

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CITY'S COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS TO SERVE AS AN EX OFFICIO MEMBER. The local health officer shall provide staff services to the committee and facilitate the work of the committee in every way possible.

Two or more counties by agreement of the governing bodies concerned and upon the consent of the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene with the approval of the [State Board] SECRETARY of Health and Mental Hygiene, may establish a community mental health program and an intercounty advisory committee, if the population of one of the counties is too small to warrant establishment of an independent program.

(e) The function of each community mental health advisory committee shall be to:

(1) Periodically review WITH THE ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE OF THE REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR available services and facilities and determine local mental health program needs;

(2) Advise and report annually to the local health officer, the APPROPRIATE governing [body(ies)] BODY, and THROUGH THE REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR to the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene on progress of the local mental health program and of actions needed for further improvements; and

(3) Make recommendations for appropriate allocation of funds in accordance with agreed upon priorities and consideration of financial resources (private, public, and State).

(i) The health officer for each county and for Baltimore City shall be responsible for the local mental health services program and shall:

(1) Consult with the local regional mental health director in planning for various program components;

(2) Prepare WITH THE ADVICE OF THE REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR an annual plan and budget for provision of services, establishment of facilities, contracting for services or facilities and other matters necessary or desirable to accomplish the purposes of the act;

(3) Assure that the qualifications of personnel and the quality of professional services rendered meet the standards prescribed by the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene with the approval of the [State Board] SECRETARY of Health and Mental Hygiene;