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ADAMHS Board Elects New Slate of Officers

CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO – At its June General Meeting, the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County elected a new slate of officers for the term of July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

Eugenia Cash, LSW, MSSA, CDCA, was elected to Chair; **David E. Biegel, Ph.D.**, was elected to Vice Chair, and **Pythias D. Jones, MD**, was elected to Second Vice Chair.

- **Eugenie Cash, LSW, MSSA, CDCA, Chair**, is the Flexible Content Expert/Administrator External Supports for the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. She has worked on behalf of young people in our communities since 1999. She previously served as the Executive Director of Youth and Support Services/External Humanware Administrator for the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, and Vice Chair and Second Vice Chair of the ADAMHS Board. Ms. Cash has over 25 years of social work experience and formerly served as a social worker with Meridia SouthPointe/Meridia in Euclid, the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, and MetroHealth Medical Center. She also worked with the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Cuyahoga County Department of Health and Human Services. She is affiliated with the Women's Christian Ministry of the Historic Greater Friendship Baptist Church, the National Association of Social Workers and once served on the Office of Urban Health Advisory Board.

"I have served diligently and passionately in my roles as Second Vice Chair and Vice Chair and ensured ongoing care and support for people living with mental illness and addictions in Cuyahoga County," stated Ms. Cash. "That passion, dedication, commitment and my experience with advocacy will amplify in my role as Chair to ensure that the voices of the people we serve are heard by our local and state legislators."

Ms. Cash is a resident of Cleveland, Ohio.

- **David E. Biegel, Ph.D., Vice Chair**, is the Henry L. Zucker Professor of Social Work Practice and Professor of Psychiatry and Sociology at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University. He currently serves as Co-Director MSASS Center on Substance Abuse and Mental Illness and as Consultant to the Ohio Substance Abuse and Mental Illness Coordinating Center of Excellence. Dr. Biegel has been a faculty member at the Mandel School since 1987. He has been a member of the ADAMHS Board since 2010, serving as Vice Chair of its Planning & Oversight Committee and Chair of the Finance and Operations Committee.

Dr. Biegel said, "Over the past two decades I focused my research on the impact of chronic illnesses on families, persons living with severe and persistent mental illness and individuals with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders. This experience and my new role as Vice Chair will allow me to ensure that evidence-based practices are used and that evaluation of programs funded by the Board will continue."

Dr. Biegel is a resident of Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

- **Pythias D. Jones, MD, Second Vice Chair**, is a Psychiatrist for the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and has served on the ADAMHS Board as the Chair of the Planning and Oversight Committee and member of the Finance Committee. He is affiliated with the Cleveland Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the Cleveland Psychiatric Society, the Cleveland Academy of Medicine and the Ohio State Medical Association.

Dr. Jones said, "I am eager to continue my role in serving the ADAMHS Board as Second Vice Chair. I will assist the Board in planning and making decisions about integrated physical and behavioral health care for people living with mental illness and/or addictions."

Dr. Jones is a resident of Shaker Heights, Ohio.

Harvey A. Snider, Esq., former Board Chair stated, "I am turning the role of Chair over to Ms. Eugenia Cash, a very competent and compassionate individual who will conscientiously guide the Board through our continuously changing environment. I am remaining on the Board and eagerly look forward to Ms. Cash's leadership."

The volunteer Board of Directors has the legal responsibility and authority for the planning, funding and monitoring of community mental health and alcohol and other addiction treatment services in Cuyahoga County delivered through its network of provider agencies. Under Ohio law, the ADAMHS Board is one of 50 Boards coordinating the public behavioral health system in Ohio.

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Editor's Note: Photos of the newly elected slate of officers and all of the ADAMHS Board of Directors are posted on the Board's Web site at: <http://adamhscc.org/en-US/board-members.aspx>