

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

PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES APRIL 13, 2016

Planning & Oversight Committee Chair, J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., Eugenia Cash, LSW, MSSA, CDCA, J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Pythias D. Jones, M.D., Katie Kern-Pilch, MA, ATR-BC, LPC-S, Anngela Williams / **Absent:** Elsie Caraballo, Steve Killpack, MS, Mary M. Step, Ph.D., Mary R. Warr, M.Ed.

Board Staff Present:

William M. Denihan, CEO, Dr. John Garrity, Valeria Harper, Carol Krajewski, Starlette Sizemore-Rice, Tom Williams

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 9, 2016 Planning & Oversight Committee minutes were approved as submitted.

2. LIFETIME PLANNING – JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE ASSOCIATION

Committee Chair, Dr. Fowler, explained that the concern for many parents of adult clients with mental illness has to do with the question, who will provide guidance and/or care for their son/daughter when parents are no longer around. As a parent of a son with a mental illness, Dr. Fowler broached this subject with Mr. Denihan to determine if our system addresses this need. In answer to his request, a presentation was scheduled regarding the programs offered by Jewish Family Service Association (JFSA).

Mr. Denihan introduced Susan Bichsel, Ph.D., President and CEO of JFSA to present the programs and services provided by JFSA to assist in preparing a lifetime plan customized for individuals with disabilities. Dr. Bichsel distributed a folder of information and brochures to committee members and highlighted the various elements of the programs/services listed below.

Ascentia: Pathways to Community Living is a program of JFSA of Cleveland.

- Special Needs Trust Assessment
- Lifetime Planning Consultation
- Representative Payee and Bill Paying Services
- Pooled Disability Trust Liaison
- Non-clinical Case Management
- Advocacy for Families

Other resources include:

- National PLAN Alliance “the only non-profit organization in America dedicated solely to meeting the planning needs of families with adult children having lifelong disabilities”, npa@nycap.rr.com
- PLAN of Northeast Ohio – offers Lifetime Planning; member of National PLAN Alliance & JFSA partner
- Community Fund Management Foundation (CFMF) has established partnerships with other organizations in Ohio that provide support and services to individuals with disabilities. Individuals establishing trust accounts through a CFMF partnership organization.

Dr. Bichsel introduced a sample “Letter of Intent-Shorter Version” that specifically provides specific information about the family member such as, contact information for other family members, case managers, family friends; current situation and family life; medical care; behavioral management, etc.

On behalf of the committee, Dr. Fowler and Mr. Denihan thanked Dr. Bichsel for her presentation and the valuable services provided for clients and their families.

3. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- **BEECH BROOK UPDATE** – Debra Rex, President & Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Denihan noted that he and Valeria Harper, Vice President of Operations, recently met with Debra Rex, the President & CEO, to discuss recent Beech Brook developments. As a result of this productive meeting, Mr. Denihan invited Ms. Rex to share with the P&O Committee additional background information regarding the major Beech Brook restructuring announcement made last week.

Ms. Rex reported that the restructuring/down-sizing announcement made last week did necessitate the layoff of 40% of Beech Brook staff, totaling 170 people. The restructuring effort closed the agency's residential treatment program as well as the group home located on campus. She confirmed that this decision was not made lightly as residential services for children have been provided since 1852, a total of 164 years. Additionally, other closures include offices in Lorain and Summit County where mental health services were provided, the ACT team and a reduction of in-office outpatient services.

On the positive side, Beech Brook is choosing this direction to focus on services in the community--prevention and early intervention including in-school services, foster care services, early childhood services and those supplementary services that the agency struggles to keep funded but understands are vitally important to the children and families served in the community.

Beech Brook's Board had a committee working for over 1-1/2 years looking into other possible alternatives. The financial and service playing fields are very tenuous in our state. Ms. Rex elaborated on a few of the many factors involved—stagnant Medicaid rates, higher acuity levels for children leading to higher costs to serve children, pending changes for Medicaid that do not permit the agency the capacity to plan; the effect of the Affordable Care Act that has increased competition for behavioral health services from other healthcare organizations/hospitals that are able to offer increased salaries to Beech Brook staff, a national workforce shortage of behavioral health care staff, high turnover, new labor laws under consideration on overtime.

Beech Brook had 450 employees prior to layoff of 170. Beech Brook will still be able to serve approximately 87% of its clients--18,000 children. Ms. Rex noted that the residential treatment program was taking 80% of management time for only 200 children per year for staffing needed for 24 hours a day/7 days per week. The transition plan is in place to place children in other facilities, foster care and/or back with their families. Mr. Denihan added that the ADAMHS Board is also interested in working to support the continuance of Beech Brook's ACT Team. Dr. Fowler thanked Ms. Rex for her very informative presentation.

- Mr. Denihan recognized EDEN, Inc. staff present, Irene Collins, Executive Director, and Elaine Gimmel, Chief Operating Officer, who will be celebrating EDEN, Inc.'s 25th Anniversary later this week.

4. FUTURE P&O COMMITTEE TOPICS

May 11, 2016 Meeting:

- Recommendation for Representative Payee Program
- Invest In Children: Intensive Consultation
- Evaluation of Crisis Services
- Performance Improvement Watch Reports
 - Murtis Taylor Human Service System
 - Hitchcock Center for Women

Dates yet to be determined:

- Update on New One-Year Contracts
- Evaluation of CPST Services
- Performance Improvement Watch Report: Suburban Liaison Programs
- Wellness Program at The Center for Families & Children
- HIPAA Security Risk Assessment
- Behavioral Health Re-Design
- Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) Update

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist

Approved by: J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Planning & Oversight Committee Chair