



Bringing Mental Illness Out of the Shadows



(Left-right) William M. Denihan, CEO, ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County; Michael Baskin, Executive Director, NAMI Greater Cleveland; Marsha Blanks, Program Director, NAMI Greater Cleveland; Mary Warr, ADAMHS Board Member and Eugenia Cash, ADAMHS Board Chair advocate for mental health reform at the Republican National Convention on July 19.

♦ On July 19, during the **Republican National Convention (RNC)**, NAMI Ohio, in collaboration with Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation, The Woodruff Foundation, NAMI National, NAMI of Greater Cleveland, the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County, Murtis Taylor Community Mental Health Center, The Magnolia Clubhouse and others, hosted an event to highlight the need for mental health reform; *Bringing Mental Illness Out of the Shadows*.

♦ I was honored to welcome this group of respected delegates, community leaders, professionals, advocates and clients to Cleveland. Eugenia Cash, Board Chair; Mary Warr, Board Member and Chair of the Faith-Based Outreach Committee; Frank Brickner, Chief Financial Officer; Scott Osiecki, Chief of External Affairs and Carole Ballard, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program Officer also attended this event.

♦ **Former Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Newt Gingrich**, served as keynote speaker and was joined by other national

and state policy leaders, as well as mental health leaders, to talk about the need to develop meaningful mental health reforms that provide for individuals in need, ensure our veterans are cared for, and combat the suicide crisis in our country. In order to ensure that this effort is completely non-partisan, key stakeholder groups are also engaging in a parallel effort to include similar language in the platform of the Democratic National Committee's (DNC) Convention in Philadelphia.

♦ Special thanks and recognition to NAMI Ohio Executive Director Terry Russell and the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation for putting together this event.

Causes for Addiction Solutions

♦ Facing Addiction, a national non-profit organization dedicated to finding solutions to the addiction crisis by unifying the voice of the over 45 million Americans and their families directly impacted by addiction, hosted its first ever Caucus for Addiction Solutions at the Republican National Convention on July 19.

♦ I attended this event and joined the discussion that included input from experts in the field on the key issues surrounding addiction including the Comprehensive Addiction & Recovery Act (CARA), Humanizing Addiction - for the afflicted & the affected; Suffering From Addiction Is Not A Crime - Reforming Public Safety Responses; Expansion of Prevention, Screening, and Early Intervention; Promoting Multiple Pathways of Recovery for Individuals and their Families and Mainstreaming Addiction Health Services.

U.S. Surgeon General Visits St. Vincent

♦ The U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy traveled to St. Vincent Charity Medical Center's Rosary Hall on July 12 to hear from health care providers, community members and advocates on what is being done locally and what needs to be done nationally to address the opioid crisis.

♦ I was able to participate in this discussion and left hopeful that our community is working collaboratively to create a solution.

♦ Dr. Murthy's concerns about this epidemic mirrored the concerns of the Board, our providers and our community. We need to expand capacity for treatment and recovery resources while also increasing funding for prevention and community awareness that mental illness and addiction are brain diseases, that treatment works and that people do recover.



William M. Denihan, CEO, of the ADAMHS Board (second from right) with U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy and behavioral health specialists and advocates met to discuss the nation's opioid epidemic at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center's Rosary Hall on July 12.

CIT Graduation



William M. Denihan, CEO, of the ADAMHS Board (front row, center) with 33 newly graduated Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Trained police officers from various police departments in Cuyahoga County.

◆ The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training program graduated 33 officers on July 1. The officers were from police departments of Woodmere; University Circle; Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA); University Hospitals; Garfield; Cleveland Municipal Court; Brooklyn; Newburgh Heights; Notre Dame College; Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office and Brook Park.

◆ The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County has trained approximately 1,200 law enforcement professionals over the past 10 years. CIT training provides guidance and the tools needed to police and dispatch officers on how to interact with people with mental illness and/

or drug addictions and divert nonviolent people, when appropriate to a designated diversion and treatment point, rather than to jail. Our training is based on the nationally recognized Memphis Crisis Intervention Team model. The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County offers the training free of charge.

PEP Summit

◆ I attended Positive Education Program's Thinking Beyond the Possible for Our Kids summit July 6-7. This Appreciative Inquiry Summit focused on how to create positive growth and change for children and families in our network, strengthen services in our community and increase education compliance expectations related to Medicaid funding.

Cover2 Resources

◆ I was interviewed by Greg McNeil, founder of Cover2 Resources, a 501c3 nonprofit dedicated to connecting families of opiate addicts with the resources they need to help a loved one conquer addiction. Mr. McNeil started Cover2 in honor of his late son Sam, who passed away from a heroin overdose. My full podcast interview about local resources is available on their website: www.cover2.org.

OACBHA Meeting

◆ The Ohio Associated of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) hosted a Medicaid/MediCare meeting on July 15 attended by myself, Frank Brickner, Chief Financial Officer, and Scott Osiecki, Chief of External Affairs.

Interns



(Left-right) Tonya Birney, Training Officer, with Jeanna Cobb, ADAMHS Board intern, monitor an ADAMHS Board workshop on psychiatric medications as part of Jeanna's internship shadowing the External Affairs Department.

monitored Dr. Martin's workshop on psychiatric medications. Point Park University has accepted Jeannea where she will double major in Business Administration and Psychology. She also plans to continue her dance career on the new traveling competitive dance team at Point Park, as well as furthering her training at the PGH Millennium Dance Complex this upcoming fall.

◆ We thank Melitine and Jeannea for their efforts helping our staff and wish them both much success in their future endeavors.

Heroin Presentation



◆ I spoke to a wide range of behavioral health professionals at Buckeye Health Plan's Quarterly Networking Meeting on June 29 with Katie Boland, External Affairs Officer, and Brian Flynn, Regional Sales Manager, WOIO TV, about our opioid/heroin/fentanyl epidemic and resources for help including prevention, treatment and recovery resources.

◆ Our presentation and powerful video featuring local recovery advocates and experts is available on our website at www.adamhsc.org.

William M. Denihan, CEO, of the ADAMHS Board speaks to a wide range of behavioral health professionals about our community's opioid/heroin/fentanyl epidemic at Buckeye Health's Quarterly Networking Meeting on June 29.

VoiceltRadio.com Interview

◆ VoiceltRadio.com interviewed me on June 27 about the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County and our work in the community to provide mental health, addiction and recovery services to our community. The interview is available at on their website, www.voiceitradio.com.

◆ This summer, the Board had the pleasure of hosting two summer interns.

◆ Melitine Pikakos interned under Linda Torbert, Children's Projects Administrator, and Danei Chavez, Behavioral Health Prevention Specialist, June 7 through July 13. Melitine has an interest in the psychology field, enjoys research and is currently a student advisor. This internship was in collaboration with Youth Opportunities Unlimited, Bard Early College High School and Levin College. The Y. O. U. Pathways Internship Program places teens with professional mentors in career field experiences, allowing them to apply the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to a real world environment.

◆ Jeanna Cobb, a graduate of Beaumont School, completed her senior project with the External Affairs Department shadowing Tonya Birney, Training Officer, May 16 through May 27. During her two week shadowing experience, Jeannea completed work assignments, attended meetings and trainings, assisted with the art display at annual meeting and

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"It does not matter how slow you go as long as you do not stop."

- Confucius

Teacher, editor, politician, philosopher
(551 BC - 479 BC)

CARA Act Passed

- ◆ Thank you to the hard work of our congress and to our President for signing the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (S. 524/H.R. 953) also known as CARA into law on July 22. It was most encouraging to see unanimous bipartisan support.
- ◆ CARA establishes a comprehensive, coordinated, balanced strategy through enhanced grant programs that would expand prevention and education efforts while also promoting treatment and recovery.
- ◆ The bill was introduced in the House by Representatives Jim Sensenbrenner (R-WI) and Tim Ryan (D-OH) and was supported by more than 100 cosponsors.
- ◆ Highlights of the comprehensive act include:

- Expand prevention and educational efforts—particularly aimed at teens, parents and other caretakers, and aging populations—to prevent the abuse of methamphetamines, opioids and heroin, and to promote treatment and recovery.
- Expand the availability of naloxone to law enforcement agencies and other first responders to help in the reversal of overdoses to save lives.
- Expand resources to identify and treat incarcerated individuals suffering from addiction disorders promptly by collaborating with criminal justice stakeholders and by providing evidence-based treatment.
- Expand disposal sites for unwanted prescription medications to keep them out of the hands of our children and adolescents.
- Launch an evidence-based opioid and heroin treatment and intervention program to expand best practices throughout the country.
- Launch a medication assisted treatment and intervention demonstration program.
- Strengthen prescription drug monitoring programs to help states monitor and track prescription drug diversion and to help at-risk individuals access services.

Mental Health Response Advisory Committee Update

- ◆ It was another busy month for the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC). The group met on July 11 and reviewed, discussed and approved the Proposed Final Draft Crisis Intervention Response Policy and the Proposed Final Draft CIT Program Policy. The policies were submitted to the Monitoring Team on July 12 for additional comments.
- ◆ The Proposed Final Draft of the 8-Hour Responding to Individuals in Crisis Training curriculum including lesson plans and PowerPoint presentations was also reviewed and approved by the committee for submission to the Monitoring Team on July 11 in accordance with the 2016 Crisis Intervention Work Plan.
- ◆ As the MHRAC is referenced in the proposed policies, a discussion was had regarding the suggestion of changing the name of the committee to the Behavioral Health Response Advisory Committee to reflect that the group is also concerned about addictions in addition to mental health. After consideration, the group felt it best to keep the name of the committee as is for several reasons, including the memorandum of understanding, the policies and a large segment of the population does not care for the term behavioral health as it does not reflect that mental illness and addictions are biological-based brain disorders.
- ◆ MHRAC will meet next on Monday, August 8, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. at the Board's offices. During this meeting there will be an official vote on the Monitoring Team's recommendation that one of the Cleveland Police Officers be co-chair of the committee. Captain James Purcell was recommended by the MHRAC during the July meeting. Randolph Dupont, PhD, Professor and Clinical Psychologist, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Memphis will be joining the meeting. Dr. Dupont is on the Monitoring Team.

Re-Entry Meeting

- ◆ A Re-Entry Coalition meeting was held on July 15. I attended this meeting with about 50 other members of the coalition.

CAAA Meeting

- ◆ I visited Community Action Against Addiction, Inc. at 5209 Euclid Avenue to look at a pending residential program site.

Akron Roundtable

- ◆ The Honorable Patrick J. Kennedy, former member of the U.S. House of Representatives and lead sponsor of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008, served as the keynote speaker at the July 21 Akron Roundtable; *My Journey: Making Mental Health Essential Health*, presented by the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation. I attended this event with representatives from the National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI).

Congratulations Carole Ballard

- ◆ Congratulations to Carole Ballard, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program Officer, who graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Citizens Academy and completed the Certified CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) Training Coordinator Course.

- ◆ The FBI uses the Citizens Academy program to facilitate dialogue within the community and establish partnerships with those it serves. The program allows the FBI to educate community leaders on the Bureau's scope of responsibility and mission. Participants receive an inside look at the FBI, learning about the structure and operations of the FBI; discussing investigative techniques used in Criminal, Counterintelligence and terrorism investigations. The purpose of the Citizens Academy is to allow the Bureau to network with well established business, civic, religious and educational leaders so they can then serve as our ambassadors throughout their sphere of influence.

- ◆ On April 27, Carole completed the Certified CIT Coordinator Course at the 2016 CIT International Conference in Chicago. Developed for persons who are serving as CIT Coordinators, the course focuses on the roles and responsibilities of CIT Coordinators as they develop, deliver, and enhance the CIT Program in their own communities. There are currently nine certified professionals in Ohio- Carole is the only Certified CIT Coordinator in Cuyahoga County. The CIT Coordinators of Ohio will facilitate the Certification Course in Ohio in the near future.



Carole Ballard, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program Officer, graduated from the FBI Citizens Academy and completed the Certified CIT Training Course.