



**House Health & Government Operations Committee
March 14, 2023**

**House Bill 1155
Workgroup on Establishing a Youth Codesigned Integrated Behavioral
Health Model
Support**

NCADD-Maryland supports House Bill 1155 to create the Workgroup on Establishing a Youth Codesigned Integrated Behavioral Health Model.

The workgroup will be charged with reviewing existing youth codesigned integrated behavioral health models across the country, identifying successful youth codesigned integrated behavioral health models, and the tools, strategies, and funding sources needed to implement similar strategies in Maryland, and developing a plan for establishing a sustainable youth advisory committee to play an ongoing role in the development and implementation of the pilot program.

NCADD-Maryland believes that services for people with substance use and mental health disorders should be designed with input from those directly impacted. Including the voices of those who have needed and utilized existing services, or who have not been able to find the services that truly meet their needs, ensures more effective services. When the services meet the needs, people have better outcomes individually, the community sees greater benefits, and the entire health care system saves money.

We urge a favorable report on HB 1155.

The Maryland Affiliate of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD-Maryland) is a statewide organization that works to influence public and private policies on addiction, treatment, and recovery, reduce the stigma associated with the disease, and improve the understanding of addictions and the recovery process. We advocate for and with individuals and families who are affected by alcoholism and drug addiction.