



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

Behavioral Health Administration

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October 6, 2021

Dear Behavioral Health System Stakeholders:

On behalf of the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Behavioral Health Administration (BHA), I want to again 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, September of 2020, and January of 2021, BHA conducted surveys about the effects of COVID-19 on the impact of individuals receiving behavioral health services and supports. The results of all of these surveys 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 also continues to be very interested in how individuals' needs have changed over the last three months. In partnership with the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB), BHA has created a fourth 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/Maryland_Behavioral_Health_COVID_Fall_2021

BHA will use the responses to this fourth 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, October 22. We know that many of you will be interested in the results of the survey; we anticipate presenting the findings of this and previous surveys at stakeholder meetings as well as posting the results on the Behavioral Health Administration website.

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