Consolidation Planning Teams Offer Recommendations

On the request of William M. Denihan, CEO of the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board (CCCMHB), and Russell S. Kaye, Ph.D., Executive Director of the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board of Cuyahoga County (ADASBCC), the Co-Chairs of the Consolidation Planning Teams have submitted recommendations on staffing, duties and space requirements for each department of the new behavioral health board.

Mr. Denihan and Dr. Kaye will consider each team’s recommendation when developing the table of organization for the new board.

Facilitator Update

The Consolidation Executive Steering Committee (ESC) developed and issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Professional Services on January 18 to facilitate the consolidation planning process and the implementation of a business strategy.

A Bidders’ Conference was held on January 28 to answer any questions from potential bidders. A total of five firms attended the conference.

Staff reviewed and rated the three proposals that were received and presented their review during the February 13 ESC meeting.

Mr. Denihan and Dr. Kaye, along with two staff members, met with the two finalists on February 21 to discuss narrowing the scope of work to the essentials to reduce the overall cost.

During the February 26 ESC meeting, the committee interviewed the two firms. Each firm was asked to present on their proposal and submitted a revised budget. Each committee member asked the same questions to each firm.

On March 10, Dr. Kaye and Mr. Denihan explained the committee’s overall ranking of each firm and presented a joint recommendation for the selection of one of the firms.

The committee discussed the recommendation and voted to move the recommendation to each full board so that a final recommendation can be voted on and submitted to the Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners (BOCC), who have agreed to pay for the facilitator.
During the January 31 Cuyahoga County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting, the BOCC unanimously passed a resolution accepting the Plan to Consolidate, that was jointly developed and submitted by the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board and the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board of Cuyahoga County.

The resolution also resolves that the:

- BOCC will seek state legislative authority to consolidate the boards no later than June 30, 2009.
- BOCC will ensure an equitable appointment of members to the new board, five with an interest in mental health and five with an interest in alcohol and other drug addiction programs.
- BOCC will reappoint members of the existing boards to the new board on the recommendations of the existing boards, with one-third of the appointments for terms of two years, one-third for three years, and one-third for four years.