

**ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY  
PLANNING & OVERSIGHT (P&O) COMMITTEE MINUTES  
OCTOBER 14, 2015**

Committee Vice Chair, Steve Killpack, MS, called the Planning & Oversight Committee meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:**

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

**Board Staff Present:**

William M. Denihan, C.E.O., Frank Brickner, Vivian Catchings-El, Cheryl Fratalonie, Valeria Harper, Myra Henderson, Carol Krajewski, Dave Lambert, Scott Osiecki, Starlette Sizemore-Rice

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Planning and Oversight Committee minutes of September 9, 2015 were approved as submitted.

**2. CALENDAR YEAR 2016 RECOMMENDED PRIORITIES**

Based on the review of previous ADAMHS Board priorities, CEO Denihan explained the rationale for adding a "system" category to address the various initiatives underway. Scott Osiecki, Director of External Affairs, added that Board staff considered the results from the Recovery Oriented System of Care Self-Assessment survey issued in July as well. The proposed System and Mental Health & Addiction Priorities for Adults and Children are listed on the document attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.

Input from Committee Members:

- Q: Are items listed in a particular order? A: No, they are not ranked as they are of equal importance.
- Suggestion: Add marijuana & synthetic marijuana to the priority list.

**Motion to recommend approval of CY2016 Recommended Priorities as amended to the full Board.**

MOTION: R. Blue / SECOND: P. Jones / AYES: R. Blue, P. Jones, M. Step, M. Warr / NAYS: None

**Motion passed.**

**3. CALENDAR YEAR 2016 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) PROCESS**

Mr. Denihan announced that he and Board staff would like to schedule the CY2016 RFI Presentation at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday next month, 11/04/15. Mr. Denihan commented on the significant budget reduction proposed by the County Executive for the ADAMHS Board. Mr. Denihan has a pending meeting with County Council President, Dan Brady, regarding this issue. On 11/15/15, he and Board members, Harvey Snider and Rev. Benjamin Gohlstin, Sr., are scheduled to meet with the County Executive. The Board's stance is that it needs to receive the allocation previously received.

[Ms. Williams arrived.]

**4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FAITH-BASED INITIATIVES**

Ms. Starlette Sizemore-Rice, Public Benefits Administrator, explained that in order to implement the Faith-based Outreach Committee Action Plan approved by the full Board, an RFI was released to identify contract service providers and/or faith-based organizations interested in developing partnerships and strategies to ensure that when a client acknowledges or expresses their spirituality beliefs through the assessment process, it is integrated in the overall treatment and recovery process.

Sixteen RFI responses were received. A Review Team evaluated the submissions and six (6) contract providers/faith-based organizations are being recommended for the Faith-based Outreach Initiatives Pilot. Ms. Sizemore-Rice highlighted elements & goals of the various proposed programs.

1. Hispanic UMADAOP - \$28,000.00
2. Inner Healing Ministries - \$45,000.00
3. Life Recovery Ministries - \$54,000.00
4. NAMI Greater Cleveland - \$19,000.00
5. OhioGuidestone - \$50,000.00
6. Trinity Outreach Ministries - \$54,000.00

Input from Committee Members:

- Due to the newness of this endeavor, Faith-based Outreach Committee Chair, Mary Warr, encouraged the six agencies referenced to be creative with their programs beyond what their written descriptions.
- Providers and faith-based organizations were encouraged to continue to think about performance measures and how to specifically measure such things as well-being, quality of life, satisfaction and client-reported outcomes in order to determine benchmarks. Dr. Step offered her assistance with this specific undertaking.
- Committee Vice Chair, Steve Killpack, echoed Dr. Step's comments and stated that, often, the best lessons learned from a new program are those things that didn't work. He further noted that the P&O Committee welcomes all feedback.

**Motion to recommend approval of entering into agreements with identified contract providers and faith-based organizations to implement Faith-based Initiatives to the Finance & Operations Committee.**

MOTION: R. Blue / SECOND: M. Step / AYES: R. Blue, P. Jones, M. Step, M. Warr, A. Williams / NAYS: None  
**Motion passed.**

**5. PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT "WATCH" MONITORING PLAN**

Mr. Denihan explained that this report is an update on the performance improvement and monitoring results for those agencies placed on "watch." The purpose of the Improvement Monitoring Plan is to ensure quality of services to clients and to provide assistance to agencies during troubled times. Mr. Denihan acknowledged that both Chief Operating Officer, Valeria Harper, and Chief Financial Officer, Frank Brickner, have spent an inordinate amount of time with the agencies listed. Ms. Harper was asked to report on the programmatic elements and Mr. Brickner to report on the financial findings.

- **Hispanic Urban Minority Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Outreach Program (Hispanic UMADAOP)**

Background: Hispanic UMADAOP was previously placed on a watch status due to frequent changes in leadership, vacancies in the residential program, concerns related to staff retention and the potential impact on providing quality treatment services as well as the financial solvency of the agency.

Program Status: Regarding the financial management piece, Mr. Brickner reported that an independent audit was conducted/facilitated by the ADAMHS Board. Monitoring has shown that significant improvement has been made in both the areas of residential programs and outpatient treatment. The Board's Program area finds that Hispanic UMADAOP has sufficiently addressed previous programmatic concerns and suggests that it be removed from the program watch.

Mr. Brickner noted that the agency's financial status has also significantly improved; the agency has taken advantage of Medicaid Expansion. Medicaid revenues have gone up over 150%. The fiscal department now has staff who diligently bill for services rendered and has made progress in paying down its line of credit. Consequently, the Board recommends removing Hispanic UMADAOP from the financial watch. Mr. Denihan recognized the outstanding leadership of Nelson Ramirez, Interim Executive Director, and his influence on these positive outcomes.

- **Hitchcock Center for Women (HCFW)**

Background: In March 2015, the Board focused on HCFW's vacancy rates, perception in the community regarding its admission/discharge criteria and whether the agency was financially solvent. This tenuous financial situation led to the ADAMHS Board providing a cash advance to the agency.

Program Status: HCFW reviewed its admission policy again and has begun working with CAAA (Community Action Against Addiction) to accept women on methadone, for example. Changes in clinical management staff have greatly improved the community's perception of HCFW as more women were accepted. The agency now ensures that transportation to treatment in the community is no longer a barrier. However, while the occupancy rate in the residential treatment program continues to fluctuate, the Board-funded treatment bed census has greatly improved.

Mr. Brickner noted that there are still some concerns regarding HCRW's financial stability. HCFW is currently working off its cash advance and anticipates that funds owed will be repaid by the end of the year. In early 2016, the ADAMHS Board intends to conduct another financial stability review. Some suggestions have been made on how the agency can improve their Medicaid reimbursements and the Board intends to see if there has been an improvement, etc. At this time, HCFW will remain on Performance Improvement Watch.

- **Murtis Taylor Human Services System**

Background: In November 2014, Murtis Taylor was placed on a Performance Monitoring Plan as a result of a reportable incident and a number of client rights complaints regarding the quality of services provided. Pharmacological management was reviewed and noted as a concern throughout all service categories for clients taking medications and a moratorium ordered that prohibited new placements into Murtis Taylor's residential treatment programs after Board staff's review revealed serious concerns regarding the method in which self-administration of medication was being monitored and documented by staff.

Program Status: Ms. Harper noted that since her last report several meetings had been held with the agency's leadership team to discuss outstanding issues. A new Director of Nursing has been hired. Recently, Murtis Taylor submitted a written response to the ADAMHS Board's focus review that is now under review. Board staff has requested the Visiting Nurse Association to provide technical assistance to Murtis Taylor's residential treatment staff for areas listed above. A meeting with executive leadership is scheduled to address all issues.

Mr. Brickner reported that there are no financial concerns about this agency. Mr. Denihan acknowledged Murtis Taylor as a tremendous asset in assisting former Consumer Protection Association clients who are in need of payee services and asked that this be reflected in the record. The ADAMHS Board recommends that Murtis Taylor Human Services System remains on the Performance Improvement Monitoring Plan for the remainder of 2015.

- **Consumer Protection Association (CPA)**

Program Status: As a follow-up to the lengthy report regarding CPA shared at the 9/29/15 General Meeting, Ms. Harper noted that a meeting had been held with the key management staff of the Social Security Administration (SSA) on 10/02/15. SSA participants shared valuable information with Board staff and worked collaboratively to address the issues involved with the former CPA clients (e.g. assistance from SSA, Murtis Taylor and the SMILE payee entity/resource, as well as efforts to help clients manage their finances and become their own payee).

Ms. Harper reported on the complex nature of this situation and noted that it may take up to one year before remaining funds in client accounts at CPA are returned to individuals due to the open Federal investigation that also involves the Department of Justice. This crisis has impacted every unit of the ADAMHS Board and has been supported through Board staff's daily involvement in responding professionally to client concerns expressed via phone calls or when clients walk-in for help. There continues to be challenges with access to any remaining documents housed at the CPA local office. A discussion with CPA Board members is in the process of being scheduled.

- **East Cleveland Neighborhood Center (ECNC)**

Background: In early September, the Board received a letter of resignation from the previous ECNC Executive Director. Board staff also confirmed that there were some concerns regarding the agencies OhioMHAS certification as a prevention provider since the office location moved.

Program Status: A meeting was held between Board staff and the Interim Executive Director of ECNC to explain the various Non-Medicaid contract violations followed by a certified letter to their Board Chair mailed on 10/13/15. A meeting is scheduled for Monday, 10/19/15 with ECNC's Board.

[Elsie Caraballo arrived.]

## **6. YOUNG ADULT TRANSITION PILOT: LIFE EXCHANGE CENTER**

Board staff, Vivian Catchings-El, Children's Program Specialist, Myra Henderson, Recovery Employment Specialist and Linda Torbert, Children's Project Administrator, presented the program/service goals for this housing program pilot to support young adults, ages 18 – 25 years old to obtain skills to live independently and self-sufficiently by utilizing the experience of peer-support specialists. The site of service is located at 18464 Lakeshore Blvd. Cleveland, OH, a former Bridgeway property and encompasses six units; proposed length of stay is up to 12 months.

Ms. Caraballo advocated for looking into the use of Federal funds and/or resources available for supporting such a program.

**Motion to recommend entering into a contract with the Life Exchange Center for the provision of services for the Transitional Youth Housing Pilot to the Finance & Operations Committee.** MOTION: M. Step / SECOND: E. Caraballo / AYES: R. Blue, E. Caraballo P. Jones, M. Step, M. Warr, A. Williams / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

## **7. VIVITROL MAT (MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT PILOT)**

Maggie Tolbert, Utilization Review Nurse, reported that the ADAMHS Board is interested in addressing the need for medication assisted treatment (MAT) using Vivitrol to treat addiction to alcohol or narcotic drugs. Vivitrol (naltrexone) blocks the effects of narcotic medicines and alcohol and is also used to prevent narcotic addiction relapse. The Pilot program being proposed will enhance the system's Alcohol and Other Drugs (AoD) continuum of services by providing on-site use of MAT in a residential setting. Salvation Army (SA) Harbor Light Complex submitted plans to the Board for sustainability of the program after December 31, 2016.

- Salvation Army (SA) Harbor Light Complex currently administers Vivitrol to individuals in their treatment program. The \$200,000 in funding would support both the initial medication (approximately \$800 per dosage) for clients with pending approval of Medicaid and hire additional pharmacological management (PM) staff necessary to allow SA to extend this service to clients from other treatment providers.
- It is anticipated SA will hire 1.5FTE pharmacological management staff within 60 days to perform the expanded MAT service to clients from other treatment providers. The expansion of services will begin January 2016.
- SA shall bill Medicaid as appropriate for those clients receiving MAT
- This program shall require utilization and program review by Board staff to determine the need for ongoing support after the initial pilot phase.

It was noted that the Corrections Planning Board will support the project by providing \$100,000 and the request is for the ADAMHS Board to provide one-time matching funds not to exceed \$100,000. Discussion followed and specific questions regarding the pilot project were addressed by Salvation Army staff and Marty Murphy of the Corrections Planning Board.

**Motion to recommend approval of allocating funding not to exceed \$100,000.00 to Salvation Army Harbor Light Complex to initiate Pilot Vivitrol MAT program to the Finance & Operations Committee.**

MOTION: M. Step / SECOND: P. Jones / AYES: R. Blue, E. Caraballo, P. Jones, M. Step, A. Williams / NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: M. Warr / **Motion passed.**

Committee Vice Chair, Steve Killpack, suggested that a status report be provided after the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of this project due to the interest of Planning & Oversight Committee members on this topic.

**8. SHARES UPDATE (SHARED HEALTHCARE AND RECOVERY ENTERPRISE SYSTEM)**

Mr. Denihan reported that things are still moving forward with SHARES; testing is underway. The ability to get Medicaid information is still a challenge. Four agencies selected for the pilot period will be announced soon.

Mr. Brickner noted that the system has been tested over several months and Board staff has addressed a number of issues. It is now important to have the provider's eyes on the system. The agencies to participate in the pilot will be those that are effective at billing and offer a wide variety of services so that many of the features can be tested. Once complete, a training manual will be produced to distribute to providers.

**9. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

As a reminder, the full Board will meet as a Committee of the Whole on Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, to consider the RFI Budget Recommendations. The vote on the overall budget is scheduled for the General Meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2015.

**10. FUTURE TOPICS FOR PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**January 2016**

- Employment Evaluation Summary: Brown Consulting, LTD
- Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) Update
- Policy Review: Waiting List Management Policy
- SHARES – Monthly Update

**February 2016**

- Clients Rights Annual Report

**Dates yet to be determined:**

- SHARES Presentation
- Integration of Physical Health and Behavioral Health
- County Council / County Executive
- Gambling

***There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.***

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

***Approved by: Steve Killpack, MS, Planning & Oversight Committee Vice Chair***