

ADAMHS BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY

FAITH-BASED OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES MARCH 4, 2015

Committee Members: Mary R. Warr, M.Ed., Com. Chair, Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr.

Absent: Eugenia Cash, MSSA, LSW, CDCA, Charlotte Rerko, MSN, RN, BC, Anngela Williams

Sub-Committee Members Present: Karell T. McDaniel, LICDC, Terri Miller

Board Staff Present: William M. Denihan, Tonya Birney, Katie Boland, Valeria A. Harper, Carol Krajewski, Starlette Sizemore-Rice

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair, Mary Warr, announced at 3:00 p.m. that committee members were expected to arrive shortly to fulfill the quorum requirement. She suggested that an informal discussion proceed in the meantime. Chief Operating Officer, Valeria A. Harper, was asked to 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. FAITH-BASED OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Karell T. McDaniel, Subcommittee Chair, reported that the Subcommittee met on February 19, 2015 and had good attendance including a representative from Greater Cleveland Congregations/Criminal Justice team as well as former Board Chair of the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board, Kathryn Gambatese.

The main focus of the meeting was the implementation of Issue 4 of the Action Plan to incorporate spirituality into the treatment process and specifically look at including the spiritual assessment component into the SOQIC. At this meeting, Ms. Harper explained that the standing workgroup/clinical team of the ADAMHS Board, comprised of ADAMHS Board adult behavioral health provider agencies, clinical directors, case management supervisors, treatment supervisors and supervisors in the residential treatment environments, meets bi-monthly and is currently looking at the SOQIC assessment tool.

Ms. Warr addressed the Shared Principles document distributed to Board members at the latest General Meeting and inquired whether these principles had been shared with the provider agencies. Ms. Harper noted that the draft document will serve as the driving principles or preamble for the provider agencies.

3. QUESTION, PERSUADE, REFER (QPR) TRAINING FOR THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Katie Boland, External Affairs Specialist, reported that Andrea McGovern is a suicide survivor who serves on the Cuyahoga Problem Gambling Coalition organized by Recovery Resources. As the ADAMHS Board is an active member of the coalition, Ms. McGovern learned about the Board's Question, Persuade and Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention Training through the coalition and offered to partner with the ADAMHS Board and provide up to \$5,000 from her late son's foundation -- Mike's S.A.F.E. Fund -- to sponsor a breakfast seminar for the spiritual community in Cuyahoga County about suicide featuring our QPR training. Ms. McGovern offered to sponsor this event due to her involvement in the local spiritual community and because her son died by suicide as a result of his gambling addiction. The ADAMHS Board hopes to work with Ms. McGovern to promote the event to Cuyahoga County's spiritual community.

Ms. Warr suggested that when selecting a potential date for the training to stay away from considering Saturdays and/or Wednesdays so as not to eliminate segments of the faith-based community. Ms. Boland offered to follow-up on this request. Ms. Warr advocated for someone from the ADAMHS Board or the committee to address the assembly to increase awareness about the Board's Faith-based Outreach Committee and its mission.

[Rev. Gohlstin arrived.]

Motion to recommend the acceptance of up to \$5,000.00 in grant funding from Mike's S.A.F.E. Fund to reimburse the ADAMHS Board for the QPR training event specifically for the spiritual community to the Finance & Operations Committee. MOTION: R. Blue / SECOND: B. Gohlstin / AYES: R. Blue, B. Gohlstin, M. Warr / NAYS: None / **Motion carried.**

4. OLD BUSINESS

- **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the January 7, 2015 Faith-Based Outreach Committee meeting were approved as submitted.
- **HB 483** – As a follow-up to the committee's previous discussion on HB 483 and the possibility of collaborating with the school system, Ms. Warr received feedback from Mr. Osiecki that there have been many changes to the legislation including the removal of faith-based language from the community mentoring program. Based upon this new information, the committee concurred that this should be considered a closed issue. Ms. Warr suggested that this subject might be addressed in the future should things reverse. Ms. Sizemore-Rice was asked to monitor the progress of this legislation.
- **Orientation for Board/Subcommittee members** - Rev. McDaniel asked that this item be tabled until the next committee meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Warr asked if there was any value in the Faith-based Outreach Committee sharing our direction and/or goals with group home owners and operators. Ms. Valeria Harper, Chief Operating Officer, shared that the ADAMHS Board contracts with approximately 69 group homes. In this environment, some churches are involved with group homes. In other instances, complaints have been received from clients who felt that spirituality was imposed by the adult care operator. Discussion followed; Ms. Harper mentioned that this is an idea worth further exploration.
- Mr. Denihan reported that this committee has reached a point where it is on the brink of working to provide services for the community. Given that direction, he suggested that a special workgroup be formulated to develop a Request for Information (RFI) for the various issues important to the Faith-based Outreach Committee in order to award the responsibilities to a provider in our community. Mr. Denihan suggested placing this as an agenda item for discussion at the next Faith-based Outreach Committee.

As we continue on this process, Ms. Warr suggested looking at the Franklin County ADAMHS Board to learn how this has been done in their community. If an RFI process is accepted by the Board, Mr. Denihan noted that the Faith-based Outreach Committee would be needed to help form the structure and direction for the faith-based community, to determine its goals, etc. However, the issuance of a RFI would eliminate the necessity for the Faith-based Subcommittee's work.

Committee member, Rev. Gohlstin, felt that the RFI process is a good direction and advancement of the committee's goals and mission. As Subcommittee Chair, Rev. Karell McDaniel, left the meeting prior to this discussion, Mr. Denihan offered to contact him to share this information.

6. NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 3:00 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