



BALTIMORE CITY
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Natawna B. Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Michael Braverman, Housing Commissioner

Date: September 3, 2019

Re: **City Council Bill 19-0410: The Baltimore City Trauma-Responsive Care Act**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0410, for the purpose of establishing the Trauma-Informed Care Task Force and its members; setting forth certain duties of the Task Force; requiring certain agencies to designate certain individuals to undergo formal training in trauma-informed care and to perform certain other duties related to ensuring that certain agencies are delivering services in a manner consistent with best practices in trauma-informed care; requiring certain agencies to submit periodic progress reports to the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to submit an annual report to the Mayor and City Council regarding the re-orientation of certain city services to focus on trauma-informed care; re-constituting the current Office of Children, Youth, and Families to be the Office of Children and Family Success; making a primary duty of the Office of Children and Family Success to lead a citywide initiative to prioritize the trauma-responsive and trauma-informed delivery of services; defining certain terms; correcting and conforming related provisions; and generally relating to providing trauma-informed services to the citizens of Baltimore.

If enacted, this bill would require that the Office of Children and Family Success direct a City-wide effort to prioritize trauma-responsive and trauma-informed delivery of City services. The Office would be assisted by a Trauma-Informed Care Task Force to direct the City's efforts to identify programs impacting children and youth and to develop and implement trauma-responsive policies across City government. The Task Force would be required to report to the Mayor and City Council each year on the trauma-responsiveness of City Agencies. Agency heads would be required to designate two staff members, who would participate in formal trauma-responsive care training and advise the planning and implementing of trauma-informed practices in each Agency.

DHCD has no objection to City Council Bill 19-0410.

MB:rfp

Mr. Nicholas Blandy, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Councilmember Zeke Cohen