



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jan H. Gardner
County Executive

News Release

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County Executive Announces Plans to Expand Mobile Crisis Services

Community Partners Sheppard Pratt, Frederick Health Play Key Roles

FREDERICK, Md. – Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner today announced she would be introducing a supplemental budget to fund the expansion of mobile crisis services in an effort to better serve people in the community who are facing crises. The program would provide round-the-clock integrated services through a collaboration with Sheppard Pratt and Frederick Health. Social workers, behavioral health staff, or other specialists would be available to respond to the scene to help a person in crisis, such as addiction, suicidal thoughts, or homelessness. The Mobile Crisis Unit could respond to support law enforcement, emergency medical services, or in some instances on its own.

“We are re-thinking and re-imagining how we should respond to certain crisis situations,” Executive Gardner said. “This partnership will allow us to serve people better using an integrated approach, so people get the care and support they need when they need it most.”

The Mobile Crisis Services team would be operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by Sheppard Pratt through its local program Way Station, under an agreement with the Frederick County Health Department’s Behavioral Health division. Currently, those services are available only on a limited basis.

“Now more than ever, individuals in our community need access to life-saving resources that support their mental health,” said Scott Rose, Chief of Rehabilitation and Recovery Services at Sheppard Pratt. “By expanding mobile crisis services in Frederick, we can quickly get to those in need, partner with first responders, provide an emergency mental health response, and connect individuals with the right next level of care.”

Funding will come from multiple sources within county government and from potential grant funds.

For more information about addiction treatment and recovery services available through the Frederick County Health Department, visit Health.FrederickCountyMD.gov, call 301-600-1755, or email BHS@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

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