

ADAMHS BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY

FAITH-BASED OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

Committee Members: Mary R. Warr, M.Ed., Committee Chair, Eugenia Cash, MSSA, LSW, CDCA, Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Charlotte Rerko, MSN, RN, BC, Anngela Williams / **Absent:** None

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair, Mary Warr, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Eugenia Cash 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 July 6, 2016 Faith-Based Outreach Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

3. UPDATE ON INTERVIEW PROCESS OF NON-BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

Ms. Warr noted that a recent ADAMHS Board Bylaws amendment authorized the Faith-based Outreach Committee to add two residents of the service district who are not members of the Board but are qualified to serve as members of the Board per Ohio Revised Code. To date, Ms. Warr and Rev. Gohlstin interviewed six potential candidates who were very knowledgeable and interested in serving on this committee. Based on the interview experience, two candidates have been selected and are being recommended for appointment to the Board Chair.

4. FAITH-BASED OUTREACH INITIATIVE PILOT UPDATE

Ms. Warr advocated for more public awareness about the Faith-based Outreach pilot initiatives.

Ms. Sizemore-Rice reported on the two documents provided: (1) Faith-based Outreach Initiatives Pilot Program Summaries for the 6 pilot providers and (2) Feedback from Provider/Faith-based Organizations. The feedback document addressed the following questions:

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| • What have you learned? | What recommendations do you have? |
| • What would be your program’s future needs? | Was your budget request sufficient? |
| • What could we do different? | What would you do differently? |
| • What populations are we not reaching? | Provide actual example of a goal met by your program. |

Although Rev. Gohlstin felt that providers are doing very well and far ahead of what was expected, he addressed his concern for the committee and pilot providers to strive to reach out to other faiths. Discussion followed; pilot providers shared their efforts and challenges in this regard. Rev. Gohlstin advocated for looking for creative ways to reach out to all faith communities.

Mr. Denihan praised pilot providers for their leadership efforts on these projects and noted that it takes time to establish relationships within the community. Recently, Mr. Denihan was contacted by a Catholic Priest who shared his personal mission to work toward utilizing existing vacant church buildings/facilities for the purpose of social service programs. Additionally, Greater Cleveland Congregations has expressed a desire to be engaged with the ADAMHS Board in the areas of Re-Entry and the Heroin/Fentanyl Campaign.

Ms. Sizemore-Rice highlighted the Status Report that provides aggregate information on the individual pilot projects. Cumulative information from each provider/organization addresses:

- 1) Impact on Population - Total population served by month
- 2) Meeting & Measuring Faith-based and Spiritual Objectives
- 3) How Resources are Being Spent

All documents referenced are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.

5. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Committee member, Anngela Williams, brought forward for discussion the concept of allocating additional time for the Faith-based Outreach Committee to meet. Presently, the committee has only a one-hour time period to meet since the Community Relations & Advocacy Committee meets at 4:00 p.m. Based upon the discussion that followed, committee members agreed to retain the bi-monthly schedule but to change the meeting time to 2:30 p.m.
- As the Faith-based Outreach Initiative Pilot ends in December, Mr. Denihan reported that he along with Board staff will look at the reports and bring back to the committee recommendations for going forward.
- Rev. Gohlstin suggested sharing information with all providers about the current Faith-based pilot initiatives so that their clients may benefit from the various programs offered.

6. **NEXT MEETING** - Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 2:30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist

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