

**Mental Health Response Advisory Committee Meeting  
November 9, 2015 Highlights  
Community Room: 3<sup>rd</sup> District Police Department**

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

**Committee Members:** **Michael Baskin**, NAMI Greater Cleveland; **Mary Bazie**, Hitchcock Center for Women; **Doreen Berts**; Informing our Children; **Jennifer Blumhagen**, Applewood Centers; **Richard Cirillo**, Cuyahoga County Board of DD; **Sgt. Melissa Dawson**; Cleveland Police; **Judge Hollie Gallagher**, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas; **John Garrity, Ph.D.**, Director of QI/Evaluation & Research; **Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr.**, ADAMHS Board & United Pastors in Mission; **Janice Gonzalez**, Cleveland Clinic; **Orlando Grant**, Life Exchange Center; **Valeria Harper**, Chief Operating Officer; **Larry Heller**, Greater Cleveland Congregations; **Leslie Koblentz, MD**, St. Vincent Charity Hospital & Cuyahoga County Jail; **Kyle Miller**, Sisters of Charity Health System; **Mark Munetz, MD**, Northeast Ohio Medical University Ohio Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence; **Janet Montoya**, MetroHealth; **Marie Nemec**, Cuyahoga County Probation, **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; **Judy Peters**, The Centers; **Stephania Pryor**; Cuyahoga County Probation; **Lt. James Purcell**, Cleveland Police; **Erica Robinson**; **Charles See**; **Tej Singh**; **Tyrone Shabazz**, Cleveland Rise; **Judge Joan Synenberg**; Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas; **Alethea Thomas**; **Heather Tonsing Volosin**, Assistant United States Attorney; **Mike Woody**, NEOMED-CTCCOE.

**Community Police Commission Liaison:** **Kathleen Clegg, MD**, University Hospitals

- Mr. Denihan opened the meeting with introductions at 9:02 a.m. and advised the committee that Ed Eckart was unable to attend the meeting.
  - He made special note that Dr. Kathleen Clegg was present and representing the Community Police Commission, and that Heather Tonsing Volosin was in attendance and representing the U.S. Attorney's Office - Northern District of Ohio.
- The Committee approved the October 9, 2015 meeting summary which was accepted as written.
- Mr. Denihan updated the group on the October 20, 2015, meeting that the Consent Decree Monitor - Matthew Barge, Vice President of the Police Assessment Resource Center (PARC) and Randolph Dupont, Ph.D., University of Memphis. Charles See, a local advocate contracting with PARC and Scott Osiecki, Director of External Affairs were also in the meeting. A major topic of discussion was the reporting requirements and how the MHRAC will interact with PARC and the Police Commission.
- Mr. Denihan stated that we provided the DRAFT General Police Order for Crisis Intervention and the CIT Stat Sheet for PARC's review and recommendations. The recommendations were provided to the MHRAC. Mr. Denihan asked that the Data Committee review the CIT State Sheet recommendations and that the Policy Committee review the General Police Order recommendations. Both committees will report back to the entire MHRAC. It was noted that the police are currently using and completing the previous CIT Stat Sheet.
- Members of the MHRAC were provided with a compilation of the responses to the Member Expertise Forms that were completed during the October 9, 2015 MHRAC meeting. Several people who were not present at the October meeting completed the form during this meeting. The form will also be e-mailed to all members to complete.

- Mr. Denihan and Deputy Chief Joellen O’Neill introduced the committee to Lt. James Purcell, who was selected for the CIT Coordinator position with the Cleveland Division of Police. This position was prescribed by the Consent Decree. Lt. Purcell will soon be promoted to a Captain.
- Mr. Denihan asked each sub-committee chair to provide a report.
  - **Community Involvement/Engagement Committee:**
    - Judy Peters reported that Deputy Chief O’Neill attended the committee meeting and informed the group what police are already doing to interact with the community.
    - The committee suggested that the mental health and addiction treatment and recovery community have a presence at community/police meetings to answer any questions or offer referrals for services.
    - The committee also suggests that officers have a “street card” of available resources in each police district.
    - The option of utilizing Facebook and other social media sites to promote their work and opportunities for dialogue was revisited.

Mr. Denihan stressed that members of the Community Involvement/Engagement Committee should not take over the monthly community/police meetings. He suggested that committee members report out during the meetings to let attendees know what this group is doing.

- **Data Committee:**
  - Dr. Garrity reported that the committee continues to meet.
  - ADAMHS Board staff is entering information collected from the CIT Stat Sheets from 2013, 2014 and 2015 and using information from the Cleveland Division of Police CAD reporting System to develop a baseline of empirical data.
  - So far 987 CIT State Sheets have been entered from 2014 and 300 from 2015.
  - Types of data being analyzed includes: diagnosis, response, location, ethnicity, age, etc.
  - Dr. Garrity reminded the group that this data will not include the names of people living with mental illness and or addictions.

During the committee report, it was suggested that a glossary of police and behavioral health terms and acronyms be developed and shared.

- **Diversions Committee:**
  - Sue Neth reported that the Data Committee is coordinating efforts with the police Review Committee to address any overlap issues.
  - The committee is looking at the use of drop-off centers in other parts of the country.
  - The committee continues its process mapping strategy to create a pictorial of initial contact with the police to make suggestions on the best point or points that diversion could occur.
  - The committee is looking for additional committee members.
  - The committee is planning its next meeting from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. at North Star on December 3, 2015.

Ms. Neth informed the group about the SAMHSA grant for Sequential Intercept Mapping to identify diversion opportunities. Dr. Munetz responded that the Gain’s Center has been trained by SAMSHA in the process. Ms. Neth said that she would be in contact with him.

Mr. Denihan informed Ms. Neth that NAMI Ohio President Bob Spada is interested in serving on the Diversions Committee.

○ **Policy Review Committee:**

- Judge Hollie Gallagher reported that the committee met on October 29.
- The group focused on the population that we want to serve, including the language and word choices that we are and will be using. The group suggested using “people in crisis”
- The committee reviewed the Cleveland policy and realized that the current policy is very open-ended.
- The group is reviewing policies from other cities, such as Charlotte, Cincinnati, New Orleans, etc., and are identifying what they would like to see in Cleveland’s policies.
- Some recommendations for Cleveland’s policies will be to include more specific examples of what the police should look for, such as behaviors, as well as examples of de-escalation -- but not be too specific to create a lengthy policy.
- The committee also would like the policies to reflect when to match-up first responders with social service agencies.

During the report it was suggested that the committee review Portland’s policies because the policies expressly refer to mental health issues. The Judge responded that it may already be included in the vast amount of policies that were provided to the group by Gabrielle Celeste, and that they will review them.

A concern was raised as to when EMS is called, rather than the police. Some people believe that EMS is not being dispatched enough. It was suggested that someone from EMS be asked to join the MHRAC. Mr. Denihan agreed and will speak with Ed Eckart to ask for a representative.

○ **Training Committee:**

- Sergeant Melissia Dawson reported that the committee discussed the recent decision to have each recruit in the police academy take the 40-hours of CIT Training.
  - Recruits are scheduled to receive 20-hours of CIT training starting in January 2016.
  - Sergeant Dawson has arranged to speak with the recent (October 2015) graduates/officers after their six-month probation to discuss if the training was beneficial and how they feel about the training.
  - The group felt that the training of dispatchers and supervisors should be considered a priority, along with the eight-hours of mental health training for all officers and refresher courses for existing CIT Officers.
  - The committee also continues to discuss the incorporation of other trainings, such as NAPPI (Non-Abusive Physical and Psychological Intervention).
  - The committee also feels that it is important for families of people living with mental illness to be trained on how to request assistance when calling 911. It was suggested that NAMI could provide the trainings.
  - The committee suggests that the ADAMHS Board hire a full-time CIT Coordinator.
- Mr. Denihan stated that the staff of the Board, providers and the CPD will meet soon to discuss implementation of the Mental Health Response Team pilot program in the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.