

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
ORDINANCE **21.063**  
Council Bill 21-0103

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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

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Committee Report: Favorable, with amendments

Council action: Adopted

Read second time: September 20, 2021

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AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING

**Suicide Prevention Coordinator – Establishment**

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

BY adding

Article - Health

Section 2-103.1

Baltimore City Revised Code

(Edition 2000)

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

**Baltimore City Revised Code**

**Article – Health**

**Title 2. Department of Health**

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

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

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

~~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 ~~(e) 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.



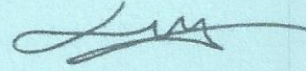
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1       **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the ~~30<sup>th</sup>~~ day  
2       after the date it is enacted July 1, 2022.



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Certified as duly passed this 4 day of October, 2021

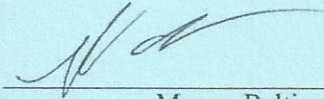


\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to His Honor, the Mayor,  
this 4 day of October, 2021

*Catarina B. Austin*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

Approved this 5 day of November, 2021



\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Baltimore City

Approved for Form and Legal Sufficiency  
This 5th Day of October, 2021.

*Elena R DiPietro*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Solicitor