

# Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force

## Agenda: Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Thank you for joining us! Please follow these ground rules for our virtual meeting:

- **Everyone will be muted throughout the session.**
- We hope to have time after each speaker for questions. Please use the chat feature to type your questions. We will answer as many as we can.
- If you need sign language interpreters, please follow the directions on the screen. We will pause as needed to “switch” interpreters.
- At the top of your video screen you can choose between speaker view or gallery view – whichever you prefer.

### 1. **Welcome and Task Force Updates** (3:00 – 3:10)

Mary Neubauer & Christine Apple, co-chairs

- Reminder [Mental Health Task Force Membership Drive](#). Please complete your membership form and contribution to support the Task Force. Thanks to those who have responded!
- **Recommendation to appoint Kimberly Dorsey**, to the Mental Health Task Force Steering Committee. Thanks to Patricia Obletz for agreeing to serve another term.
- The MHTF will advance a recommendation to appoint Shirley Drake to the Mental Health Board to the open position for a board member with lived experience.
- Reminder budget listening session

### 2. **Housing Rights and Opportunities** (3:10 – 3:25)

Share your questions about housing rights and housing needs in our community for people with mental illness.

We need your input to inform the content of our October 13<sup>th</sup> Karen Avery Forum: *Housing: Opportunities, Rights and Resources* (2:30 – 5 PM)

- Bring your questions about housing rights
- Bring your questions about best practices in housing for people with mental health needs, and policy opportunities to draw down funding for housing and supportive services

### 3. **Pardeep Kaleka**, Interfaith Conference Executive Director and MHTF Diversity Committee Chair, will facilitate some mind and body work to center us as we prepare to hear from Brandon Johnson (3:25 – 3:40)

### 4. **Pulling Back the Layers: How Racism and Discrimination impacts Suicide Prevention** Featured Speaker: Brandon J. Johnson, M.H.S

*We will join the Prevent Suicide Wisconsin Conference to hear this outstanding speaker.*

- Brandon J. Johnson will discuss how specific population-centered issues such as systemic racism, historical trauma, and discrimination frame our work and impact communities of color. Strategies for addressing these barriers to care head-on will be discussed.
- **Brandon J. Johnson, M.H.S.** is a tireless advocate for positive mental health and suicide prevention services for youth and adults across the country. Currently, he serves as a Public Health Advisor at the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in the Suicide Prevention Branch at the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS). Brandon's is also the Co-Lead of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention's Faith Communities Task Force.
- Data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has shown that African American children, ages 5-12, have seen a significant increase in suicide rates over the last few years. This rate has been increasing over the last 15 years, despite the suicide rate decreasing for white children of the same age range. The suicide rate of American Indian/Alaska Native youth under 18 are continuing to see increases as well. Latinx, African-American, and AI/AN people have disproportionately been seeing challenges from COVID-19.

## **OTHER UPDATES AND RESOURCES**

**October 13<sup>th</sup> Karen Avery Forum:** *Housing: Opportunities, Rights and Resources* (2:30 – 5 PM)

- Submit your nominations for the 2020 Karen Avery Award and the Marie C. Perry Rising Leader Award. The deadline is September 11<sup>th</sup>. Link to nomination forms: <http://www.milwaukeeemhtf.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/2020-MMHTF-Awards-Call-for-Nominations-acc.pdf>

**September 8 FINAL Milwaukee County 2021 Budget Open House, at 6 – 8 PM.** The event will be virtual\* - you can submit a comment, question, register to speak, and watch the open house by going to [https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Administrative-Services/Performance-Strategy-and-Budget/Balancing-Act#budget\\_open\\_house](https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Administrative-Services/Performance-Strategy-and-Budget/Balancing-Act#budget_open_house)

- [Milwaukee County Budget process](#)
  - [Find your County Supervisor](#)
  - [County Board Supervisors](#)

### **Milwaukee County Mental Health Board:**

<https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/About/Governance>

Contact the Mental Health Board at: [MHB@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:MHB@milwaukeecountywi.gov)

Next meeting: September 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:30. Will address "General/ Crisis Redesign"