

GBRICS Council: Purpose, Member Expectations and Structure

Purpose:

The purpose of the 21-member Greater Baltimore Regional Integrated Crisis System (GBRICS) Council is to provide guidance for overall strategy, implementation¹ and sustainability² of GBRICS initiatives. The Council has 21 seats, intentionally structured to include key partners in the GBRICS work to support widespread community engagement and awareness, collaboration across a diverse group of stakeholders, sustainability planning, engagement in advocacy, and shared-accountability for achieving the GBRICS goals and outcomes³.

This includes offering guidance on the approach to implementing GBRICS elements including: Care Traffic Control (CTC); Mobile Crisis Teams (MCTs); Walk-in/Virtual access to outpatient behavioral health services⁴; community engagement and marketing; and, sustainability including but not limited to securing additional funding as needed⁵.

The Council meets at least quarterly, and anyone interested is welcome to attend. Each year there will be an annual budget review meeting and semi-annual budget meetings.⁶

Expectations of GBRICS Council Members:

- Review the GBRICS Regional Partnership Grant Proposal, approved by the Health Cost Services Review Commission on November 12, 2020.
- Serve as the representative for one or more specific stakeholder groups for the duration of the five-year project, beginning in January 2021. If a member decides that they must resign from the Council, the Council will identify another individual to fill that stakeholder seat.
- Actively participate in all Council meetings, held at least quarterly, to provide strategic guidance.
- Lead and/or participate in at least one Council committees, with the option to participate in more, to define and develop GBRCIS activities such as:
 - Community engagement⁷
 - Policy and advocacy⁸
 - Ad-hoc committees as identified by the Council
- Engage in shared decision-making to ensure that GBRICS Partnership remains collaborative, transparent, and accountable, with a willingness to compromise as a constructive member of this multi-stakeholder group.

¹ GBRICS proposal, page 3

² GBRICS proposal, page 15

³ GBRICS proposal, page 20

⁴ GBRICS proposal, page 6

⁵ GBRICS proposal, page 12

⁶ GBRICS proposal, page 21

⁷ GBRICS proposal, page 24

⁸ GBRICS proposal, page 24

- Offer guidance on strategic partnerships and/or connections to leverage financial and political resources to support the implementation of GBRICS, including helping to secure additional funding for GBRICS as needed⁹.
- Participate in developing and supporting the GBRICS policy agenda, including but not limited to:
 - Assessing political and environmental trends that impact GBRICS Partnership and its work and assist with navigating the politics of those trends.
 - Identifying legislative approaches, regulatory issues, and/or other opportunities to advance GBRICS Partnership goals and sustainability, as needed.
 - Advocating at the local, state, and federal level for policy and health reimbursement changes¹⁰ needed to support for the GBRICS sustainability plan.
- Represent the GBRICS Partnership as its ambassadors to the larger community in the four-jurisdiction region and throughout Maryland.
- Collaborate to build public awareness generally about behavioral health crisis services as an alternative to calling 911 or using a hospital emergency department (ED).

Membership Structure:

- Twenty one (21) member Council will be diverse, both geographically and to ensure that key GBRICS partners broadly share power and decision-making authority.¹¹ Council seats include:
 - Seven (7) seats held by **hospitals** (one for each hospital system and independent hospital)
 - Three (3) seats held by groups that **represent behavioral health providers**
 - Three (3) seats held by **consumer/community advocacy** groups
 - *NOTE: Ensure that community member voices are reflected in GBRICS strategic decisions.*¹²
 - Four (4) seats held by a **county or city administration** (one from each local jurisdiction)
 - Two (2) seats held by **first responders** (law enforcement, emergency medical services, etc.)
 - Two (2) seats held by **payers** (private- or public-sector employers, Medicaid or health plans)
 - *NOTE: Representatives who can help identify clear Return on Investment (ROI) and value propositions for different sectors (e.g., employers, health plans, public agencies, community members) once the GBRICS infrastructure and CTC technology is in place. This support for sustainability may include helping to develop metrics and/or collect data on cost savings, gained efficiencies, and improved outcomes that accrue across care systems and impact several types of stakeholder organizations.*¹³
- Organizations that are members of the Council will have access to information and knowledge that will give them a competitive advantage over other organizations submitting a bid to GBRICS, so Council member organizations will not be eligible to become a GBRICS vendor or contractor.¹⁴

⁹ GBRICS proposal, page 20 and 22

¹⁰ GBRICS proposal, page 21

¹¹ GBRICS proposal, page 20

¹² GBRICS proposal, page 14

¹³ GBRICS proposal, page 16

¹⁴ GBRICS proposal, page 6