

## **Maryland Psychiatric Society Report to Area 3 September 20, 2018**

### **Member Services:**

The Maryland Psychiatric Society continues to have an active membership. We continue to focus on encouraging members-in-training to join the organization. We have yearly meetings with trainees at both the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins Hospital. In July, an event was held for Early Career Psychiatrists (go Orioles!) that was made possible through funding from Area 3. Next month, we will hold an open house for members to meet MPS leadership and staff.

### **Diversity:**

We continue to benefit from the diversity of our membership. Our diversity committee takes an active role in the organization.

### **Advocacy:**

With the support of the Maryland Psychiatric Society, the Maryland General Assembly enacted a ban on conversion therapy of minors.

A bill was introduced in the Maryland General Assembly that would criminalized failure to report child abuse by mandatory reporters. This bill failed to pass through the House Judiciary Committee.

House Bill 1302 establishes procedures by which specified health professionals, a law enforcement officer, or any other interested person may petition the court to obtain an “extreme risk prevention order” on a respondent who poses an immediate and present danger of causing personal injury to themselves, the petitioner, or another by possessing a firearm and that the extreme risk prevention order is necessary to prevent personal injury to the respondent, the petitioner, or another

Beginning July 1, 2018, the Physician Drug Monitoring Program use by CDS prescribers is mandatory. Prescribers must, with some exceptions, query and review their patient’s PDMP data prior to initially prescribing an opioid or benzodiazepine and at least every 90 days thereafter if the course of treatment continues to include prescribing an opioid or benzodiazepine.

Delegate Dan Morhaim, M.D. will be introducing legislation promoting competition in physician certification. The US Department of Justice issued an opinion letter stating that the ABMS Program on MOC may have the effect of “harming competition and increasing the cost of healthcare services to customers.”

### **Education:**

On September 20, a free dinner lecture was held regarding the opioid crisis.

A psychopharmacology symposium will be held in November at Sheppard Pratt.

### **Strength of Organization/Group:**

Overall, the MPS continues to be a strong and active organization representing our members and advocating for mental health in Maryland.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Zimnitzky, M.D.  
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