

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2016, Legislative Day No. 6

Resolution No. 12-16

Introduced by Mr. Fink, Chairman
(by request of the County Executive)

By the County Council, March 21, 2016

1 RESOLUTION recognizing the potential benefits of the Stepping Up Program to
2 reduce the number of people with mental illnesses incarcerated in detention facilities
3 operated by the Anne Arundel County Department of Detention Facilities.

4
5 WHEREAS, the County routinely provides treatment services to people with
6 serious mental illnesses booked into detention facilities operated by the Anne
7 Arundel County Department of Detention Facilities each year; and

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9 WHEREAS, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in detention facilities
10 nationwide are approximately three to six times higher than for the general public;
11 and

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13 WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in
14 detention facilities nationwide have co-occurring substance use disorders; and

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16 WHEREAS, adults with mental illnesses tend to be incarcerated longer
17 nationwide and, upon release, are at a higher risk of recidivism than people
18 without these disorders; and

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20 WHEREAS, county detention facilities nationwide spend two to three times more
21 on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those
22 without these treatment needs; and

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24 WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental
25 illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in
26 tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families; and

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28 WHEREAS, the County takes pride in its responsibility to protect and enhance
29 the health, welfare, and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways;
30 and

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32 WHEREAS, the County has developed a Jail Diversion Program which helps
33 people stay out of jail by offering mental health and substance use disorder
34 treatment; and

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36 WHEREAS, through the Stepping Up Program, the National Association of
37 Counties, The Council of State Governments Justice Center, and the American

1 Psychiatric Association Foundation are encouraging public, private, and nonprofit
2 partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in detention
3 facilities nationwide by connecting them to community-based treatment and
4 services when possible; now, therefore be it

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6 *Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland,* That it
7 recognizes the benefits of the Stepping Up Program which provides technical assistance
8 and other resources to assist in the reduction of the number of people with mental
9 illnesses in detention facilities operated by the Anne Arundel County Department of
10 Detention Facilities, commits to sharing lessons learned with other counties in Maryland
11 and across the country to support a national initiative and encourages all County officials,
12 employees, and residents to participate in the Stepping Up Program when appropriate;
13 and be it further

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15 *Resolved,* That the County resolves to utilize the comprehensive resources available
16 through the Stepping Up Program, to the extent practicable and when appropriate, to
17 assist in the reduction of the number of people with mental illnesses in detention facilities
18 operated by the Anne Arundel County Department of Detention Facilities; and be it
19 further

20
21 *Resolved,* That a copy of this Resolution be sent to County Executive Steven R.
22 Schuh.

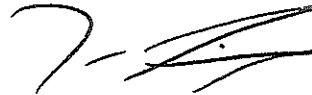
READ AND PASSED this 4th day of April, 2016

By Order:



Elizabeth E. Jones
Administrative Officer

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT RESOLUTION NO. 12-16 IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND DULY
ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.



Derek J. Fink
Chairman