

# ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS & ADVOCACY (CR&A) COMMITTEE

MAY 4, 2016

**Committee Members Present:** Harvey A. Snider, Esq., David E. Biegel, Ph.D., Cassi Handler, Eileen Saffran, LISW-S / **Absent:** Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., Elsie Caraballo, Richard Romaniuk, Ph.D.

**Board Staff Present:** Scott Osiecki, Chief of External Affairs, Carol Krajewski

### 1. **Call to Order & Audience Input**

Committee Chair, Harvey A. Snider, Esq., called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### 2. **Approval of Minutes**

The Community Relations & Advocacy Committee minutes from January 6, 2016 were approved as submitted.

### 3. **Legislation/Advocacy**

Mr. Osiecki distributed a written report updating the committee on Federal and State legislation and advocacy efforts focusing on mental health and addiction issues. (The summary is attached to the original minutes in Executive Unit.)

#### State:

- HB 217: Advanced Practice Registered Nurses can order Mental Health Exams
- HB 325: Pregnant Women to Seek Help with Addiction
- HB 462: Prescription Drug Offense Exemption/Police Immunity from Naloxone
- HB 523: Medical Marijuana
- Mid-biennium Budget Bill: Opiate
- HB 497: Pilot Program for Provision of Long-acting Opioid Antagonist Therapy in Prison
- SB: 300: Ability for Psychologists to Prescribe Drugs to Treat Drug Addiction/Mental Illness

#### Federal:

- S.2680: Mental Health Reform Act of 201
- S.524: Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016

Ms. Handler expressed her concern about the perceived risks involved with Psychologists being able to prescribe drugs to treat drug addiction/mental illness and noted that she would be interested in receiving additional information on this subject. Committee members agreed that contact should be made with OACBHA (Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities) to understand its perspective on this legislative effort.

### 4. **Sponsorship Requests**

Mr. Osiecki reported on the various sponsorship requests. The ADAMHS Board's Sponsorship Request Policy assists the Board and staff in determining the appropriateness of requests for sponsorships according to specific criteria. The purpose of ADAMHS Board Sponsorships is to bring awareness of recovery from alcohol and other addictions and to educate the community on behavioral health issues and the elimination of stigma for those seeking treatment for mental illness.

- a) Recovery Resources 4<sup>th</sup> Annual 2016 Run for Recovery, August 20, 2016
- b) Edna House 4<sup>th</sup> Annual "The Next Step" Race to Recovery, August 21, 2016
- c) NAMIWalks, August 27, 2016
- d) Women's Recovery Center of Greater Cleveland's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual run, jane, run, August, 2016
- e) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebrating Recovery Walk, September 25, 2016
- f) NORA Recovery Ride, August 27, 2016
- g) Epilepsy Association *erace*, October 2, 2016

**Motion to recommend approval of Sponsorship Requests presented to the Finance & Operations Committee.**

MOTION: C. Handler / SECOND: E. Saffran / AYES: D. Biegel, C. Handler, E. Saffran / NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.****5. Dedicated Mental Health/Addiction Levy Discussion**

Mr. Snider reported that he has been appointed to lead the Dedicated Mental Health/Addiction Levy Subcommittee and is currently formulating the agenda. He intends to ask this committee and other Board members for input on how to relay this information to other stakeholders and the community at large. Preparation is needed to gain support from others in the community; suggestions and feedback are most welcome.

**6. Opiate/Fentanyl Discussion and Campaign**

Mr. Osiecki referred to the alarming increase in the number of deaths related to Opiate and Fentanyl use in Cuyahoga County. If this rate of overdose deaths continues, we can expect nearly 600 people to die from a heroin or fentanyl overdose by the end of 2016. He noted that the Board has set aside funds for a Heroin Campaign. Based on information learned at the recent Opiate Conference, Opiate Task Force members felt that providing dire statistics of people dying isn't necessarily effective. Discussion followed on potential campaign messages.

Committee Input:

- Favored the statement/concept, "there is no hero in heroin."
- Advocated for prevention; secondary prevention for family members & friends.
- Target campaign component toward the medical community and their role.
- Speak to different audiences.
- Suggested doing as many things as possible.

**7. Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC) Update**

The MHRAC submitted its Work Plan to all parties. The Department of Justice is reviewing the plan and will make recommendations for revisions. On Monday, May 9th, the MHRAC will vote to submit the recommended Crisis Intervention Policies to the Monitoring Team.

Mr. Osiecki noted that he along with Crisis Intervention Team Program Officer, Carole Ballard, and Captain James Purcell, CIT Coordinator for the Cleveland Police Department, attended the National CIT Conference in Chicago. Ms. Ballard stayed an additional day and is now a certified CIT Trainer. Mr. Osiecki reported that it was a good conference and that valuable information was gathered regarding other city's initiatives under similar Consent Decrees.

**8. Recovery Oriented System of Care**

To date, our Board is ahead of many other Boards with respect to releasing the ROSC Survey and collecting data.

**9. May is Mental Health Month**

Although the ADAMHS Board focuses on mental health advocacy year round, the special activities planned for this month include:

- Behavioral Health & Human Services Career Fair on 5/11/16 – to date, 150 people have registered
- Sponsorship of Pete Earley, journalist, author and mental health advocate at the City Club
- Free training on Social Security Changes – for providers and clients
- ADAMHS Board Annual Meeting & Art Contest

Mr. Snider referenced a current state legislative action that may affect Medicaid clients. The action stipulates that those on Medicaid should pay \$99.00/month toward their health care. Mr. Snider suggested that we should check with OACBHA and NAMI Ohio for clarity on this issue in an effort to decide whether or not the Board should draft a resolution in opposition.

**10. 2016 Annual Meeting Update**

The ADAMHS Board Annual Meeting will be held at the LaCentre Conference & Banquet Facility in Westlake, OH on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. To date, 289 people have registered. As award winners will be notified on 5/5/16, additional reservations are anticipated. The target is 350 people; however, the conference room can accommodate as many as 500 people.

**11. Tracking Reports**

Media: For the time period of 1/06/16 through 5/04/16, the Board had 32 media mentions--all considered positive.

Social Media: To date, 79 Facebook posts reflect an increase of 65 Facebook likes for a total of 704 who like our page. For Twitter, we had an increase of 210 twitter followers, for a total of 870 followers. (All tracking reports are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

***There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.***

***Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist***

***Approved by: Harvey A. Snider, Esq., Community Relations & Advocacy Committee Chair***