

**Mental Health Response Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Monday, September 12, 2016**  
**ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County**

**Present: Co-Chairs: William M. Denihan, Ed Eckart & Captain James Purcell**

**Committee Members:** Yolanda Armstrong (*on telephone*), Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Cleveland; Carole Ballard, ADAMHS Board, Gabriella Celeste, Case Western Reserve University; Rosemary Creeden, Frontline; Sgt. Melissa Dawson, Cleveland Division of Police; Dr. John Garrity, ADAMHS Board; Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., ADAMHS Board of Directors & United Pastors in Mission; Yolanda Gordon, Cleveland Municipal Court; Larry Heller, Greater Cleveland Congregations; Kyle Miller, Sisters of Charity Health Systems; Deputy Chief Joellen O'Neill, Cleveland Division of Police; Scott Osiecki, ADAMHS Board; Judy Peters, The Centers; Ellen Riehm, NAMI Greater Cleveland; Tej Singh, Concerned Citizen & Business Owner; Kathleen Stoll, Advocate; Myron Stoll, Advocate; Carolyn Szweda, Cleveland VA Center; Heather Tonsing Volosin, Department of Justice, Judge Greg White, City of Cleveland, and Mike Woody, CIT International.

**Guests:** Matt Dolan, Candidate for Ohio Senate  
Gina Kuhlman, Advanced Medical Services;  
Samantha Reid, Professional Black Christian Therapist Network of Greater Cleveland (*on telephone*)

Mr. Denihan opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. The August 8, 2016 meeting summary was reviewed and accepted as written.

**Training Review & Discussion:**

Kyle Miller announced that he has accepted a new position and will no longer be working for Sisters of Charity Health Systems and will no longer serve as Chair of the Training Subcommittee. Mr. Denihan and the entire MHRAC thanked Kyle for his outstanding work as chair and wished him well in his new position.

It was reported that the Monitoring Team granted the 30-day extension on submission of the First DRAFT of the 40-Hour Specialized CIT Training in order to allow for input and discussion from MHRAC members.

The group discussed the First Draft of the 40-Hour Specialized CIT Training Recommendations. It was noted that the proposed days and times may shift due to presenter availability. This first draft will be reviewed and discussed during the October MHRAC for approval for submission to the Monitoring Team.

The Training Subcommittee stated that the 8-Hour Crisis Training Lesson plan was developed and submitted to the Monitoring Team. The Monitoring Team main recommendation was to scale down the plan. There seemed to be too much content for an 8-hour training. Some of the content could be used for future in-service trainings. The revised 8-hour training will be presented and discussed at the October MHRAC for approval and resubmission to the Monitoring Team.

**Community Outreach Committee Update**

Larry Heller, the Chair of the Special Community Outreach Committee that was formed at the August 2016 meeting that is charged with planning and facilitating community meetings to gain feedback on the policies from the public. He will be reaching out to those who signed up for the committee and the meeting will be scheduled soon. A MHRAC member asked if this was the subcommittee that was going to organize the Speakers Bureau. This was unanswered.

## **Community Engagement Subcommittee**

Judy Peters reported that the committee was reviewing and refining the Community Resource cards for police and will the final draft will be discussed during the October meeting.

## **Data Committee:**

Dr. John Garrity reported that the data entry of the 2015 CIT stat sheets have been completed, as well as the data from January through May 2016. Work is being done to refine the data sets. New areas for review will include: Emergency Hospitalizations; Frequent Users; Age; Types of Calls and Repeat Addresses.

Initial review of the data is beginning to identify systematic issues such as access to mental health resources after 4:00 p.m., clients dropping out of services, needs of juveniles, more training for group homes, etc. Continuity of care seems to be broken in several places and the information from the CIT Stat Sheets has begun to identify these key areas and will help to refine Cuyahoga County's mental health and addiction treatment system.

Dr. Garrity updated the group on a new Federal grant received by the Board related to Assisted Outpatient Civil Committee which might address frequent users of services in the system. This grant is a partnership with Cuyahoga County Probate Court, FrontLine Services and the ADAMHS Board.

## **Diversion Committee:**

Rosemary Creeden provided an update on behalf of Sue Neth. The committee will meet later in September to further discuss various diversion options. A small group of committee met with Mr. Denihan and his staff regarding diversion. Goal is to develop resources and concepts that address the unique needs of Cuyahoga County.

## **Policy Committee: (Celeste)**

Gabriella Celeste reported that the CIT Policies were split into two documents - CIT Program and CIT Response. Drafts were approved by the MHRAC on July 11, 2016. Feedback was received from the Monitors in early September and were shared with committee members. Policy Committee members felt that the revisions were minor and the committee is scheduled to meet to review the recommendations and revise the policies. The revised policies will be brought back to the MHRAC in October for discussion and approval for resubmission to the Monitoring Team.

## **Open Discussion:**

Rev. Benjamin Gohlstin, Sr., shared a resource for police related to the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland. The new Executive Director of the Hunger Network is Jennifer Scolfield. She can be reached at 216-619-8155 ext. 11.

An update on the Community Mental Health Response Team, a partnership between Cleveland Division of Police, the ADAMHS Board and FrontLine Services was provided. The pilot project, consisting of a team of two Mental Health Workers and two CIT Cleveland Police Officers, began officially in June and is located and responding in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District. The team has outreached to about 70 individuals who were experiencing a mental health issue and the police were contacted. The outreach was initiated through calls to 911 or follow-up from review of the CIT stat sheets. Updates on this team will be provided every three months.

Due to Monday, October 10 being the Columbus Day holiday, the meeting date was changed to Thursday, October 13, 2016 from 9:00 am to 10:30 at the ADAMHS Board.

### **Other Open Discussion Ideas/Updates:**

- Scott Osiecki and Carole Ballard provided a summary of the MHRAC activities for the Police Commission Annual Report.
- Where the money would come from for system enhancements. Funding for diversion is needed.
- Eight hour training would be conducted by CIT Officers and mental health staff from the providers will assist with the training.
- Will the co-responder team be expanded to other districts? We should discuss these issues in future meetings when we have more data on the success of the pilot program.
- Samantha Reed said the Professional Black Christian Therapist Network of Greater Cleveland – a group of private providers – are eager to assist. Mr. Denihan agreed to meet with the group to discuss possibilities.
- Mr. Denihan stated that the system has a disconnect with getting individuals connected to service – it is hard to get an appointment. He is continued to be concerned regarding the wait time for appointments. Entire system is underfunded. Others agreed that funding is short for the need that we have in our community and the limited doctor availability -- our system needs to do more to recruit psychiatry residents.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.