Mental Health Response Advisory Committee Meeting  
October 9, 2015 Highlights  
Collinwood Recreation Center

Present: Chair: William M. Denihan, ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County

Committee Members: Doreen Berts; Richard Cirillo, Cuyahoga County Board of DD; Duana Deskins, Cuyahoga County Prosecutors Office; Sgt. Melissa Dawson, Cleveland Police; Judge Hollie Gallagher, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas; Janice Gonzalez, Cleveland Clinic; Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., ADAMHS Board & United Pastors in Mission; Orlando Grant, Life Exchange Center; Valeria Harper, Chief Operating Officer; Larry Heller, Greater Cleveland Congregations; Vincent Holland; Kyle Miller, Sisters of Charity Health System; Derek Moore, Cleveland Municipal Court; Susan Neth, FrontLine Service; Deputy Chief Joellen O'Neill, Cleveland Police; Scott Osiecki, Director of External Affairs; Rosie Palfy, Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services Advisory Board; Tej Singh; Edward Stockhausen, Mental Health & Addiction Advocacy Coalition; Luis Vazquez, Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry; Mike Woody, NEOMED-CTCCOE. Community Police Commission Liaison: Kathleen Clegg, University Hospitals.

- Mr. Denihan opened the meeting with introductions at 2:30 p.m. and advised the committee that Ed Eckart was unable to attend the meeting. He reviewed the September 17, 2015 Executive Committee meeting summary which was accepted as written.

- Mr. Denihan introduced Dr. Kathleen Clegg, Director of Community and Public Psychiatry at University Hospitals. He informed the group that she is a member of the Community Police Commission and will be serving as the liaison between the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee and the Police Commission. She will be attending the Advisory Committee Meetings and may attend some of the sub-committee meetings. Dr. Clegg said that she is pleased to serve as the liaison and that she is looking forward to working together on the challenges we all face and finding solutions.

- Mr. Denihan said that he and Mr. Eckart have a meeting scheduled on October 20 to meet with the Consent Decree Monitor: Matthew Barge and Rudy DuPont from the Police Assessment Resource Center.

- Deputy Chief Joellen O'Neil updated the committee on the search for the CIT Coordinator position with the Cleveland Division of Police as prescribed by the Consent Decree. The position is posted at a Captain’s level. Three people have applied. The deadline for applying for the position was 5:00 p.m., October 9. The applications will be reviewed the week of October 12, followed by the interview and screening process. A person should be in the position by December.

- Mr. Denihan advised the committee members that there will only be one vote per organization represented on the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee, as well as on the Executive Committee.

- Each member was asked to complete a Member Expertise/Involvement Form so that Mr. Denihan and Mr. Eckart can know the expertise that each member can offer the committee and the extent of participation.

- Mr. Denihan asked each sub-committee chair to provide a report.
Data Committee:
- Dr. Garrity reported that the committee has met twice and discussed the types of data that will be collected and monitored. Most of the data will come from the CIT Incident Report Form that is completed by CIT trained officers.
- The group is reviewing data from the last year to provide a baseline for the first report that is due in January.
- Mr. Denihan requested that the baseline report be complete by the December 14 meeting so that it can be integrated into the January report.
- Ms. Gonzalez suggested that the data be shared with area emergency rooms.

Training Committee:
- Mr. Miller reported that the training subcommittee met on October 1.
- They discussed what training should occur and for which groups, i.e. special training for special officers, curriculum models within the training, can training be supplemented/streamlined with audio visual aids or other options that will not require so many volunteer hours, and are there incentives available for those who participate.
- Suggestions:
  - Encourage mental health training into rifle training program.
  - Train citizens to let 911 know that their emergency is for a mental health issue.
  - Health Cleveland Initiative – Behavioral Health subcommittee is working on similar procedures.
  - Cadets currently go through a 60 hours of courses (20 hours required, 40 hour CIT). Pare this down to an 8-hour course on some basics (“meet the resources”) including St. Vincent Psych Emergency Department, Drug and Alcohol resources, Homeless resources, and more. Then keep the required 20 hours + 8 hour course would save almost half of training time and provide training at a more appropriate time (when cadets have some experience).
  - Create a CIT class for supervisors so the information can trickle down to other officers about the importance of CIT training.
  - Cap class attendance for non-patrol officers so fewer specialization officers (detectives, admin, etc.) are taking the needed seats – i.e., let officers that will utilize the class have first chance to get in.
  - Include year-round training that does not require CIT class time – potentially during roll call, through audio-visual, re-creating senior officer experiences with role playing, etc.
- It was noted that it costs $50-$100 per officer for the CIT course.
- Shannon Jerse will check with St. Vincent caregivers about having someone speak about NAPPI training at the next Training subcommittee meeting.
- Sgt. Dawson will try to interview cadets after their 6-month probation period to see how the 40 hour training worked, what they would have liked to see, etc.

Policy Review Committee:
- Deputy Chief Joellen O’Neill reported that the committee met last week and reviewed current Cleveland Division of Police policies regarding crisis intervention and people with mental illness. The committee will also review policies from other states.
- The committee recommends changing the policies to working with people with “special needs,” such as mental illness, developmental disabilities, addiction and age, rather than the current language of “handling the mentally ill.”
- The revised and new policies will focus on responding to a crisis, as well as how to interact with people with “special needs.” The policies will also be designed to protect police officers as well as the public.
o **Community Involvement/Engagement Committee:**
  - Ed Stockhausen reported that the committee met and views their responsibility as ensuring that the Mental Health Advisory Committee meets in all neighborhoods.
  - The committee members identified police districts, recreation centers, schools, and churches as locations that would be beneficial to host meetings and other opportunities to help build relationships between the Cleveland police force, the general public, and the behavioral health community.
  - The committee also discussed the option of utilizing Facebook and other social media sites to promote their work and opportunities for dialogue. Ideas centered on making sure that police know their communities and resources, supporting bias-free policing, and creating a sense of unity in the community.
  - During the next committee meeting a representative from the Cleveland Division of Police will speak about what the police are currently doing to foster relationships with the community, such as through the Police Relations Committee.
  - The committee will develop a community engagement plan.

o **Diversion Committee:**
  - Sue Neth reported that the committee completed a process mapping session from the point of contact with Cleveland Division of Police to the resolution of the situation.
  - They discussed what types of diversion or disposition currently exists, including arrest, release, or diversion to hospital or treatment, including the process.
  - They also talked about identifying other committee members.

- There was a question regarding the $200,000 Federal Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program Grant. Mr. Denihan explained that Cleveland was selected for the development of a Mental Health Response Team pilot program in the 2nd Police District that would allow civilian mental health professionals to be on the scene in case the police need special assistance with diffusing a mental health situation. This program would operate 7 days a week for 8 hours in the late afternoon to early evening. Mr. Denihan stressed this team is not to replace or reduce the responsibility of CIT officers on daily calls. The team is for special circumstances that require mental health professionals. Pilot would run for two years. ADAMHS Board will provide a $300,000 match.

- Mr. Denihan and Mr. Eckart decided that the Executive Committee will meet at the call of the Chair, and will be held at the ADAMHS Board.

- After reviewing the results of the Survey Monkey, it was best to establish regular meetings dates for the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee. The Mental Health Response Advisory Committee will meet the Second Monday of every month, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Yvonne Pointer from the City of Cleveland will work to set the locations for each of the meetings. The time, dates and locations will also be posted on our Web site.

- Monday, November 9, 2015
- Monday, December 14, 2015
- Monday, January 11, 2016
- Monday, February 8, 2016
- Monday, March 14, 2016
- Monday, April 11, 2016
- Monday, May 9, 2016
- Monday, June 13, 2016
- Monday, July 11, 2016
- Monday, August 8, 2016
- Monday, September 12, 2016
- Monday, October 10, 2016
- Monday, November 14, 2016
- Monday, December 12, 2016

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.