

**HB0048 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Collaborative Care Model Services –
Implementation and Reimbursement Expansion**

House Health and Governmental Operations Committee

February 7, 2023

Position: Support

The Arc Maryland is the largest statewide advocacy organization dedicated to protecting and advancing the rights and quality of life of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We support HB0048 because we believe it will add one more tool to a package of measures we hope pass into law this session, designed to effectively address the Behavioral Health community capacity crisis in Maryland and improve coordination of care across disciplines.

The Collaborative Care Model is an evidence-based approach for integrating somatic and behavioral health services in primary care settings. The approach includes: (1) Care coordination and management; (2) Regular, proactive outcome monitoring and treatment for outcome targets using standardized outcome measurement rating scales and electronic tools, such as patient tracking; and (3) Regular systematic psychiatric and substance use disorder caseload reviews and consultation with a psychiatrist, an addiction medicine specialist, or any other behavioral health medicine specialist as allowed under federal regulations governing the model.

We appreciate the sponsors work on this bill, and respectfully ask for a favorable report from the committee on HB0048.

Sincerely,



Ande Kolp

Executive Director

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