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ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor



DOROTHY LENNIG
Executive Director

Maryland Byrne Advisory Board

Date: Monday, May 4th, 2026

Time: 2:00 pm – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual

Advisory Board Goals and Objectives

- To develop recommendations that guide the implementation of Byrne SCIP funding, as established by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act of 2022 ([Pub. L. No. 117-159, 136 Stat. 1313, 1339](#)).
- To provide oversight of the Landscape Analysis and curation of the Byrne SCIP Plan and Budget.
- To establish statewide performance measures to gauge sub-recipient progress in meeting Byrne SCIP goals.
- To review applications and recommend programs for funding based on best- and/or most promising practices to reduce gun violence in Maryland.

Participating Members:

Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions	Assistant Scientist, Health Policy and Management	Spencer Cantrell
ROAR Center, University of Maryland, Baltimore	Executive Director	Lydia Watts
Maryland Chiefs of Police and Sheriff's Association	Executive Director	Sheriff Darren Popkin (Ret.)
Maryland Hospital Association	Senior Legislative Analyst	Jane Krinke
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy	Director, Centers of Excellence; Chair, Maryland Byrne Advisory Board	James "Jim" Rhoden

Staff:

Alexandra "Lexy" Smith, Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) & Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (BSCIP) Policy & Data Analyst, GOCPP

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Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Chairperson, Jim Rhoden. Roll call was conducted. A quorum was not present to approve the February 9, 2026 meeting minutes. GOCPP will circulate the minutes to Board members via email for virtual approval via Google Form submission.

II. Report from GOCPP

A. Federal BSCIP Updates

GOCPP provided an overview of recent federal Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (BSCIP) developments, including updates to program guidance and ongoing coordination with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). Staff discussed continued efforts to align Maryland's BSCIP activities with federal priorities while maintaining support for Statewide crisis intervention, behavioral health, and firearm violence prevention initiatives.

B. FY25 ERPO Liaison Site Program, FY25 Site Partner Program, & FY26 BEACON Program – Progress Updates

GOCPP provided programmatic updates across the BSCIP portfolio and highlighted continued progress as projects transition from planning and outreach into active implementation and early systems-level impact.

Western Central Region (Frederick & Washington Counties)

Frederick County Health Department's Regional ERPO Liaison continues expanding multidisciplinary ERPO training and regional coordination efforts, strengthening collaboration among law enforcement, behavioral health providers, healthcare systems, and community partners. GOCPP noted continued progress toward integrating ERPOs into broader crisis response and behavioral health systems.

Prince George's County

Prince George's County Health Department's Local ERPO Liaison continues strengthening countywide ERPO implementation through training, stakeholder engagement, and systems-building activities. The County continues expanding education efforts and cross-sector partnerships to support sustainable ERPO implementation.

Baltimore City

Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence's (MNADV) Local ERPO Liaison continues advancing Baltimore City-focused ERPO implementation through stakeholder coordination, training, and

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collaboration with local partners to strengthen understanding of ERPO processes and identify opportunities for system improvement.

Additional Program Highlights

GOCPP also highlighted continued implementation progress among several BSCIP-funded initiatives. Programs reported expanding school-based violence prevention efforts, youth engagement activities, behavioral health crisis response services, ERPO education and outreach, and courthouse-based referral services. Staff noted strengthened partnerships and early indicators of successful implementation across multiple projects.

III. Open Forum

Board members discussed statewide ERPO implementation efforts, available data resources, and opportunities to strengthen collaboration across agencies and jurisdictions. Discussion included updates on the Maryland ERPO Learning Collaborative, emerging data collection initiatives, and strategies to support continued implementation of ERPOs as part of broader crisis intervention systems.

VII. Next Steps

GOCPP will continue supporting implementation of current BSCIP-funded projects, coordinating technical assistance opportunities, and advancing statewide ERPO implementation efforts. The Office will also continue engaging stakeholders as future funding opportunities become available.

VIII. Good of the Order and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m. The next Maryland Byrne Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2026 from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. (virtual).