

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

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS & ADVOCACY (CR&A) COMMITTEE JANUARY 5, 2011

**Committee Members Present:** Rev. Iris Lynn Bailey, Tatiana Falcone, M.D., Richard Folbert, J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Rev. Benjamin F. Gholstin, Sr., Rev. Charlotte Still Noble / Absent: E. Cash, J. Richard Romaniuk, Ph.D.

**Board Staff Present:** William M. Denihan, C.E.O., Tonya Birney, Rose Fini, Julie Fogel, Valeria Harper, Carol Krajewski, Scott Osiecki, Yancey Quinn

### 1. CALL TO ORDER & AUDIENCE INPUT

Rev. Gholstin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. No audience input was received.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Community Relations & Advocacy Committee minutes from November 3, 2010, were approved as submitted.

### 3. LEGISLATION / ADVOCACY

#### • **Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities Legislative Day: January 25, 2011**

Mr. Denihan reported that he, along with Mr. Osiecki, will participate in the OACBHA General Meeting and Legislative Day on Tuesday, January 25, 2011. All Board of Directors will be extended an invitation to participate also in this annual event where Board members can personally meet with legislators or their aides in the afternoon and also at an evening reception. Governor Kasich has been invited to speak during the OACBHA membership meeting; however, a confirmation has not yet been received.

During the meetings with legislators, there will an opportunity to talk about local and state-wide behavioral health issues and the OACBHA Funding Plan that:

- Recommends that the Community Behavioral Health Medicaid Match is funded out of the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS) 525 line.
- Recommends that Boards should not be required to utilize local levy funds to match Medicaid.
- Recommends that both the Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) line items 408 and 505, as well as the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADS) line item 401, remain fully funded with the dollars being allocated to the Boards for services in the community.

These visits will be especially important to us this year, since we have 5 new legislators and have to start developing relationships:

- **District 10: Rep. Bill Patmon** (*replaced Robin Belcher*)
- **District 12: Rep. John Barnes, Jr.** (*replaced Michael DeBose*)
- **District 13: Rep. Nickie Antonio** (*replaced Michael Skindell, who has moved on to the Senate and has replaced Dale Miller, who is now a member of the Cuyahoga County Council*).
- **District 17: Rep. Marlene Anielski** (*replaced Josh Mandel*)
- **District 98, Mike Dovilla** (*replaced Richard Hollington*)

#### • **Provider 408 & State Funding Resolutions Update**

Mr. Denihan provided a background sketch of the 408 funding formula scenario for the benefit of new committee members. To date, 37 of our providing agencies have passed resolutions in support of the funding plan of Ohio Association of County Behavioral Healthcare Authorities' (OACBHA) and to hold the ADAMHS Board harmless from the revised 408 funding formula. Efforts are underway to request similar support and a resolution from the newly elected Cuyahoga County Council/Executive. A binder containing the resolutions will be shared with legislators during the OACBHA Legislative day: January 25, 2011.

#### • **City of Cleveland Public Health Committee: January 31, 2011**

Mr. Denihan's November presentation to the City of Cleveland's Public Health Committee was postponed to Monday, 1/31/11. He will present an overview of the ADAMHS Board and the types of mental health and alcohol and drug services that are provided within our system serving as a safety net for our community as well as our funding challenges.

#### 4. ADVOCACY ACTION AGENDA

- **2010 Review** - Mr. Osiecki led a review of the 2010 Advocacy Action Agenda goals. The review reflected those goals completed during 2010 and those goals which will be kept as on-going advocacy issues in 2011.
- **Proposed 2011 Advocacy Action Agenda**  
It was noted that the proposed 2011 Advocacy Action Agenda, drafted by Mr. Denihan and Mr. Osiecki, recognizes the fact that the ADAMHS Board advocates daily to ensure that behavioral health services and supports are available to help children and adults reach personal recovery through the various programs and initiatives. Some advocacy goals for 2011 may take higher priority at different times throughout the year. Mr. Osiecki highlighted each proposed goal for 2011; committee members concurred with the goals presented. (Both documents are attached to the January 5, 2011 CR&A Committee minutes.)

**Motion to recommend acceptance of the report on the 2010 Advocacy Action Agenda and approval of the proposed Advocacy Action Agenda for 2011 to the full Board.** MOTION: B. Fowler / SECOND: T. Falcone  
AYES: T. Falcone, R. Folbert, B. Fowler, C. Noble / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

#### 5. MAKE CLEVELAND THE CITY OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE

Mr. Denihan noted that this item was brought before the CR&A Committee in November and subsequently recommended to the full Board for approval. During the November General Meeting, it was determined that Board members needed more information before it could be passed. The agenda process sheet contains the additional information requested.

The coalition, which formally began in the fall of 2010, is a group of individuals, families, organizations and religious institutions in the Greater Cleveland area whose mission is to seek to explore, practice and promote Mahatma Gandhi's and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s philosophy of using nonviolence for righting wrongs and establishing a culture of humanity, justice, peace and nonviolence for the prosperity of the area.

##### **Organizations that are Members of the Coalition to date:**

- American Indian Education Center
- Asia, Inc.
- Black on Black Crime
- Catholic Community Connection
- Cleveland Peace & Nonviolence Network
- ClevelandPeople.Com
- Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
- Cleveland UMADAOP
- Commission on Catholic Community Action
- Council on American-Islamic Relations
- Federation of India Community Associations
- India Cultural Garden
- InterAct
- Peace in the Hood

##### **Through unique and innovative partnerships with its members, this coalition strives to:**

- Lead and facilitate events which will accelerate the on-going mission of CCPNV.
- Enroll residents of Greater Cleveland to virtually sign a Non-Violence pledge.
- Advocate to effect public policy and opinion that will make Cleveland safe and prosperous.
- Serve members of the coalition by understanding their needs and providing them support to create win-win solutions.
- Measure the progress being made to accomplish its mission.

## **5. MAKE CLEVELAND THE CITY OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE** *(Continued)*

ADAMHS Board staff believes that our organization should become a member of the coalition by signing-on to the pledge for peace because it would benefit consumers of behavioral health services by promoting acceptance of others to live in a peaceful world.

**Motion to recommend approval of signing on to the Cyber Wall Pledge/Declaration of Non-Violence to the full Board.** MOTION: R. Folbert / SECOND: B. Fowler / Discussion followed.

Rev. Still Noble reported that she spoke with the Board member who raised a concern about this issue at the General Meeting. She noted that the concern centered on whether it is an appropriate issue for a governmental entity to address/support.

Rev. Bailey, newly appointed Board member (to be sworn in on 1/26/11), noted that the mission of the City of Peace seems to reflect the foundation and description of the Community Relations and Advocacy Committee's charge stated in the ADAMHS Board Bylaws.

Rev. Gohlstein stated that "peace and non-violence are part of the social justice agenda and have no religious overtones. In the recovery process for people with behavioral health issues there are four dynamics that must take place: psychological well-being, physical well-being, social well-being, and spiritual well-being. We can embrace peace and non-violence in a non-sectarian type of way or any particular denomination."

**Call for the vote to recommend signing on to the Cyber Wall Pledge/Declaration of Non-Violence to the full Board.** AYES: T. Falcone, R. Folbert, B. Fowler, C. Noble / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

## **6. ROADS TO RECOVERY CONFERENCE PLANNING – Monday, September 12, 2011**

Mr. Osiecki reminded all of the Recovery Conference date, Monday, September 12, 2011. Planning efforts are underway. The theme, *Behavioral Health: A System Under Construction* has been selected to reflect current situations that the behavioral health system finds itself in with regard to funding, Healthcare Reform, etc. A call for presenters will be issued in February.

## **7. SUICIDE PREVENTION AND CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

Mr. Osiecki reported that the Suicide Prevention Task Force met on December 8 to review its goals.

A few minor revisions in wording of the 3 established goals:

- o **Awareness:** Increase awareness that suicide is a public issue in order to reduce stigma and increase people's ability to seek help.
- o **Intervention:** Reduce factors that increase the risk of suicide.
- o **Methodology:** Gather more data about suicide attempts and evaluate the effectiveness of programs designed to prevent suicide.

The Task Force also thought that the Training Institute should add Gatekeeper Training to its curriculum: 1) Suicide Prevention 101 and 2) Suicide Prevention Beyond the Basics. A gatekeeper refers to someone who:

- o Knows basic information about suicide
- o Believes that suicide can be prevented
- o Learns basic suicide intervention skills
- o Has the confidence to respond
- o Can assist in the aftermath of a suicide
- o Can be a teacher, counselor, minister, youth worker, parent, or anyone.

Mr. Denihan and Mr. Osiecki recently met with Loree Vick, a former TV 8 personality who is now the PR person for University Hospitals. She is a survivor of suicide, when her husband died by suicide and is active with the Suicide Prevention Education Alliance and an advocate for suicide prevention. During the meeting, Ms. Vick agreed to be the

**7. SUICIDE PREVENTION AND CAMPAIGN UPDATE** *(Continued)*

Plenary Speaker during our Roads to Recovery Conference where she would share her experience as a survivor of suicide. Additionally, she agreed to utilize her media contacts and be a spokesperson for the ADAMHS Board.

The Board's External Affairs Unit intends to send out a Media Kit in the next few weeks that provides statistics on suicide, a briefing of our campaign, and request that Loree Vick be interviewed about what it is like to be a suicide survivor, where a person who is thinking about suicide can get help, and where survivors can get help.

**8. TRAINING INSTITUTE UPDATE**

Mr. Osiecki reported that a letter was sent to all providers from Mr. Denihan, at the request of the Training Institute Advisory Committee, asking for their help in the continuation of providing low cost training opportunities for the workforce, consumers and family members. Since our agencies are filled with knowledgeable people who have expertise in many behavioral health topics, the Advisory Committee and Mr. Denihan suggested that they should provide trainers at no cost to the Board. The letter reminded agencies that this arrangement benefits the community as well as provides exposure for their agency and their staff abilities. As a thank you for providing trainings at no cost, the agency will receive 5 free slots to other training sessions for agency staff to use.

Ms. Tonya Birney, Training Officer, distributed a report/end of year update and shared some exciting news about some new programs. Quarterly Training Institute revenues were shared for 2010. The total revenue for 2010 was \$26,900.00. It was noted that most of the revenue will go to support the Roads to Recovery Conference and to also host special presenters during the year.

**9. CLERGY VIDEO UPDATE**

Mr. Osiecki reported that Board staff continues to work with Village TV on the outline for the video.

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

For the calendar year 2010, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County had 38 media mentions that were all considered positive from the Board's perspective.

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Osiecki explained that the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) "Promote Wellness 4 Behavioral Health" project has been selected as a finalist in the Pepsi Refresh Challenge. The project is helping to build positive attitudes about health care for people with mental illness and/or addiction disease. The Pepsi Company is providing more than \$1 million a month in grant funding for worthy projects -- and OACBHA needs your help to win the challenge. The top 10 vote getters (in this category) will each receive \$50,000 at the end of January.

Everyone is encouraged to participate and to ask all their friends and colleagues to sign-in everyday at <http://pep.si/h33dp3> and vote for this project.

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

*Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist*

*Approved by: Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Chair  
Community Relations & Advocacy Committee*