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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## ***Five counties come together for hope in recovery***

Church Hill, MD, September 2025 – Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc. (MSBH), in partnership with the health departments of Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne’s, and Talbot Counties, is proud to announce the sixth annual *“The Mid-Shore is Going Purple Together”* event, taking place on Saturday, September 27th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Church Hill Park in Church Hill, MD.

Free and open to the public, *Going Purple Together* is a family-friendly event designed to celebrate recovery, offer support to those affected by substance use, reduce stigma, and promote community healing. This year’s festivities will include community resource vendors, peers sharing their lived experiences, a live DJ, raffle prizes, a foam machine, hula hoop demonstrations, and games.

The event welcomes individuals in recovery, those seeking support, family members, and anyone wishing to stand in solidarity with the recovery community. As with previous years, the gathering aims to reduce stigma, share stories of hope, and connect attendees with vital behavioral health and recovery services.

*“Going Purple Together isn’t just an event, it’s a lifeline,”* said Jacqueline Salb, MSBH Harm Reduction Coordinator. *“It’s when we can feel seen, heard, and surrounded by people who truly understand the weight of what it means to struggle and to survive. Having lost people I love dearly to addiction, and being someone in long-term recovery, I know how isolating it can feel to struggle with substance abuse. But when our community comes together, lighting up our neighborhoods purple, it reminds*

us all that recovery is possible, that no one has to struggle alone. This event gives us the space to grieve, to celebrate recovery, and to fight for those still in the dark. It's a powerful reminder that hope is real, and that together, we are stronger."

Kate Dulin, CPRS, RPS, MSBH Behavioral Health Coordinator and Harm Reduction Lead, added: "As peers, we use our own lived experience and recovery journeys to connect with people in a real way. We help break down stigma, raise awareness about substance use prevention, and guide folks toward the support and resources that can save lives. We're proof that recovery is possible and stand together with each other and the community in the fight against substance misuse and overdose."

Now in its sixth year, *Going Purple Together* rotates annually among the five Mid-Shore counties. This year's host, Queen Anne's County, invites the entire region to come together for an afternoon of fun, connection, and support.

More information about *The Mid-Shore is Going Purple Together* and related Go Purple initiatives can be found at [www.midshorebehavioralhealth.org/training-and-events/midshore-goes-purple](http://www.midshorebehavioralhealth.org/training-and-events/midshore-goes-purple).

As the Core Service Agency for the Mid-Shore, MSBH's mission is to continually improve the provision of behavioral health services for residents of Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties through effective coordination of care in collaboration with consumers, their natural support systems, providers, and the community at large. Learn more at [www.midshorebehavioralhealth.org](http://www.midshorebehavioralhealth.org).



From left to right: Michelle Dahlman, owner of Shore Love Cleaning Service; Ashley Strazza, CPRS, RPS, Recovery, Crisis, & Services Supervisor at Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.; DJ Dave, Group Facilitator and Certified Peer Recovery Support Specialist; Katie Dilley, LCSW-C, Chief Executive Officer at Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.; Sloane Franklin, State Attorney for Caroline County Circuit Court; Nichole Meredith, Certified Peer Recovery Support Specialist for Caroline County Behavioral Health and Grace Street; Lulu Garland, Interpreter (Haitian Creole); Kristie Thompson,

Peer Recovery Support Specialist at Caroline County Safe Station; Larry Porter, Caroline County Commissioner; Jessica Tuel, MSW, LCSW-C, Director of Behavioral Health, Caroline County Local Addiction Authority.



Event attendees enjoy making balloon animals and bracelets with MSBH staff members Sarah Fegan, Shannon Joyce, and Lisa Short.



MSBH Staff Member Trish Todd helps event attendees decide which raffle prize they want.



