

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HOSPITALS & HUMAN SERVICES

The Honorable Ray Fonseca

CHAIRMAN



35th Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands


Capitol Building, P.O. Box 1690

Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00804

(340) 693-3577

Email: senatorrayfonseca@legvi.org

TO: Honorable Kenneth L. Gittens, Vice-Chair
Honorable Marvin A. Blyden
Honorable Diane T. Capehart
Honorable Samuel Carrion
Honorable Novelle E. Francis, Jr.
Honorable Donna Frett-Gregory
Honorable Marise C. James
Honorable Milton E. Potter

FROM: Honorable Ray Fonseca 
Chairman, Committee on Health, Hospitals & Human Services

DATE: May 29, 2024

RE: AGENDA -Committee Hearing **REVISED IV**

Please be advised that the Committee on Health, Hospitals & Human Services will be conducting a hearing on **Wednesday June 5, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall St. Thomas and the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Room, on St. Croix.**

BLOCK I **10:00AM-10:10AM**

Bill No. 35-0224 An Act amending title 19, part V, chapter 45, subchapter VI to increase access to behavioral health services, with a focus on a Psychiatric Emergency Response Team to provide mobile crisis intervention services, and the 9-8-8 telecommunication system. Sponsored by Senator Diane T. Capehart

NO TESTIFIERS

BLOCK II **10:11AM-1:00PM**

The Committee will receive testimony on the status of "Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse", from the departments, agencies, and organizations perspective here in the Territory. Testimonies should include, in part, the frequency and types of interactions with persons perceived to have mental disabilities.

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INVITED TESTIFIERS:

The Honorable Ray A. Martinez
Commissioner, Virgin Islands Police Department

The Honorable Averil E. George
Commissioner, Department of Human Services

The Honorable Justa "Tita" E. Encarnacion
Commissioner, Department of Health

The Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington EdD
Commissioner, Department of Education

Ms. Wynn Timer
Director, Bureau of Corrections

Ms. Tina M. Comissiong, Esq., MPA
Chief Executive Officer, Schneider Regional Medical Center

Mr. Doug Koch
Chief Executive Officer, Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital & Medical Center

Mrs. Massarae Sprauve-Webster
Chief Executive Officer Frederiksted Healthcare

Tess G. Richards, MD
Executive Director, St. Thomas East End Medical Center Corp.

Mr. Troy A. de Chabert-Schuster
State Director, AARP of the Virgin Islands

Dr. Laurie McCormick, MD, DFAPA
Founder, Holistic Wellness & Psychiatry

Dr. Denese Mrshall Psy.D
Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Mrs. Andrea Shillingford
Executive Director, Catholic Charities of the Virgin Islands

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Ms. DeeBaecher Brown

President, Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands

Mr. Daniel Derima

Executive Director Methodist Training & Outreach Center

Ms. Anya Stuart

Executive Director, Family Resource Center Inc.

Ms. Junia John Straker

Chief Executive Officer, Lutheran Social Services

Ms. Lilli Cox

Director, Communications and Community Investments St. Croix Foundation

Dr. Clema Lewis

Executive Director, Women's Coalition of St. Croix

Darian Torrice-Hairston, LMSW, CSW

Director, Clinical Social Worker, Nana Baby Children's Home

LUNCH

1:05PM-1:45PM

BLOCK III

1:50PM-4:00PM

The Committee will continue to receive an update on the status of Mental Health in the Territory.