

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

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS & ADVOCACY (CR&A) COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

**Committee Members Present:** Eugenia Cash, J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Rev. Charlotte Still Noble & Guest: Ericka Thoms, former CR&A Committee Chair / Absent: Benjamin Gohlstin, Sr., Tatiana Falcone, M.D., Richard Romaniuk

**Board Staff Present:** William M. Denihan, C.E.O., Rose Fini, Valeria Harper, Scott Osiecki, Carol Krajewski

### 1. CALL TO ORDER & AUDIENCE INPUT

Committee Vice Chair, Eugenia Cash, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.; no audience input .

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Community Relations & Advocacy Committee minutes from March 3, 2010, were reviewed. One grammatical error was noted; the minutes were approved as amended.

### 3. LEGISLATION / ADVOCACY

#### • **Enhanced Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (E-FMAP) Update**

Thanks to the Senate and President Obama, E-FMAP funds have been approved. Governor Strickland placed in the state budget this fiscal year a sum of \$500 million as a contingency effort to cover a potential loss of FMAP. Since this amount is no longer needed to cover services, it must be spent by 6/30/11. Efforts are underway to lobby for use of these funds and the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) is working to lobby the Governor's staff about the significant need for mental health services since state funding for mental health services has been devastated over the past several years.

#### • **Federal Healthcare Update**

Ms. Fini referenced the OACBHA Health Care Reform slide presentation in July and noted that a one-page summary entitled, Health Care Reform and the Behavioral Health System, summarized potential impacts on Medicaid.

- Expand Medicaid eligibility and change the eligibility criteria to cover all individuals with incomes at or below 133% (138% in Ohio) of the federal poverty level.
- The Medicaid match for this newly eligible population is paid by the federal government at 100% from 2014-2016. The federal portion then phases down to 90% by 2020.
- The newly eligible population will receive a benchmark benefit package that includes mental health & substance abuse services.
- States were given the opportunity to expand Medicaid coverage early (starting in April 2010) and receive some federal funding. In 2014, the federal government will pick up the entire cost for the expanded population. (Note: Ohio chose not to expand early.)
- Prescription Drug Coverage: Medicaid programs will be able to obtain increased drug rebates from 2%-8% depending on the type of drug.
- Enrollment simplification: States are required to set up a website through which individuals may apply for and enroll in Medicaid, CHIP, or the State Insurance Exchange by January, 2014.
- Establish a new Medicaid state plan option designed to improve coordination and collaborative care for Medicaid beneficiaries with chronic conditions, including mental illness.
  - Under this option, individuals who meet the requirement related to chronic conditions will be able to designate a provider as their "health home."
  - Health homes may be a single provider or team of providers. They will be required to meet a set of federal standards. Community mental health centers are eligible for designation as a health home.
  - This option begins on January 1, 2011, and states that those electing this option will benefit from increased FMAP of 90% for the first two years.

- **SB22: Offenders- Punishment (Prison Reform)**

Mr. Denihan noted that S.B. 22, introduced by Senator Bill Seitz (R) of Cincinnati in February 2009, and cleared the Senate Criminal Justice Committee in July 2009. H. B. 386 was introduced by former Rep. Tyrone Yates (D) in December 2009 as a companion bill to S.B. 22. He noted that it is encouraging to see that both of these bills are now beginning to gain bi-partisan support.

Both bills identify a host of ways to reduce sentencing and time spent in prison for low-threat, nonviolent inmates.

- Reduces the number of days spent in prison if the inmate participates in various programs such as substance abuse treatment, educational and vocational training.
- Reduces the prison stay for some drug charges but would require participation in a treatment program.
- Intervention in lieu of conviction for people with mental illness would be available for offenders charged with specified theft or nonsupport offenses, if the mental illness contributed to the criminal behavior.
- The bill also would raise the threshold for felony theft and other nonviolent crimes to \$1,000 from the current \$500. This would be the first increase in 14 years.
- People evading child-support obligations would no longer be sent to prison but would be diverted to a community corrections program to help them gain or keep employment while receiving counseling.

#### 4. COUNTY REFORM UPDATE

Mr. Denihan reported that the work of the various County Reform subcommittees is coming to an end. Each subcommittee must submit their recommendations this week to the County Reform Executive Team which will may release the formalized recommendations to the public within the next week or so. Discussion followed on several preliminary subcommittee recommendations. Final recommendations will also be given to all candidates running for County Executive and County Council.

Ms. Thoms attended a Candidates Forum on 8/31/10 where candidate Matt Dolan, addressed the need for administrative changes; in doing so, he referenced the ADAMHS Board consolidation as a possible model.

#### 5. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FUNDING

- **OACBHA Behavioral Health Funding Strategy**

Mr. Denihan addressed the ADAMHS Board's action in June to support the OACBHA's Finance Plan and elaborated on its three main components:

- 1) Behavioral Health Medicaid match shall be funded out of the ODJFS 525 line.
- 2) Boards shall not be required to utilize local levy funds to match Medicaid.
- 3) ODMH line items 408 and 505, as well as ODADAS line item 401 shall remain fully funded, with the dollars being allocated to communities.

At an OACBHA meeting in Columbus with state legislators on Friday, 8/27/10, Senator Mike Skindell offered to draft legislation in support of the Behavioral Health Funding Strategy in collaboration with OACBHA's Executive Director, Cheri Walter. Mr. Denihan learned that they were working on it on 9/1/10 and that it should have bi-partisan support.

- **408 Funding Strategy**

Mr. Denihan noted that this strategy is very simple - - "hold us harmless". As ODMH reviews the 408 funding formula this year, the ADAMHS Board contends that a formula change should not negatively take services away from consumers already receiving treatment in our county to give to another county. Mr. Osiecki was asked to expound on the two proposed resolutions distributed to committee and audience members. (The proposed resolutions, #10-09-01 and #10-09-02, are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

#### RESOLUTION NO. 10-09-01

**CALL FOR THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADEQUATELY FUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TO ENSURE ACCESS FOR ALL OHIOANS IN NEED OF ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Although the ADAMHS Board, in June 2010, supported the tenants of OACBHA's Finance Plan through Resolution 10-06-05, Support of Finance Plan for Sustaining Mental Health and Addiction Services, Mr. Osiecki explained that this resolution provides specifics that could be used by providers, advocates, etc. who might also wish to pass a resolution in support of this funding plan. (The "Financing Ohio's Behavioral Health System" OACBHA brochure is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

**Motion to recommend approval of Resolution No. 10-09-01 as proposed to the full Board.** MOTION: C. Noble  
SECOND: B. Fowler / AYES: E. Cash, B. Fowler, C. Noble / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

#### RESOLUTION NO. 10-09-02

#### CALL FOR THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH TO HOLD THE ADAMHS BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY HARMLESS IN THE 408 FUNDING FORMULA REVISION

Committee members noted their support of this resolution; no changes or revisions were proposed.

**Motion to recommend approval of Resolution No. 10-09-02 as proposed to the full Board.**

MOTION: C. Noble / SECOND: B. Fowler / AYES: E. Cash, B. Fowler, C. Noble / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

#### 6. **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ISSUE 15 WRAP-UP**

Mr. Osiecki highlighted the Phone Bank Report distributed. In support of the Health & Human Services Issue 15 Levy Campaign, a Central Phone Bank was located at the ADAMHS Board Offices while 13 Individual On-Site Phone Banks were held at various agencies and organizations. Throughout the campaign, 510 volunteers made 27,385 phone calls to potential voters.

Rev. Noble asked the minutes to reflect the CR&A Committee's appreciation for the tremendous organizational efforts of Mr. Osiecki and staff to coordinate and support the Central Phone Bank, Speakers Bureau, and other Issue 15 support efforts. (The report is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

#### 7. **NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH: SEPTEMBER 2010**

Mr. Osiecki directed the committee to the Recovery Month Event Calendar for September 2010 which provides detail on all of the events offered that month. The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual NEO Ohio Recovery Celebration is scheduled for Friday, September 24, 2010, 6:00 PM at the Crowne Plaza City Centre, 777 St. Clair Avenue.

#### 8. **SPONSORSHIP: CLEVELAND PLAYHOUSE: *The Kite Runner***

Board staff recommends sponsorship of Cleveland Playhouse's, *The Kite Runner*, for its scheduled run from 10/15/10 through 11/7/10. The play is based on Khaled Hosseini's novel of the same name which spent five years on *The New York Times'* bestseller list. Set in Afghanistan, a divided country on the verge of war, two friends' lives are forever changed by one fearful act of betrayal. Issues of bullying, stigma, self-esteem, sexual abuse, abandonment and living with depression are among the topics this play addresses.

Since the ADAMHS Board should support efforts to combat stigma and educate the community about mental illness, treatment and recovery, the Board staff recommends sponsorship of this play. Mr. Osiecki credited the efforts of the Cleveland Playhouse for sending letters to all of the attendees of the *Bill W. and Dr. Bob* performance regarding the upcoming Recovery Events in September.

**Motion to recommend approval of sponsoring the play, *The Kite Runner*, at the Cleveland Play House to the Finance & Operations Committee.** MOTION: B. Fowler / SECOND: C. Noble / AYES: E. Cash, B. Fowler, C. Noble / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

#### 9. **CLERGY VIDEO/VILLAGE TV**

In an effort to provide educational support to clergy in our community, Rev. Gohlstin, Mr. Denihan, and Mr. Osiecki have been working with Village TV to develop a method to do so within our budget capacity. Consequently, a creative solution has been developed for the committee's consideration.

The ADAMHS Board would like to partner with Village TV to produce a 60-minute video that would be divided into four 15-minute segments. The video segments would be posted on both the ADAMHS Board's Web site, [www.adamhsc.org](http://www.adamhsc.org) and Village TV's Web site, [www.villagetv.org](http://www.villagetv.org)

The anticipated four 15-minute segments would focus on the following topics, include specific scripture references and can be viewed separately:

- Mental Illness and Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction are illnesses
- Enlightening and Helping Your Congregation and Making Referrals
- Suicide Prevention
- Testimony from People in Treatment, Providers and Clergy

Funding (not to exceed \$10,000) for this project would be covered through the Suicide Prevention Campaign budget. The intent is to send postcards to clergy in Cuyahoga County directing them to either Web site.

Committee feedback:

- Consider concept of a kick-off breakfast for clergy to introduce the educational video and access.
- Suggest notifying overall major denominations of this resource.

**Motion to recommend approval of partnering with Village TV to create a 60-minute video to educate clergy on identifying behavioral health issues to the Finance & Operations Committee.** MOTION: C. Noble  
SECOND: B. Fowler / AYES: E. Cash, B. Fowler, C. Noble / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

#### **10. TRAINING INSTITUTE UPDATE** *(For Information Only)*

Mr. Osiecki distributed copies of the Training Institute Budget Update and highlighted the total revenue to date as well as projected figures for the Summer quarter which ends on 9/20/10. There have been some difficulties in recruiting volunteer presenters; however the Training Institute's Advisory Board decided to take a more assertive approach to engage presenters. Mr. Denihan suggested that a letter be drafted under his name to each of the agency's C.E.O.'s regarding the need for instructors and their support.

#### **11. 2011 ROADS TO RECOVERY CONFERENCE PLANNING**

Based upon the debriefing session after the last Recovery Conference, it was suggested to go to a one-day training session. The date being proposed is Monday, September 12, 2011. Mr. Osiecki noted his excitement in a change of location to the Marriott Cleveland Airport which has undergone a \$20 million renovation. The venue is on par with the InterContinental Hotel and has over 600 free parking spaces. The cost is the same as last year's venue. The Marriott is easily accessible off of I-71, conveniently located near the 150<sup>th</sup> Street/Puritas Red Line Rapid Station and near the #78 bus line.

Mr. Osiecki proposes using the \$20,000 revenue generated from the Training Institute to subsidize the Roads to Recovery Conference. After reviewing the 2011 Recovery Conference estimate, the registration fee for the one-day conference would be \$75.00/person.

**Motion to recommend approval of an Operational Contract with the Marriott Cleveland Airport for the Roads to Recovery Conference 2011 on September 12, 2011 to the Finance & Operations Committee.**

MOTION: B. Fowler / SECOND: C. Noble / AYES: E. Cash, B. Fowler, C. Noble / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

#### **12. OF-1-MIND CAMPAIGN UPDATE:** *Behavioral Healthcare Is Healthcare Campaign*

Mr. Denihan reminded committee members that Mr. Scott Osiecki is the Statewide Chairman for the Of-1-Mind Campaign. Mr. Osiecki referenced the flyer included in the packet and the band-aids available to be used as window-clings or bumper stickers. The aim is to have the behavioral health bandaid as recognizable as the puzzle piece is to the Autism System.

#### **13. CY 2010: MEDIA TRACKING FINAL REPORT** *(Information Only)*

Since the last committee meeting on 3/3/10, there have been 16 media mentions. On August 16<sup>th</sup>, there was an excellent article featured in Crain's. Year-to-date 24 and all are considered positive from the Board's perspective.

**14. NEW BUSINESS**

- Mr. Denihan reported that the ADAMHS Board only recently learned that the City of Strongsville, OH, is proposing to update its ordinance #2010-096. A public hearing is scheduled on Tuesday, 9/7/10 at 8:00 p.m. at the Strongsville Communications Center, 13213 Pearl Road in Strongsville.

Ms. Fini explained that the proposed ordinance, if passed in its current format, would severely limit the ability of individuals with developmental disabilities and mental illness to live and receive needed services and supports in the City of Strongsville. Some of the very troublesome provisions contained in the proposed ordinance as it is currently written include:

- Language requiring that supervision be provided on a 24-hour basis, without regard to the actual need for supervision;
- People in need of supervision or supports would be excluded from living in two-family and multi-family areas.
- A requirement that an "application" be submitted to the Strongsville Building Commissioner indicating the type of impairment, disability or handicap experienced by each proposed resident;
- Language that appears to allow Strongsville city officials to "remove" an individual from a residential setting if, in their opinion, the person cannot function adequately in the community and/or presents a reasonable foreseeable danger to the community.

Ms. Fini noted that the proposed ordinance contains several provisions that are in violation of the Fair Housing Act Amendments of 1988, the privacy and confidentiality provisions of HIPAA and Ohio statutes and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD) and the ADAMHS Board have participated in several conversations with city officials and has received a commitment from them to work with us on making substantial changes in the proposed ordinance to resolve some if not all of the objectionable portions. However, city officials indicate that the public hearing will still need to go forward on 9/7/10.

Representatives from the CCBDD and the ADAMHS Board will be present and Frank Hickman, Attorney, will speak on our behalf.

- Mr. Denihan shared the SFY 2011 Goals of the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA). The Association's Overarching Concept: Manage short term problems without letting them derail us from our goals.

**SFY2011 GOALS**

- 1) The Association will secure the adoption and implementation of the OACBHA Finance Plan.
- 2) The Association will develop a strategy for non-Medicaid services and supports.
- 3) The Association will develop a strategic plan for the preparation and implementation of health care reform.
- 4) 100% of Boards shall become certified or be in the process of Culture of Quality (COQ) certification.
- 5) The Association will develop a statewide non-Medicaid outcomes system for AoD and mental health services.
- 6) The Association will continue ongoing education and advocacy with existing elected and appointed officials and begin education and advocacy with newly elected or appointed officials immediately following the election.

*There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.*

*Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist*

*Approved by: Eugenia Cash, Vice Chair  
Community Relations & Advocacy Committee*