

CITY OF BALTIMORE
ORDINANCE _____
Council Bill 21-0103

Introduced by: President Mosby and Councilmembers McCray, Cohen, Bullock, Porter,
Middleton, Burnett, Ramos

Introduced and read first time: July 19, 2021

Assigned to: Health, Environment, and Technology Committee

Committee Report: Favorable, with amendments

Council action: Adopted

Read second time: September 20, 2021

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING

1 **Suicide Prevention Coordinator – Establishment**

2 FOR the purpose of establishing the position of Suicide Prevention Coordinator within the Health
3 Department; and providing for the duties of the Suicide Prevention Coordinator.

4 BY adding

5 Article - Health

6 Section 2-103.1

7 Baltimore City Revised Code

8 (Edition 2000)

9 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
10 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

11 **Baltimore City Revised Code**

12 **Article – Health**

13 **Title 2. Department of Health**

14 ***Subtitle 1. Organization and General Authority***

15 **~~§ 2-103.1. Suicide Prevention Coordinator:~~**

16 ~~(a) *In general:*~~

17 ~~There is a Suicide Prevention Coordinator within the Health Department.~~

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by
amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

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1 **§ 2-103.1. SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATOR.**

2 (A) IN GENERAL.

3 THERE IS A SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATOR WITHIN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

4 (B) SCOPE.

5 THE SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATOR SHALL:

6 (1) COLLABORATE WITH SYSTEM PARTNERS TO SUPPORT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM
7 MANAGEMENT; AND

8 (2) WORK TO PREVENT SUICIDES AND MENTAL HEALTH CRISES.

9 (C) DUTIES.

10 ~~(b) *Scope.*~~

11 ~~The Suicide Prevention Coordinator shall:~~

12 ~~(1) collaborate with system partners to support behavioral health system management;~~
13 ~~and~~

14 ~~(2) work to prevent suicides and mental health crises.~~

15 ~~(c) *Duties.*~~

16 ~~The Suicide Prevention Coordinator shall:~~ THE SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATOR IS
17 AUTHORIZED TO:

18 (1) REACH OUT TO COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, GROUPS AND AGENCIES TO INFORM
19 THEM ABOUT AVAILABLE RESOURCES REGARDING SUICIDE PREVENTION;

20 (2) COORDINATE AND PROVIDE SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAININGS AND TRAININGS
21 REGARDING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRAUMA AND SUICIDE AS NEEDED;

22 (3) CARRY OUT NEW PUBLIC AWARENESS PREVENTION STRATEGIES;

23 (4) DISTRIBUTE RESOURCE MATERIALS AS APPROPRIATE;

24 (5) GENERALLY COLLABORATE WITH:

25 (I) THE STATE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION'S OFFICE OF SUICIDE
26 PREVENTION;

27 (II) THE BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT;

28 (III) THE FIRE DEPARTMENT;

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- 1 (IV) LOCAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS;
- 2 (V) BALTIMORE CRISIS RESPONSE;
- 3 (VI) THE BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM;
- 4 (VII) ACADEMIC PARTNERS;
- 5 (VIII) PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS; AND
- 6 (IX) OTHER LOCAL AGENCIES AND SERVICES;
- 7 (6) COLLABORATE WITH THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT’S CHILD FATALITY REVIEW TEAM
- 8 AND THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT’S MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW TEAM TO
- 9 DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PREVENTION PLANS;
- 10 (7) COLLABORATE WITH EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS, PEDIATRICIANS, PRIMARY CARE
- 11 PHYSICIANS, THE BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, AND COLLEGES AND
- 12 UNIVERSITIES TO ENCOURAGE SCREENING FOR SUICIDALITY AND TO ESTABLISH
- 13 CONTINUITY OF CARE FOR PATIENTS AT RISK OF SUICIDE;
- 14 (8) DEVELOP AND COORDINATE A DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS PLAN TO
- 15 DETERMINE TRENDS REGARDING SUICIDES AND SUICIDE ATTEMPTS;
- 16 (9) DEVELOP A PLAN OF ACTION TO REDUCE SUICIDES IN BALTIMORE CITY;
- 17 (10) PROVIDE CONSULTATIONS TO MENTAL HEALTH, SCHOOL, JUVENILE, AND SOCIAL
- 18 SERVICES PROFESSIONALS;
- 19 (11) REPRESENT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN INTERAGENCY MEETINGS AND
- 20 COMMITTEES;
- 21 (12) SUPPORT SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY TO ENSURE THAT SERVICES ARE RESPONSIVE
- 22 TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF BALTIMORE CITY RESIDENTS;
- 23 (13) WORK WITH DIVERSE POPULATIONS IN BALTIMORE CITY TO ACTIVELY DECREASE
- 24 STIGMA ASSOCIATED WITH MENTAL HEALTH; AND
- 25 (14) FULFILL OTHER RELATED DUTIES AS ASSIGNED BY THE ~~LOCAL BEHAVIORAL~~
- 26 HEALTH AUTHORITY HEALTH COMMISSIONER.

27 (D) POTENTIAL CONTRACTUAL POSITION.

28 THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER MAY ELECT TO CONTRACT WITH THE LOCAL BEHAVIORAL

29 HEALTH AUTHORITY TO FILL THE SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATOR POSITION.

30 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance

31 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior

32 Ordinance.

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1 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, That this Ordinance takes effect on the ~~30th day~~
2 after the date it is enacted July 1, 2022.

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Certified as duly passed this 4 day of October, 2021



President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to His Honor, the Mayor,

this 4 day of October, 2021



Chief Clerk

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20____

Mayor, Baltimore City