WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor

DOROTHY LENNIG
Executive Director

Maryland
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION AND POLICY

Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (Byrne SCIP/BSCI) Advisory Board
Date: Thursday, November 7th, 2024
Time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Virtual

Advisory Board Goals and Objectives

- To develop recommendations that guide the implementation of Byrne SCIP funding, as established by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act of 2022 (Pub. L. No. 117-159, 136 Stat. 1313, 1339).
- To provide oversight of the Landscape Analysis and curation of the Byrne SCIP Plan and Budget.
- To establish statewide performance measures to gauge sub-recipient progress in meeting Byrne SCIP goals.
- To review applications and recommend programs for funding based on best- and/or most promising practices to reduce gun violence in Maryland.

Participating Members:

Maryland Department of State Police	Assistance Bureau Chief, Criminal Investigation Bureau	Major Andy Johnson
ROAR Center, University of Maryland, Baltimore	Executive Director	Lydia Watts
Maryland Office of the Public Defender	Public Defender	Natasha Dartigue
Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence	Executive Director	Jeanne Yeager
Maryland Chiefs of Police and Sheriff's Associations	Executive Director	Sheriff Darren Popkin (Ret.)
Maryland Hospital Association	Senior Legislative Analyst	Jane Krinke

Staff:
James "Jim" Rhoden, Assistant Director, Centers of Excellence, GOCPP
Alexandra "Lexy" Smith, Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (BSCIP) Coordinator, GOCPP
Bethany Young, Director of Policy and Legislation, GOCPP
Melissa Bitting, Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (VIPP) Coordinator, GOCPP

Public:
Alexis Capestany

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor

DOROTHY LENNIG
Executive Director

Maryland
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chair Representative, Jim Rhoden. Roll call was conducted. Due to the absence of a quorum, minutes from the June 4 and September 12 meetings could not be approved.

II. Report from GOCPP

Jim provided an update on the FY25 BSCI Regional and Local ERPO Liaison Site Program Grant. Due to lack of quorum, the Board was unable to vote on the current funding recommendations during the meeting. A follow-up email vote will be conducted.

III. Open Forum

The Board engaged in a robust discussion regarding the FY25 BSCI Regional and Local ERPO Liaison Site Program Grant recommendations presented by GOCPP. Members emphasized the importance of establishing clear, measurable outcomes to ensure the effectiveness and accountability of the selected programs. Board members noted that outcome development should be a requirement for all funded programs moving forward, with the understanding that these measures will drive future iterations of the initiative. GOCPP confirmed that technical assistance will be offered to subrecipients to help develop these outcomes, with collaboration from MCRIC where appropriate.

The Board also discussed the importance of fostering partnerships between the ERPO Liaison Sites and community organizations that may apply under the forthcoming second Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). Members recommended that the next NOFA include language requiring Letters of Support or Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to formalize these collaborative efforts. GOCPP echoed this recommendation and noted that partnership development will still be a grant requirement, supported through technical assistance and ongoing site visits. These efforts will help ensure that supportive services are meaningfully connected to liaison site work and that the overall implementation of the ERPO program reflects the needs of each community.

VII. Next Steps

Looking ahead, GOCPP intends to finalize and distribute the next NOFA in early 2025. The release is contingent on federal processing timelines and BJA approval. Once funding recommendations are approved by the Board via electronic vote, GOCPP will circulate a formal approval letter for Board signatures to meet federal documentation requirements. Additionally, GOCPP will begin scheduling quarterly Advisory Board meetings for calendar year 2025 and will keep members updated on the timeline and implementation of both current and future program activities.

VIII. Good of the Order and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Representative Jim Rhoden at 2:40 PM, seconded by Bethany Young.