

**ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
OCTOBER 26, 2011**

**Committee Members Present:** Rev. Charlotte Still Noble, Pastor Charles Brown, Eugenia Cash, Rev. Benjamin Gohlstin, Sr., Pythias Jones, M.D., Harvey Snider, Ericka Thoms / **Absent:** None

**Board Staff Present:** William M. Denihan, C.E.O., John Garrity, Ph.D., Carol Krajewski, Scott Osiecki, Cassandra Richardson, Starlette Sizemore-Rice

Chairperson Rev. Charlotte Still Noble called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Without objection, the Executive Committee minutes of January 19, 2011 were approved as distributed.

**2. S.H.A.R.E.S. (SHARED HEALTH AND RECOVERY ENTERPRISE SYSTEM) / COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

Mr. Denihan reported that S.H.A.R.E.S., an information management system, was born out of a response to Ohio taking over the responsibility for administering Medicaid. Given that the state has done little to ensure that Boards responsible for administering Non-Medicaid services/funding would have a system in place, an alternative plan has been developed. Franklin and Hamilton County ADAMH Boards initially began to address the need for providing a cost-effective and efficient method of planning for such a system. Several months ago, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County was invited to join the initiative. Mr. Denihan noted that Chief Financial Officer, Cassandra Richardson, has been appointed to work with this project and represent our Board.

Ms. Richardson shared background information about the process and explained that S.H.A.R.E.S. will deal with claims and enrollment for Non-Medicaid services and will have access to both the Ohio Department of Mental Health and the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services.

Proposed Resolution No. 11-10-12, to be considered by the full Board, will authorize the ADAMHSCC to join Franklin and Hamilton ADAMH Boards in entering into a Council of Governments (COG) for the purpose of planning and development of S.H.A.R.E.S. and to provide the necessary seed funds in the amount of \$10,000 for this purpose. Mr. Denihan added that the COG will be receptive to taking other interested counties in. Once the Council of Governments is formulated, the intent is to have one Board member from each ADAMH Board serve as its representative on the COG. Rev. Noble reported that 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Harvey Snider, has agreed to serve as our Board's representative on this Council.

**3. BRIDGEWAY – CLOSE OUT / AUDIT**

Mr. Denihan summarized the background of unusual dealings discovered about agency provider, Bridgeway, Inc. When the actual situation was discovered by Bridgeway staff and reported to the ADAMHS Board, the Board notified authorities (i.e. Prosecutor's Office and Sheriff's Office) about questionable expenditures related to Bridgeway's role as fiscal agent for the S.H.A.P.E. (Self-Help and Peer Employment) agency, Tender Loving Care. A special audit was conducted by the State Auditor for the time period of 7/1/2004 through 12/31/2008. As the ADAMHS Board did not receive instructions nor recommendations for action from the state auditor, Mr. Denihan consulted the Prosecutor's Office for advice/counsel. The letter received from the Prosecutor's Office was read aloud as well as the communication written to Cuyahoga County Councilperson Greenspan.

Upon review of all documents and recognition that all expenses have been paid relative to this case, Mr. Denihan recommended that the Bridgeway audit be closed out. Mr. Snider felt that the ADAMHS Board fulfilled its due diligence by notifying authorities. Since the Board has not received further recommendations regarding legal involvement or demands, Mr. Snider supports the recommendation.

Mr. Denihan reported that Bridgeway, Inc. has done a good job of turning itself around and making significant changes that included changing management, moving away from providing CPST (community psychiatric support treatment) services, and have excelled in providing residential care.

**Motion to recommend acceptance of the C.E.O.'s recommendation to close out the Bridgeway Audit to the full Board.** MOTION: B. Gohlstin / SECOND: E. Cash AYES: C. Brown, E. Cash, B. Gohlstin, P. Jones, H. Snider, E. Thoms / NAYS: None / **Motion carried.**

#### **4. CHIEF EVALUATION / GOALS**

Rev. Noble reported that Board members annually evaluate the accomplishments of goals identified the prior year. Mr. Denihan distributed copies of the FY2011 Accomplishments and Initiatives (for the time period of July 2010 to June 2011) and the FY2012 Goals (July 2011-June 2012) for this coming year. The documents are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.

Additionally, Rev. Noble explained the process for establishing a three-member C.E.O. Performance Evaluation workgroup. The Chair participates as a workgroup member and is authorized to appoint one representative and the C.E.O. appoints his representative. Mr. Denihan selected Eugenia Cash, MSSA, LSW; while Rev. Noble chose Robert Fowler, Ph.D. The evaluation workgroup will begin to meet with Mr. Denihan and intends to bring its recommendation to the full Board during the November meeting cycle.

#### **5. PLANNING & OVERSIGHT - OPEN COMMUNITY POSITION**

Due to a resignation received from a non-Board member serving on the Planning & Oversight Committee, it is necessary to begin efforts to fill the vacancy. Mr. Denihan reported that the ADAMHS Board Bylaws stipulate that the Planning & Oversight Committee shall also constitute the standing committee on alcohol and other drug services as pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §340.022. *“Two (2) residents of the service district who are not members of the Board but are qualified, pursuant to ORC §340.022 to serve as members of the Board. One of these members shall be a person who has received or is receiving service for alcohol and other drugs, and the other person shall be a parent or other relative of such a person.”*

The Chair asked Nominating Committee Chair, Ericka Thoms, to accept the charge of addressing this issue. Rev. Noble noted that there may be several individuals who previously applied to become a Board member that may fit the specific criteria listed.

Mr. Denihan provided an update about the three county positions awaiting reappointment. Several months ago, Mr. Denihan met with the County Executive. At that time, Mr. FitzGerald did not have anyone that he was interested in appointing; however, he did have several candidates who had expressed an interest in serving on our Board. His intent is to inform Mr. Denihan if he has a viable candidate that he wishes to appoint. In the meantime, Board members in the reappointment status, according to the law, continue to serve with full authority.

#### **6. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAKEHOLDER / SUPPORT GROUP**

ADAMHS Board staff will present its budget request to the Cuyahoga County Council on November 7, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. and will follow MetroHealth. County Council wishes to have very little dialogue at this time. Mr. Denihan intends to ask for \$25 million to account for \$15 million short on the county side and the \$10 million short on the state side.

As County Council will provide opportunities for public comment on Nov. 9th and Nov. 17th, Mr. Denihan has scheduled a Stakeholder meeting on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. to roll-out information and enlist support from the community in speaking out at the public comment meetings. Mr. Snider suggested broadening the scope including other community partners. Mr. Denihan concurred and noted that he has begun to contact others as well.

#### **7. OLD/NEW BUSINESS** - None

*There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.*

*Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist*

*Approved by: Rev. Charlotte Still Noble, ADAMHS Board Chairperson*