

Chapter 210

(Senate Bill 703)

AN ACT concerning

Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program – Establishment

FOR the purpose of establishing the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program; providing for the purpose of the Program; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to administer the Program; requiring the Program to award certain grants to local behavioral health authorities to establish and expand certain behavioral health crisis response programs and services; authorizing certain uses of funds distributed under the Program; establishing that funds distributed under the Program shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, certain other funding; authorizing a local behavioral health authority to submit a certain proposal to the Department; requiring the Department to award grants according to certain priorities; requiring certain recipients of funding under the Program to report certain data to the Department; requiring the Department to establish certain application procedures, a certain system of outcome measurement, and certain guidelines and procedures; requiring, for certain fiscal years, the Governor to include in the budget bill certain appropriations for the Program; requiring, on or before a certain date each year, the Department to report to the Governor and the General Assembly; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program.

BY adding to

Article – Health – General

Section 7.5–208

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2015 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health – General**7.5–208.**

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM.

(B) (1) THERE IS A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO LOCAL JURISDICTIONS TO ESTABLISH AND EXPAND COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEMS.

(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

(D) (1) THE PROGRAM SHALL AWARD COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES TO ESTABLISH AND EXPAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT:

(I) SERVE LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS FOR CHILDREN, ADULTS, AND OLDER ADULTS;

(II) MEET NATIONAL STANDARDS;

(III) INTEGRATE THE DELIVERY OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT; AND

(IV) CONNECT INDIVIDUALS TO APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY-BASED CARE IN A TIMELY MANNER ON DISCHARGE.

(2) FUNDS DISTRIBUTED TO A LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY UNDER THE PROGRAM:

(I) MAY BE USED TO ESTABLISH OR EXPAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, SUCH AS:

1. MOBILE CRISIS TEAMS;

2. ON-DEMAND WALK-IN SERVICES;

3. CRISIS RESIDENTIAL BEDS; AND

4. OTHER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS ELIGIBLE FOR PROGRAM FUNDS; AND

(II) SHALL BE USED TO SUPPLEMENT, AND NOT SUPPLANT, ANY OTHER FUNDING FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

(3) A LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY MAY SUBMIT A PROPOSAL REQUESTING PROGRAM FUNDING TO THE DEPARTMENT.

(4) IN AWARDING GRANTS UNDER THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRIORITIZE PROPOSALS THAT:

(I) MAKE USE OF MORE THAN ONE FUNDING SOURCE;

(II) DEMONSTRATE EFFICIENCY IN SERVICE DELIVERY THROUGH REGIONALIZATION, INTEGRATION OF THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS PROGRAM OR SERVICE WITH EXISTING PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESOURCES, AND OTHER STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIES OF SCALE; AND

(III) EVIDENCE A STRONG PLAN FOR INTEGRATION INTO THE EXISTING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM OF CARE AND SUPPORTS TO PROVIDE SEAMLESS AFTERCARE.

(5) FOR EACH SERVICE OR PROGRAM THAT RECEIVES FUNDING UNDER THE PROGRAM, A LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT ALL OUTCOME MEASUREMENT DATA REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(6) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH:

(I) APPLICATION PROCEDURES;

(II) A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF OUTCOME MEASUREMENT TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS AND ADEQUACY OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS;

(III) GUIDELINES THAT REQUIRE PROGRAMS TO BILL THIRD-PARTY INSURERS AND, WHEN APPROPRIATE, THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM; AND

(IV) ANY OTHER PROCEDURES OR CRITERIA NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

(E) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET BILL THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS FOR THE PROGRAM:

(1) ~~\$2,000,000~~ \$3,000,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020;

(2) \$4,000,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021; AND

(3) ~~\$6,000,000~~ \$5,000,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022;

~~(4) \$8,000,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023; AND~~

~~(5) \$10,000,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER.~~

(F) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR BEGINNING IN 2020, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY A REPORT THAT INCLUDES, FOR THE MOST RECENT CLOSED FISCAL YEAR:

(1) THE NUMBER OF GRANTS DISTRIBUTED;

(2) FUNDS DISTRIBUTED BY COUNTY;

(3) INFORMATION ABOUT GRANT RECIPIENTS AND PROGRAMS AND SERVICES PROVIDED; AND

(4) OUTCOME DATA REPORTED UNDER THE STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF MEASUREMENT REQUIRED IN SUBSECTION (D)(6)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2018.