate, short-term, long-term and temporary placement options for older adults with mental illness and how to fund those options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joanne E. Williams".

Joanne E. Williams, Director
Baltimore County Department of Aging

December 5, 2018

Commissioners of St. Mary's County
P.O. Box 653
Leonardtown, MD 20650

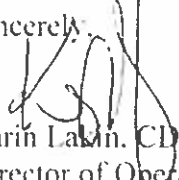
Dear Commissioners of St. Mary's County:

With the growing number of older adults in the State of Maryland and nationally, the likelihood of older adults who have a mental illness or challenge, along with physical limitations or health concerns will likely also increase. According to the Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, nearly "20% of people over the age of 55 experience mental disorders that are not part of "normal aging", and there is a need for appropriate long-term placement options for older adults with a mental disorder needing a higher level of care.

Jurisdictions across Maryland have little to no placement options for seniors diagnosed with a mental disorder, especially those on Medical Assistance or Medicare. Fenwick Landing Senior Care Community is in full support of the proposed legislation to designate the Maryland Department of Health (Behavioral Health Administration), the Maryland Department of Aging, the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging (M4A), and other interested stakeholders to study and determine the scope of the issue, and require the Department of Health to make certain recommendations regarding increasing the number of immediate, short-term, long-term and temporary placement options for older adults with mental illness and how to fund those options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Karin Lakin, CDP, CADDCT
Director of Operations
Fenwick Landing Senior Care Community



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Victoria Buckland
Acting Director

December 6, 2018

Commissioners of St. Mary's County
P.O. Box 653
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Dear Commissioners of St. Mary's County:

With the growing number of older adults in the State of Maryland and nationally, the likelihood of older adults who have a mental illness or challenge, along with physical limitations or health concerns will likely also increase. According to the Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, nearly "20% of people over the age of 55 experience mental disorders that are not part of "normal aging", and there is a need for appropriate long-term placement options for older adults with a mental disorder needing a higher level of care.

Montgomery County (and other jurisdictions across Maryland) has little to no placement options for seniors diagnosed with a mental disorder, especially those on Medical Assistance or Medicare. As the manager of Mental Health Services for Seniors, and Persons with Disabilities, I am in full support of the proposed legislation to designate the Maryland Department of Health (Behavioral Health Administration), in consultation with the Mental Health Association of Maryland (Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging), the Maryland Department of Aging, the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging (M4A), and other interested stakeholders to study and determine the scope of the issue, and require the Department of Health to make certain recommendations regarding increasing the number of immediate, short-term, long-term and temporary placement options for older adults with mental illness and how to fund those options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sybil Greenhut, APRN-BC

Program Manager

Mental Health Services for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

Department of Health and Human Services

Local Behavioral Health Authority

Phone: 240 777-3962

Email: Sybil.greenhut@montgomerycountymd.gov

Behavioral Health Planning and Management – Local Behavioral Health Authority

401 Hungerford Drive – Rockville, Maryland 20850
240-777-1400 – 240-777-1145 FAX – Maryland Relay 711
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs

Upper Shore Aging, Inc.



100 Schaubert Road
Chestertown, Maryland 21620

(410) 778-6000
FAX No. (410) 778-3562

December 5, 2018

Commissioners of St. Mary's County
P.O. Box 653
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Dear Commissioners of St. Mary's County:

With the growing number of older adults in the State of Maryland and nationally, the likelihood of older adults who have a mental illness or challenge, along with physical limitations or health concerns will likely also increase. According to the Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, nearly "20% of people over the age of 55 experience mental disorders that are not part of "normal aging", and there is a need for appropriate long-term placement options for older adults with a mental disorder needing a higher level of care.

Kent, Caroline and Talbot Counties (and other jurisdictions across Maryland) have little to no placement options for seniors diagnosed with a mental disorder, especially those on Medical Assistance or Medicare. As the director of Upper Shore Aging Inc., I am in full support of the proposed legislation to designate the Maryland Department of Health (Behavioral Health Administration), in consultation with the Mental Health Association of Maryland (Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging), the Maryland Department of Aging, the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging (M4A), and other interested stakeholders to study and determine the scope of the issue, and require the Department of Health to make certain recommendations regarding increasing the number of immediate, short-term, long-term and temporary placement options for older adults with mental illness and how to fund those options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gary R. Gunther
Executive Director

December 5, 2018

Commissioners of St. Mary's County
P.O. Box 653
Leonardtown, MD 20650

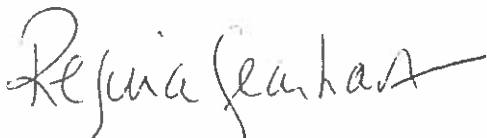
Dear Commissioners of St. Mary's County:

With the growing number of older adults in the State of Maryland and nationally, the likelihood of older adults who have a mental illness or challenge, along with physical limitations or health concerns will likely also increase. According to the Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, nearly "20% of people over the age of 55 experience mental disorders that are not part of "normal aging", and there is a need for appropriate long-term placement options for older adults with a mental disorder needing a higher level of care.

Garrett County (and other jurisdictions across Maryland) has little to no placement options for seniors diagnosed with a mental disorder, especially those on Medical Assistance or Medicare. As the director of the Garrett County Area Agency on Aging, I am in full support of the proposed legislation to designate the Maryland Department of Health (Behavioral Health Administration), in consultation with the Mental Health Association of Maryland (Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging), the Maryland Department of Aging, the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging (M4A), and other interested stakeholders to study and determine the scope of the issue, and require the Department of Health to make certain recommendations regarding increasing the number of immediate, short-term, long-term and temporary placement options for older adults with mental illness and how to fund those options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Regina Gearhart

Director

Garrett County Area Agency on Aging
Garrett County Community Action Committee Inc.
104 E. Center St.
Oakland, MD 21550
rgearhart@garrettcac.org



*Queen
Anne's
County*

Area Agency on Aging

104 Powell St
Centreville, MD 21617

Telephone: (410) 758-0848

Fax: (410) 758-4489

TDD: (410) 758-2126

E-mail: agingadmin@qac.org

County Commissioners:

- James J. Moran, At Large
- Jack N. Wilson, Jr., District 1
- Stephen Wilson, District 2
- Philip L. Dumenil, District 3
- Christopher M. Corchiarino, District 4

Catherine Riggs Willis, LMSW, Director

December 12, 2018

Commissioners of St. Mary's County
P.O. Box 653
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Dear Commissioners of St. Mary's County:

With the growing number of older adults in the State of Maryland and nationally, the likelihood of older adults who have a mental illness or challenge, along with physical limitations or health concerns will likely also increase. According to the Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, nearly "20% of people over the age of 55 experience mental disorders that are not part of "normal aging", and there is a need for appropriate long-term placement options for older adults with a mental disorder needing a higher level of care.

Queen Anne's County (and other jurisdictions across Maryland) has little to no placement options for seniors diagnosed with a mental disorder, especially those on Medical Assistance or Medicare. As the director of the Queen Anne's County Department of Community Services, Area Agency on Aging, I am in full support of the proposed legislation to designate the Maryland Department of Health (Behavioral Health Administration), in consultation with the Mental Health Association of Maryland (Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging), the Maryland Department of Aging, the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging (M4A), and other interested stakeholders to study and determine the scope of the issue, and require the Department of Health to make certain recommendations regarding increasing the number of immediate, short-term, long-term and temporary placement options for older adults with mental illness and how to fund those options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Catherine Riggs Willis, LMSW
Director

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 things to do...places to go...ways to grow your business...scan for info





THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Department of Family Services Area Agency on Aging

December 6, 2018

Commissioners of St. Mary's County
P.O. Box 653
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Dear Commissioners of St. Mary's County:

With the growing number of older adults in the State of Maryland and nationally, the likelihood of older adults who have a mental illness or challenge, along with physical limitations or health concerns will likely also increase. According to the Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, nearly "20% of people over the age of 55 experience mental disorders that are not part of "normal aging", and there is a need for appropriate long-term placement options for older adults with a mental disorder needing a higher level of care.

Prince George's County and other jurisdictions across Maryland have minimal placement options for seniors diagnosed with a mental disorder, especially those on Medical Assistance or Medicare. As the director of the Prince George's County Area Agency on Aging, I am in support of the proposed legislation to designate the Maryland Department of Health Behavioral Health Administration, in consultation with the Mental Health Association of Maryland (Maryland Coalition on Mental Health and Aging), the Maryland Department of Aging, the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging (M4A), and other interested stakeholders to study and determine the scope of the issue, and require the Department of Health to make certain recommendations regarding increasing the number of immediate, short-term, long-term and temporary placement options for older adults with mental illness and how to fund those options. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Theresa M. Grant", is written over a large, stylized blue flourish.

Theresa M. Grant
Director

Harriet Hunter Building – 6420 Allentown Road, Camp Springs, MD 20748
(301) 265-8450 (VOICE) • (301) 248-5358 (FAX) • 711 Maryland Relay Service