



STATE OF MARYLAND
DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

February 8, 2013

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
H-107 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House
H-101 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Re: Health-General Article § 10-208(d) - Reports on the Mental Hygiene Community-Based Services Fund for Fiscal Years 2009 through 2012

Dear President Miller and Speaker Busch:

Pursuant to Health-General Article, §10-208(d), the Department submits this report on the Mental Hygiene Community-Based Services Fund (“Fund”). Monies in the Fund are generated from the interest earned by the Mental Hygiene Administration’s (MHA) portion of the Community Services Trust Fund account. Monies in the Fund are to be used to meet the needs of individuals leaving State facilities to enter community-based services. Any unspent portions of the Fund may not be transferred or revert to the General Fund of the State but must remain in the Fund to be used for specified purposes. During the fiscal years 2009 through 2012, facility census was reduced but any cost savings realized from downsizing or hospital closures went toward cost containment rather than toward savings in the Fund. However, in the past four years, the Department has closed facilities and increased the number of individuals receiving mental health services in the community.

Mental Hygiene Community Services Trust Fund currently has a relatively small balance of \$3.1 million, which results in smaller interest earnings. In FY 2009, the interest earnings came to \$82,505; FY 2010 interest earnings came to \$61,496; FY 2011 interest earnings came to \$57,722; and FY 2012 interest earnings came to \$38,894. Any monies used from this fund were used for community-based services as required.

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In 2010, the MHA closed two facilities: the Walter P. Carter Center in Baltimore City, and the Upper Shore Hospital Center in Chestertown, MD. MHA received \$3 million for the closure of Upper Shore, which went to Eastern Shore community services. At the time of closure, the Walter P. Carter Center had an average daily census of 39 patients and Upper Shore had 40 patients. The total inpatient census for MHA facilities remains static at an average of 966 patients per year.

Conversely, the community census of the public mental health system in 2010 was 122,092 and 133,788 in 2011. The numbers served in the community increased 12 percent from FY 2009 to FY 2010 and 3.17 percent from FY 2010 to FY 2011, while the numbers served in MHA facilities remained static for the same period in time.

I hope that this information is useful. If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Marie Grant, Director of the Office of Governmental Affairs, at 410-767-6481.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh M. Sharfstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Josh" being particularly prominent.

Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D.
Secretary

cc: Karl Aro
Marie L. Grant, J.D.
Gayle Jordan-Randolph
Brian Hepburn, M.D.
Stacey Diehl
Randolph Price
Sarah T. Albert, MSAR # 0290