

**ADAMHS BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY
FAITH-BASED OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES
JANUARY 6, 2016**

Committee Members: Mary R. Warr, M.Ed., Committee Chair, Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., Eugenia Cash, MSSA, LSW, CDCA, Charlotte Rerko, MSN, RN, BC / **Absent:** Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Anngela Williams

Board Staff Present: William M. Denihan, C.E.O., Tonya Birney, Valeria Harper, Carol Krajewski, Starlette Sizemore-Rice, Tom Williams

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair, Mary Warr, called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Dr. Reginald Blue read aloud the Committee Mission Statement: ***“To recognize and advocate spirituality in the recovery process; to connect the spiritual perspective with other interventions and best practices; and to promote the concept that treatment works and people recover.”***

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the October 7, 2015 Faith-Based Outreach Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

3. OVERVIEW OF FAITH-BASED OUTREACH INITIATIVE PILOT

Ms. Sizemore-Rice noted that efforts are underway to learn, tweak, and work together to make the new pilot experience a success. November & December 2015 signified the planning period; organizations involved are excited and enthusiastic. The six pilot organizations are in the midst of:

- Meeting with staff, churches, the community
- Holding Open Houses/orientations and enrolling individuals , hiring staff
- Scheduling sessions/training dates
- Distributing information/introducing the pilot to communities, gaining support from key community leaders, building relationships
- Collaborating w/community organizations/schools and tapping into their resources (gyms/hosting events)
- Adding AOD material into sessions
- Determining what the MH/AOD needs are ...Depression in Women session(church request)
- Creating databases...denominations/linkage to support groups/newsletter/email blast

Board staff met with providers in November to receive input and to review and discuss the proposed reporting tool/requirements as well as objectives and performance measures. Work continues on the Faith-based Outreach Initiatives Workbook. Reports are due on the 15th of each month and the first report is due in January of 2016. All organizations received their contracts. Communication will be on-going via email & phone as needed. Future dates for pilot group meetings will take place in February and June. Unannounced visits will also occur during the pilot period.

The pilot period will, most likely, be a learning experience for all; therefore, Board staff—Starlette Sizemore-Rice, Public Benefits Administrator, Valeria Harper, Vice President of Operations, William M. Denihan, Chief Executive Officer, and Mary Warr, Committee Chair of the Faith-based Outreach Committee are available to help pilot agencies.

Ms. Sizemore Rice and Mr. Tom Williams, Data Research Specialist, introduced the reporting tool and requirements developed to collect Prevention/Intervention/Behavioral Health Data for the various pilot programs.

Committee Input on reporting tool instrument:

- 1) Re-word instructions on page 1; remove “here”
- 2) Page 5 under gender categories, change “unknown” to self-identified
- 3) Page 10 under program role - add intervention; should read Prevention/Intervention Professional

- 4) From provider in audience, on Page 4, suggest removing statement “relative to clients who did not include spirituality as part of their care”; statement should read, “shows improvement in the AOD Outcomes form and/or Achenbach scores.

4. UPDATE FROM FAITH-BASED OUTCOME INITIATIVES

- **INNER HEALING MINISTRIES** – Rev. Dr. Benjamin Franklin, Jr.

Rev. Franklin provided a progress report on Inner Healing Ministries' STOP (Student Training Outreach Prevention) Program which is a community outreach program designed to avert teens, young adults, and their families from engaging in the illegal use, abuse and addiction to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or other dangerous substances. The STOP Program serves teens ages 12-18 as well as young adults ages 19-24 and their families. Inner Healing Ministries has designed and printed 5,000 brochures to be disseminated to the surrounding neighborhood.

Rev. Franklin was pleased to highlight the expertise and background of the 10 persons who have committed to work as core volunteer Board members in the Student Training Outreach Program. Approximately 50 church leaders and members attended the first volunteer training session held on 12/01/15 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Contacts and meetings have been scheduled with the Mayor of South Euclid and other staff members at Brush High School. . (The brochure and handout with photos and bios were distributed to Faith-based Outreach Committee members; both are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

- **NAMI GREATER CLEVELAND** – Marsha Blanks, Program Director

Marsha Blanks, Program Director, and Terri Miller, Family & Peer Education Coordinator, thanked committee members for the opportunity to continue to work with churches in our communities. NAMI Greater Cleveland has conducted several presentations to various denominations and ethnicities in an effort to expand prevention services.

Examples: Pastor Kevin James, of New Community Bible Fellowship in Cleveland Heights, has seen the need for an educational session on depression and women. Efforts have begun to work more closely with a Hispanic church with the hope that the four Hispanic leaders who have been trained will be able to promote positive mental health and will help to make strides in this community. At Affinity Baptist Church, NAMI Greater Cleveland completed its Understanding Mental Illness (UMI) course in December; the church volunteer facilitator began discussions with NAMI on next steps needed to establish a support group and conducting another UMI course in 2016.

NAMI Greater Cleveland is very interested in building relationships with the faith-based community and is very excited about this opportunity to do so. Additionally, the Program Director and Multicultural Outreach Specialist are looking into the concept of adding alcohol and other addictions materials into the session or a possible development of a separate AOD presentation as well as a Depression in Women series.

5. OLD/NEW BUSINESS - None

6. NEXT FAITH-BASED OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING - Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist

Approved by: Mary R. Warr, M.Ed., Faith-Based Outreach Committee Chair