

## ADAMHS BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY

### FAITH-BASED OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES

JUNE 6, 2012

**Committee Members Present:** Rev. Benjamin Gohlstin, Sr., Committee Chair, Eugenia Cash, MSSA, LSW, Rev. Charlotte Still Noble, Mary R. Warr, M.Ed., Anngela Williams

**Community Representatives:** Rev. Iris Lynn Bailey, Pipeline to God Communications, Terri Miller, NAMI Greater Cleveland, Rev. Karell T. McDaniel, Life Recovery Ministries

**Board Staff Present:** Scott Osiecki, Carol Krajewski

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Gohlstin welcomed all and called the committee meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Ohio Room. Mr. Osiecki reported that Mr. Denihan was unable to be present as he was attending the Drug Court Graduation ceremony.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Faith-Based Outreach Committee minutes from 5/2/12 were approved as submitted.

#### 3. UPDATE ON ADAMHS BOARD'S PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING NEW COMMITTEES

Rev. Gohlstin noted that the ADAMHS Board of Directors unanimously adopted Resolution No. 12-05-03, Establish Faith-Based Outreach Committee, on 5/23/12.

Ms. Warr suggested the committee consider the concept of distributing a tangible item among the various faith-based organizations to create awareness around the spiritual component of recovery. Rev. Noble noted that ADAMHS Board committees are typically responsible for governance and policy making; therefore, an on-going balance needs to be recognized with respect to crossing over into Board staff functions.

#### 4. FAITH-BASED BREAKFAST/TRAINING UPDATE

Rev. Gohlstin noted that he was very impressed information shared at the Faith-Based Breakfast/Training, sponsored by the Suicide Prevention Task Force and the ADAMHS Board on 5/22/12. He reported that he already used some of the information learned at the suicide prevention training when confronted with a particularly serious situation this week. As a result of the interaction, the affected person is now in treatment.

Rev. Gohlstin learned that several clergy members did not attend the 5/22/12 event as it conflicted with the United Pastors in Mission meeting date. However, the United Pastors in Mission have indicated that if there is a schedule conflict in the future, they will fold it into their agenda/day.

Rev. Gohlstin shared his interest in following up the workshop with a 2-day intervention workshop with Board Chair, Rev. Noble. He noted that suicide statistics shared at the initial training session were staggering. Ms. Cash stated that Cuyahoga County has been charged with forming a faith-based group; it currently has set-aside funds that are not being used. She advocated for utilizing the same presenter for the intervention training for the sake of continuity and to see if we could partner with the County on this initiative. Mr. Osiecki added that, in the past, the Training Institute has offered several sessions on suicide interventions.

Rev. Noble noted that it could be a win-win for both the ADAMHS Board and the County if we could collaborate on such an event which would be a way to work together on a project. Rev. Gohlstin noted that the United Pastors in Mission are scheduled to meet with the County Executive at its next meeting on 6/19/12 at 10 AM at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church at E. 75<sup>th</sup> & Woodland Avenue and invited those interested to attend.

## **5. DISCUSS POTENTIAL COMMITTEE TASKS/ACTIVITIES**

Rev. Gohlstin suggested the Faith-Based Committee's responsibility should focus on fostering activities around its mission. He is especially interested in training clergy in order to create sensitivity to the behavioral health needs of the parishioner/s and to foster relationships between the clinicians and faith-based community partners. Rev. Noble concurred and suggested that the committee can identify training needs for consideration by the ADAMHS Board's Training Unit and Advisory Board.

Rev. Gohlstin asked participants to re-visit the committee mission statement. Those in attendance provided input into revising the mission statement; discussion followed. Based upon the input received, the committee concurred on the revised committee mission statement shown below:

### ***Committee Mission Statement:***

*To advocate and promote spirituality in the recovery process; to collaborate the spiritual perspective with other interventions and best practices; and to promote the concept that treatment works and people recover.*

## **6. UPDATE ON POTENTIAL MEMBERSHIP PROFILES RECEIVED**

Rev. Gohlstin reported that Board staff received 20 membership profiles from members of the community. He was pleasantly surprised and overwhelmed by the number of respondents and asked the Board Chair for her thoughts about committee appointments. Alphabetized rosters of profiles received were distributed to committee members.

Rev. Noble noted that it was good to see the broad interest base. However, her concern is that by appointing 20-30 people to the committee it might make it hard to plan and execute activities. As a possible option, she suggested that Board members and some selected others be appointed to the core committee while utilizing others in an advisory capacity/group in an effort not to lose the enthusiasm for the mission and to support the efforts of the Faith-Based Outreach Committee.

At a previous meeting, it was suggested that a smaller group of committee Board members might want to volunteer to review the profiles and the demographics of the applicants. Rev. Noble suggested tabling the discussion in an effort to give the Committee Chair time to review the profiles and reflect about the appointment process. It was suggested that he appoint a smaller workgroup to review the profiles in order to make recommendations for committee appointments.

Ms. Miller of NAMI Greater Cleveland stressed the importance of including Hispanic representation on the committee as this is a population that is historically under-served and outreach efforts are definitely needed.

## **7. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

- Since the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in July falls on July 4<sup>th</sup>/Independence Day, the next Faith-Based Outreach Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 2, 2012 at 4:00 PM in the Ohio Room.

*There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.*

***Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist***

***Approved by: Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Faith-Based Outreach Committee Chair***