



Joint Retreat Confirms Commitment

Participants in the consolidation planning process have been busy and productive over the past several months. On June 28, MCS Consulting Service facilitated a joint retreat of the CCCMHB and ADASBCC boards. Attendees engaged in an open dialogue about the decisions still to be faced as the consolidation is implemented and identified action items in key areas. There was a general commitment to move forward with a positive and constructive spirit.

New Board with Provisional Decision-Making Authority Established

A primary focus of a joint Board meeting held on July 17 was the formation of a New Board with Provisional Decision-Making Authority that will be comprised of members from the existing CCCMHB and ADASBCC boards. This body will take over the leadership and planning

work of the Executive Steering Committee (ESC) sometime early this fall. The New Board with Provisional Decision-Making Authority is likely to become the New Consolidated Board on July 1, 2009.

What is the New Board with Provisional Decision-Making Authority's responsibility?

- ❖ It will make provisional decisions on critical issues such as personnel benefits, CEO selection, adoption of bylaws, building site selection and the official name of the new board.

- ❖ All provisional decisions of this body are to be formally ratified on July 1, 2009.

How will the members of the New Board with Provisional Decision-Making Authority be selected?

- ❖ At a joint Board meeting on July 17, members passed a resolution authorizing the

appointment of four members from each Board to serve on the Consolidated Board Membership Selection Committee. This committee will recommend 18 candidates, their terms of office and the appointing authority for each to the ESC on Sept. 22.

- ❖ New members will be selected from the existing ADASBCC and CCCMHB boards, and must have an interest in either mental health programs and facilities or alcohol or other drug addiction programs.

- ❖ The two Boards will endorse the ESC recommendation by Sept. 26 and forward to the director of mental health who will appoint four members and the director of alcohol and drug addiction services who will appoint four members. The BOCC will appoint the remaining 10 members.

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Site Committee Continues Work on Administrative Office

The Consolidation Site Committee met July 22 to consider proposals received from consultants who have expertise in locating office space. The ADASBCC and the CCCMHB Boards have authorized William M. Denihan and Russell S. Kaye to offer PMC and/or Equis Corporation a contract for services not to exceed \$60,000. PMC and Equis will develop recommended site specifications to be outlined in a public request for proposals from property owners for release in October.

New Task Groups to Help Plan Consolidation

The ADASBCC and the CCCMHB Boards voted to establish three Task Groups to aid in information gathering for both the ESC and the New Board with Provisional Decision-Making Authority throughout the consolidation process. The groups are:

- ❖ CEO Selection – Concerned with the new CEO selection.
- ❖ Board Orientation & Communications – Concerned with the two Boards' needs in relation to becoming high-functioning members of the new Board, the process of naming the new agency, and overall internal and external communications.
- ❖ Board Transition – Concerned with establishing a process and structure to support the transition of Board members in fulfilling their responsibilities related to consolidation.

Upcoming Meetings to Drive Transition Planning

Input will continue to be sought from a variety of stakeholders over the coming months. Currently, 12 staff teams are outlining the operational tasks anticipated for integrating the two organizations. A Consolidation Blueprint, or master plan, to guide the transition between now and July 1, 2009 will be the outcome of a multi-constituent retreat in October. Significant upcoming events include:

- ❖ ESC meeting – Aug. 25
- ❖ Staff consolidation co-chair retreat – Aug. 27
- ❖ County directors meeting – Sept. 11
- ❖ Provider retreat – Sept. 15
- ❖ Consumer meeting – Sept. date TBD
- ❖ Final ESC meeting – Sept. 22
- ❖ Blueprint retreat – Oct. date TBD

New Board continued

When will the New Board with Provisional Decision-Making Authority begin operating?

- ❖ After Sept. 26, the ADASBCC and CCCMHB boards will ask the BOCC to authorize the creation of the consolidated board by July 1, 2009, and to grant, via resolution, provisional decision-making authority to the 18 named members supplied by the two Boards.
- ❖ Thereafter, the New Board with Provisional Decision-Making Authority will make all decisions leading up to the dissolution of the two existing Boards; their decisions will be ratified on July 1, 2009.

Governor Strickland Signs Enabling Legislation

In June, the Ohio General Assembly passed and Governor Strickland signed HB 562, amending existing state law that pertains to consolidation activities. Language in this bill was needed to allow the Cuyahoga Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to consolidate the CCCMHB and ADASBCC.

Stakeholder Input to Be Sought on CEO Selection

The CEO Selection Task Group was convened by co-chairs Russell Johnson from ADASBCC and Dr. Lisa Thomas from CCCMHB. As part of their charge, they are articulating the qualities that the chief executive of a consolidated board should have, and suggesting a corresponding job description. Under consideration are various means of soliciting input from stakeholder groups: providers, consumers and county directors.

The New Board with Provisional Decision-Making Authority will determine the candidate ultimately, and that decision will be ratified by the New Consolidated Board.

Consolidation Update is a joint publication developed and distributed by the communication staff of the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board and the Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services Board of Cuyahoga County to keep the community informed on the consolidation process.

Consolidation Executive Steering Committee

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Joan Leeb, CCCMHB (Advisor)

William M. Denihan, CCCMHB CEO
Russell S. Kaye, Ph.D., ADASBCC Executive Director
Editors: Scott Osiecki, CCCMHB & Julie Fogel, ADASBCC