

**ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 20-02-07**

**ADAMHS BOARD EFFORTS REGARDING FIRST ROUND OPIOID SETTLEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County has been working in the trenches since the opioid epidemic began and has been responding quickly to keep up with the evolution from prescriptions to heroin and now, fentanyl and Carfentanil, by providing immediate and responsive action to aid in the treatment and recovery of individuals in Cuyahoga County, including prevention, expanding treatment services, recovery supports, peer support, harm reduction and other efforts to address barriers to treatment and recovery; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County CEO and staff were active partners in the County's opioid lawsuit efforts that resulted in settlements with the pharmaceutical companies; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County CEO, staff and providers quickly responded to a request from the Cuyahoga County Executive's Office on developing a plan and services for the best use of the \$23.1 million in Phase One Opioid Mitigation settlement funding, and has requested to be included on decisions regarding the Second Phase of the Opioid Settlement Dollars to no avail; and,

**WHEREAS**, on October 10, 2019, Cuyahoga County announced the Phase One Opioid Mitigation plan and the allocation of the \$23.1 million dollars in settlement funding from the opioid lawsuit, of which just over \$10.5 million was allocated to the ADAMHS Board to:

- Create 32 residential treatment beds (16 for men and 16 for women) at Stella Maris, Inc (\$5,433,207);
- Expand 24-hour intake access, and Partial Hospitalization and Intensive Outpatient Programs at St. Vincent Rosary Hall (\$2 million); and,
- Expand the ThriveED program, which employs peer supporters in emergency departments to connect nonfatal overdose victims to treatment, in 10 additional emergency departments throughout the County (\$3,068,000); and,

**WHEREAS**, since October 2019, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County CEO, staff and providers have continuously and diligently worked with and responded to requests from the Cuyahoga County Executive's Office about releasing these dollars, including providing program descriptions and metrics; the funding has yet to be released, thus putting more residents at risk; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ADAMHS Board CEO, staff and providers worked swiftly to prepare the timelines and metrics in a requested format after a formal meeting with the County's Chief of Special Operations on January 28, 2020, and met the required deadline of February 7, 2020; and,

**WHEREAS**, unbeknownst to the ADAMHS Board, the County's Chief of Special Operations made a presentation regarding Phase One of the Opioid Settlement funds during the February 19, 2020, Cuyahoga County Council Finance Committee; once Board staff received word, after the meeting started, the CEO and Chief Financial Officer watched online and witnessed the Chief of Special Operations misrepresent the facts of the ADAMHS Board funding, programs, and metrics, which has once again delayed the disbursement of funds that are critical to addressing this emergent epidemic; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ADAMHS Board CEO immediately sent corrective action email to Cuyahoga County Council, which included proper information regarding the programs to be funded by the ADAMHS Board, timelines and metrics regarding the first round of Opioid Settlement dollars; and,

**WHEREAS**, as a result, County Council has requested that the ADAMHS Board CEO and staff present its plans at the March 3, 2020, Finance Committee meeting, which the Board of Directors supports, and has requested that this resolution be prepared and presented to Cuyahoga County Council to set the record straight.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The ADAMHS Board of Directors wants to ensure that Cuyahoga County receives the facts about the Phase One Opioid Mitigation Settlement Plan and asks Council to release the funds allocated to the ADAMHS Board related to this plan; and,
2. The ADAMHS Board of Directors requests that the ADAMHS Board be included in the planning and discussions related to Phase Two of the Opioid Settlement.

On the motion of Harvey A. Snider, Esq., seconded by Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., the foregoing resolution was adopted.

**AYES:** R. Blue, G. Boehm, C. Bryant, E. Cade, E. Caraballo, R. Fowler, B. Gohlstin, G. Howard, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, S. Killpack, S. Rosenbaum, H. Snider, M. Van Voorhis

**NAYS:** None

**DATE ADOPTED:** February 26, 2020