

RESOLUTION**A RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SIGNING ON TO THE CALL TO ACTION TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES IN OUR COUNTY JAIL, COMMIT TO SHARING LESSONS LEARNED, AND ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN "STEPPING UP"**

WHEREAS, counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year; and

WHEREAS, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in jails are three to six times higher than for the general population; and

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and upon release are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders; and

WHEREAS, county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs; and

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families; and

WHEREAS, Calvert County and all counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, over twenty Calvert County public, private, and non-profit organizations have expressed strong support of this initiative in Local Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council meetings led by the Calvert County Health Department's Division of Behavioral Health; and

WHEREAS, through *Stepping Up*, the National Association of Counties, the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation are encouraging public, private and nonprofit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Board of County Commissioners for Calvert County, Maryland hereby signs on to the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county jail, commits to sharing lessons learned with other counties in

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Maryland and across the country to support a national initiative and encourage all county officials, employees and residents to participate in *Stepping Up*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland that Calvert County shall utilize the comprehensive resources available through *Stepping Up*, to the extent practicable, within the lawful jurisdiction of this Board and subject to appropriations, to support activities that:

- Convene or draw on a diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies committed to safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.
- Collect and review prevalence numbers and assess individuals' needs to better identify adults entering jails with mental illnesses and their recidivism risk, and use that baseline information to guide decision making at the system, program, and case levels.
- Examine treatment and service capacity to determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders, and identify state and local policy and funding barriers to minimizing contact with the justice system and providing treatment and supports in the community.
- Develop a plan with measurable outcomes that draws on the jail assessment and prevalence data and the examination of available treatment and service capacity, while considering identified barriers.
- Implement research-based approaches that advance the plan.
- Create a process to track progress using data and information systems, and to report on successes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland that the foregoing recitals are adopted as if fully rewritten herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland that this Resolution shall be effective upon recordation without publication of a fair summary.

DONE, this 26th day of January, 2016 by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, Maryland, sitting in regular session.

Aye: 5


Nay: 0

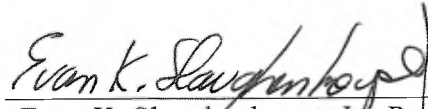
Absent/Abstain: 0

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ATTEST:

**BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF CALVERT
COUNTY, MARYLAND**

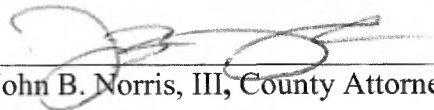

Maureen L. Frederick, Clerk

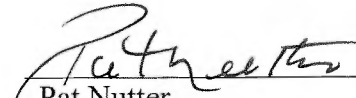

Evan K. Slaughenhaupt, Jr., President

Approved for form and legal
sufficiency by:


Tom Hejl, Vice President


Mike Hart


John B. Norris, III, County Attorney


Pat Nutter


Steven R. Weems

Received for Record.....1/27.....2016
at.....9:12.....o'clock.....A.M. Same day
recorded in Liber KPS No. 49
Folio.....20.....COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION.

