

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene 201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor - Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor - Laura Herrera Scott, MD, MPH, Acting Secretary

January 20, 2015

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) Report on the Mental Hygiene Community-Based Services Fund for Fiscal Year 2014

Dear President Miller and Speaker Busch:

Pursuant to the Health – General Article, Section §10-208(d), The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Department) submits this report on the Mental Hygiene Community-Based Services Fund (Fund). The money in the Fund is the Behavioral Health Administration's (BHA) 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.

At the close of fiscal year 2014, the Mental Hygiene Community Services Trust Fund had a balance of \$3,157,610, which includes interest earnings between fiscal year 2013 and fiscal year 2014 of \$37,673.

While no monies were used from the Fund during fiscal year 2014, the number of patients served in BHA mental health facilities increased slightly from 939 individuals at the beginning of fiscal year 2014 to 973 at the beginning of fiscal year 2015.

Finally, in moving forward, BHA has developed a plan for fiscal years 2015 and 2016 to spend the majority of existing monies in the Fund to provide housing for mental health consumers. We look forward to sharing this information in future reports as additional community services are provided to individuals at risk of homelessness and/or institutional placement.

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If you have any questions regarding the Mental Hygiene Community-Based Services Fund, please contact Allison Taylor, Director of Governmental Affairs, at 410-767-6481 or at <u>Allison.Taylor@maryland.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H. Acting Secretary

cc: Gayle Jordan-Randolph, M.D.
Brian Hepburn, M.D.
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