

**Mental Health Response Advisory Committee Meeting  
January 11, 2016 Highlights  
The Life Exchange Center**

**Present:**      **Chair:**      **William M. Denihan**, ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County  
                  **Co-chair:**    **Ed Eckart**, City of Cleveland

**Committee Members:** **Yolanda Armstrong**, Big Brothers Big Sisters; **Carole Ballard**, ADAMHS Board Crisis Intervention Team Program Officer; **Mary Bazie**, Hitchcock Center for Women; **Doreen Berts**, Informing Our Children; **Richard Cirillo**, Cuyahoga County Board of DD; **Rosemary Creeden**, FrontLine Service; **Sgt. Melissa Dawson**, Cleveland Police; **Tara Foxworth**, Hitchcock Center for Women; **Judge Hollie Gallagher**, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas; **John Garrity, Ph.D.**, ADAMHS Board Director of QI/Evaluation & Research; **Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstein, Sr.**, ADAMHS Board & United Pastors in Mission; **Orlando Grant**, Life Exchange Center; **Valeria Harper**, ADAMHS Board Vice President of Operations; **Larry Heller**, Greater Cleveland Congregations; **Vincent Holland**, **Kyle Miller**, Sisters of Charity Health System; **Thomas Minshull**, United Way; **Mark Munetz, MD**, Northeast Ohio Medical University Ohio Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence; **Marie Nemec**, Cuyahoga County Probation, **Susan Neth**, FrontLine Service; **Deputy Chief Joellen O'Neill**, Cleveland Police; **Scott Osiecki**, ADAMHS Board Chief of External Affairs; **Rosie Palfy**, Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services Advisory Board; **Meghan Patton**, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas; **Yvonne Pointer**, City of Cleveland; **Captain Jim Purcell**, Cleveland Police; **Ellen Riehm**, NAMI Greater Cleveland; **Dr. Bob Ronis**, University Hospitals; **Kathy Stoll**; **Tej Singh**; **Judge Joan Synenberg**, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas; **Heather Tonsing Volosin**, Department of Justice; **Luis Vazquez**, Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry; **Mike Woody**, NEOMED-CTCCOE.

**Consent Decree Monitor:** **Matthew Barge**, Police Assessment Resource Center.  
**Dr. Randy Dupont**, The University of Memphis

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

**Public:**      **Ciara Miller**

- Mr. Denihan opened the meeting with introductions at 9:06 a.m. and thanked everyone for attending despite the winter weather. He also thank, Orlando Grant for hosting the meeting at The Life Exchange Center. Mr. Grant provided an overview of The Life Exchange Center and offered tours following the meeting.
- The Committee approved the December 14, 2015 meeting summary which was accepted as written.
- Mr. Denihan introduced Matthew Barge who updated the committee on the 1<sup>st</sup> Draft of the First-year Monitoring Plan. Mr. Barge specifically addressed how the MHRAC and the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Cleveland and the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County fit into the Monitoring Plan.

- Mr. Barge stated that the Monitoring plan is a framework with deadlines to help all parties satisfy the settlement agreement. The MOU is a plan to help the City of Cleveland with some of its responsibilities.
- Mr. Barge stated that the dates in this first draft are flexible. He asked that the MHRAC review the timelines and content pertaining the area of crisis intervention make recommendations and suggestions. He noted that the final draft of the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Monitoring Plan must be submitted to the Federal Judge on April 14, 2016.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Draft offered suggested steps to help the City of Cleveland and MHRAC to accomplish its goals of developing a Crisis Intervention Work Plan, policies and training.
- Mr. Barge stated that he and Dr. Dupont are committed to the process of working with the community. It is important to note that they are not dictating the process, but are interested in reaching a consensus on what is best moving forward. The only caveat is making sure that everyone is speaking a common language and what we can expect when the CPD interacts with public.
- There was a question about the MHRAC 2015 Report that is a requirement of the MOU that is due at the end of January. Mr. Barge commented on the uniqueness of the MHRAC that the group is part of the Settlement Agreement and was formed under a MOU – a partnership - between the City and the ADAMHS Board to fulfill the requirement. The MHRAC has a strong foundation of partnering with existing players and not starting from scratch is very valuable.
- From the Court standpoint, the judge is concerned about the Settlement Agreement requirements being implemented. Mr. Barge advised that the MHRAC be mindful to satisfy the requirement of both the settlement agreement and the MOU. He also reminded us that this Monitoring Plan is a draft and the deadlines are up for discussion. The monitors understand that adjustments may have to be made.
- Mr. Eckart thanks Mr. Barge and stated that the timelines will be reviewed and discussed with the MHRAC sub-committee Chairs and Co-chairs. He added that it is important to maintain the committee process and acknowledge the committee involvement and work that has completed, especially as the majority of committee and sub-committee members are volunteering their time.
- Mr. Denihan added that the sub-committees will continue to have open dialogue and receive information and recommendations to the advisory committee, which will provide recommendations to the CPD and the City, which will work with the monitoring team on deliverables.
- Mr. Denihan asked each sub-committee chair to provide a report.
  - Community Involvement/Engagement Committee:
    - Ed Stockhausen, Chair, was not able to attend the meeting, but provided a written report.
    - Committee will meet monthly at 9:00 a.m., on the first Monday of each month, most likely at The Centers for Families and Children, with the next meeting set for February 1, 2016.

- The committee officially submitted its 5 recommendations:
    - Develop and Maintain Resource Guides for CDP Officers and for the General Public
    - Build and Nurture Community Connections, especially with Behavioral Health Providers: Establish and nurture relationships between CDP officers, behavioral health providers, and the community by organizing events and connecting through community meetings throughout 2016.
    - Connect through Social Media: The CDP, each district's Community-Police Relations Committee, and local mental health and addiction agencies need to connect on Facebook and other social media platforms in order to stay informed of what is happening in each other's worlds.
    - Consider Creating & Airing Public Service Announcements: It is important to inform the public about the work that is being done in relation to the Consent Decree. The public will want to know about Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training, how CIT improves public safety, and how they should talk make it clear to 911 dispatchers when a mental health or drug addiction crisis is involved in an emergency situation.
    - Streamline and Increase Cross-Communication among Consent Decree and Community Committees: The MHRAC should work with the CDP, the City of Cleveland, the City of Cleveland Department of Community Relations, and the Community Police Commission to identify ways to reduce redundancies, increase the value of work, and strengthen the network of parties interested in the Consent Decree's success. Already, there seem to be many moving parts, and it is not always clear who is working on what projects or if there is sufficient communication between all these groups.
- Dr. John Garrity provided an update on the Data Committee:
  - The committee continues to exam its preliminary analysis of data collected from the CIT Stat sheets and reports to finalize it for the MHRAC 2015 Report.
  - The group was meeting directly after this MHAC meeting.
- Sue Neth provided an update on the Diversion Committee:
  - The committee is meeting today (12/14/15) from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to further discuss the process of diverting a person with a mental illness and/or addiction issue from the criminal justice center to treatment.
  - Dr. DuPont has been offering technical assistance to the committee.
  - The group continues to examine the development of a drop in site that the CPD or the general public can participate in pre-screening for behavioral health concerns and receive information and referral. San Antonio Texas and Dade County Florida have similar programs. She also stated that NAMI Ohio is supportive of diversion programs.
- Judge Gallagher provided an update on the Policy Committee.
  - Judge Gallagher reiterated the committee's charge to serve as the CPD policy review and response group.
  - The committee has been reviewing policies from CPD and other cities to make recommendations on best practices.

- Judge Synenberg added that it is important that we are all using the same language in the policies and found it helpful to see that the other cities used the same language and definitions.
    - The committee will meet at 2:00 p.m., on the first Thursday of every month in Judge Gallagher's Chambers.
  - Kyle provided the update on training.
    - The committee has been focusing on the training officers are receiving. They have been reviewing and making recommendations on the CIT training curriculum and reviewing national models.
    - Recommendations include:
      - Ensuring CIT class size to a maximum of 30 participants with a special focus on officers that volunteer and working on patrol.
      - Offering 13 hours of training with theory/education opportunities at the beginning of the week provided by a combination of providers/experts in the field and experienced CIT officers.
      - Increasing training in de-escalation tactics with role playing to 13 hours.
      - Increasing in-person site visits to 8 hours and include homeless services, Veterans' Affairs Center and a considerable amount of time at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center Psychiatric Emergency Department.
      - Adding the "Pink Slipping" process to the legal education component.
      - Ensuring Mental Health Education includes:
        - Mental Health 101.
        - Adult and children mental health concerns.
        - Elder care – including hoarding.
        - Developmental Disabilities and Autism.
        - Psychopharmacology.
        - Individuals and families of individuals in recovery from serious mental illness.
        - Cultural competency.
- Captain Purcell provided an update on the Crisis Co-responder Team Program.
  - The CPD and Frontline are moving forward on interviewing two officers and two staff members from Frontline for the team. The CPD and Frontline are sharing the interview process before the final candidates are selected.
  - The Co-responder Team will operate in the Second District from 2:00 p.m. through midnight. This time was selected based on an analysis on when the most behavioral health issue calls are received.
  - Mr. Denihan added that we need to understand why the police are being called frequently by the same people and use this information to find and fill gaps in our continuum of care.
- Dr. Clegg stated that she is attending the MHRAC meetings to provide updates to the Police Commission on the progress being made by the committee and she appreciates the sub-committee reports. She also said that the police commission is paying attention to make sure that effort are not being duplicated.

- Ms. Singh congratulated Deputy Chief O'Neill for a good experience she had working with her On a community issue regarding people confusing Indian Sikhs who wear turbans with terrorists. The police and the Sikhs worked together to make a presentation to the community and held a general discussion and share information. The community was impressed with the police department. She also had another good experience in referring a member of the community living in a domestic violence situation and advised her to go the police because of the improved image of police in the community.
- Mr. Denihan thanked everyone for their participation, Mr. Grant for hosting the meeting, and reminded everyone about two meetings with the Settlement Agreement Monitors to offer further input into the Draft of the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Monitoring Plan that were being held on January 11, 2016 and January 12, 2016, at the Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry. He also reminded the group about a Public Forum: First Year Conversation that was being held on January 16, 2016, sponsored by Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition.
- The meeting concluded at 10:15 a.m.