



MARYLAND OVERDOSE RESPONSE
ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Citizen Advisory Workgroup
Minutes 7/6/26**

- I. Welcome**
- II. Review of 6/25 minutes**
 - A. Amendments suggested by Jessie and will be made by Ben
- III. Attendance:** Jacqueline Salb, Jim Raley, Sean Baker, Amy Young, Yngvild Olsen, Jessie Dunleavy, Megan Murnane, Malik Burnett, Malik Mines, Carlos Hardy, Ann Ciekot, Ben Fraifeld, Erin Sibel Sezgin, Rebecca Brown, Kennedy Johnson, Barbara Allen
- IV. IOAD Events**
 - A. Please flag as a group if there are any events coming up in the community
- V. MORAC 7/9**
 - A. Report outs from 4 committees of MORAC
 - B. Primary portion of meeting set aside for public comment
- VI. Prevention Discussion**
 - A. Tammy not present, so the group pivots from a “warm up” conversation to have a general discussion about prevention
 - B. Yngvild:
 - 1. Does Maryland have a statewide prevention strategic plan for SUD?
 - a) North Carolina is working on a 5 year statewide prevention plan for substance use and problem gambling
 - b) Helpful because prevention is such a broad topic, so having a statewide plan helps with operationalizing
 - c) Prevention includes both programs and policies, and having a strategic plan pulls all of this together in a way that helps states/localities target prevention intervention

- d) If MD does have one, it would be helpful to disseminate more broadly and if not, may be helpful to develop
 - e) During the meeting, it was identified that BHA does have a general strategic plan but not specific to prevention and not specific
 - 2. Youth-led/driven prevention efforts are also important because they help start and sustain conversations
 - a) This could also be a helpful strategy for engaging older adults
- C. Jacqueline:
- 1. Midshore Planning Collaborative does have a strategic plan, certain aspects of their school-based prevention programming has received pushback (e.g., naloxone)
 - 2. Despite the pushback from the schools, students are clearly interested in this type of programming, interested in naloxone access. They are not naive
- D. Sean: kratom is a topic of recent interest within many communities
- 1. Is state regulation an option?
 - 2. Information was shared to the group about bills in 2024 and 2026 that relate to the regulation of kratom and enforcement of regulations
- E. Amy:
- 1. It is important for age appropriate prevention to begin prior to middle school
 - 2. It can be very hard for many parents to open up these types of conversations with children, especially younger children. Amy finds tip sheets made available by DEA and DOE to be helpful in sharing this type of information
 - 3. ROPTA, Parent Class class are also identified as good resources for prevention information
 - 4. Prevention targeted towards older adults is also critical
- F. Jessie:
- 1. experience as a school administrator showed her that children / adolescents are smart and appreciate honest and thoughtful education about drug prevention
 - 2. Educating youth about reducing risks and harms associated with substance use is important, and historically we have mostly focused on abstinence-based prevention.
 - a) This includes education on good samaritan law

G. Barbara:

1. Prevention messaging focused around delaying substance use is sometimes well received

H. Malik M:

1. Echoes concerns about kratom use in his community
2. Kratom is readily accessible
3. Yngvild: references the Synar program which is a federal requirement around youth tobacco sales, suggests that perhaps something similar could exist around kratom sales

I. Jim:

1. Sometimes prevention dollars are misspent on non-evidence based endeavors. Ensuring that prevention funding is wisely invested is critical, and establishing best practices in the prevention world is vital.
2. Jim highlighted the important prevention work that AHEC West does

J. Many links and resources were shared in the chat:

1. [Tips for talking to Middle schoolers - DEA](#)
2. [Tips for elementary schoolers - DEA](#)
3. [Strategic Plan - BHA](#)
4. [Public Policy Statement: Prevention, ASAM](#)
5. CSU Prevention Resources
6. [ROPTA](#)
7. [Strategic Plan - Midshore Planning Collaborative](#)
8. [Maryland's Kratom Consumer Protection Act 2024](#)
9. [Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission - Unauthorized Consumable Products - Enforcement and Seizure](#) - 2026
10. [Video Stop the Spiral](#)
11. [National Prevention Network - NASADAD](#)

VII. Next Meeting on Harm Reduction