

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

## PLANNING & OVERSIGHT (P&O) COMMITTEE

JUNE 8, 2011 MINUTES

Committee Chair, Pythias Jones, M.D., called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Ericka Thoms read aloud the Committee Mission Statement: *"The Planning and Oversight Committee, in cooperation with all partners, advocates for and monitors programs, policies and practices which are continually improved to meet the needs of consumers, their families and the community."*

**Committee Members Present:** Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Pythias Jones, M.D., Rick Kemm, MNO, Rev. Charlotte Noble, Mary Step, Ph.D., Ericka Thoms, A. Williams / **Absent:** Earl Lawrence, Harvey A. Snider

**Board Staff Present:** William M. Denihan, C.E.O., Carole Ballard, Kevin Berg, Ada Cancel, Danei Chavez, John Coleman, Christina Delos Reyes, M.D., Cheryl Fratalone, John Garrity, Ph.D., Valeria Harper, Myra Henderson, Carol Krajewski, Linda Lamp, Chris Morgan, Michelle Myers, Esmat Nasr, Scott Osiecki, Cassandra Richardson

### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Planning and Oversight Committee minutes of May 11, 2011, were approved as submitted.

### 2. OPIATE EPIDEMIC IN OHIO

Dr. Delos Reyes utilized a power point presentation to highlight the excellent 8-page document entitled, "Epidemic of Prescription Drug Overdose in Ohio" produced by the Ohio Department of Health. The handout noted that there were more Ohio deaths in 2007 and 2008 from unintentional drug-related poisoning than from motor vehicle crashes. (All handouts distributed are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

In April 2010, Governor Strickland put together a task force on prescription drug abuse and set forth a 6-month target for receiving a final report and recommendations. Over 100 people were involved and produced a 75-page report, entitled "Ohio Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force," available on the Ohio Department of Health's Web site, [www.odh.ohio.gov](http://www.odh.ohio.gov). Dr. Delos Reyes used the Summary of Recommendations page distributed to highlight the resulting task force recommendations.

Dr. Delos Reyes reported that over a year ago, without the benefit of funding, Cuyahoga County established its own coalition called Prescription for Prevention. As a participant of this group, she referenced the minutes distributed from the last meeting on 4/20/11. Dr. Delos Reyes encouraged interested individuals to join the coalition. The next meeting is scheduled for 6/30/11 from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at the Cuyahoga Board of Health Offices in Parma, Ohio.

On May 20, 2011, Governor Kasich signed House Bill 93 into law which will now help legislation that fights Ohio's prescription drug abuse epidemic; its nickname is the "pill mill" bill. This law will govern how clinics operate and closely monitor prescriptions and doctors while giving medical and pharmacy boards more authority. Dr. Delos Reyes entertained questions from committee members; discussion followed.

### 3. SMOKING CESSATION

Dr. Delos Reyes utilized a power point presentation entitled, Addressing Tobacco Dependence in Consumers with Mental Illness and Addictions (attached to original minutes stored in the Executive Unit) and targeted the following learning objectives:

- The rationale for implementing tobacco recovery programs in mental health & addiction treatment settings.
- The unique interplay between tobacco use and mental health conditions.
- The TRAC (Tobacco: Recovery Across the Continuum) program for smoking cessation in persons with severe mental illness.

#### 4. SEASONS OF HOPE UPDATE

Ms. Harper provided an update on the Women's Project: Seasons of Hope that focused on three elements. (The report is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit).

- 1) Role of the Advisory Committee
  - Assist with public awareness campaign by distributing resource guide to community at large
  - Collaborate with selected agencies (when appointed) to ensure efficient/effective linkage to services
  - Advocacy within their system of care
  - Identification of opportunities to expand the service
  - Provide guidance around gaps in services as the program evolves
  - Identify a public figure to act as a "champion" for project – July 2011
  
- 2) Public Awareness
  - Outreach to the churches/ministries
  - Post Seasons of Hope information on ADAMHS Web site for donations
  - Develop a small resource guide for Women treatment providers
  - Identify festivals and neighborhood events to distribute resource guides
  - Introduce goals of The Giving Tree
  - Meet with local foundations to discuss Seasons of Hope program
  - Collaborate with 4<sup>th</sup> District Police and possibly Metro's Social Service Coordinator to sponsor a walk/run event
  - Meet with Cleveland City Council and/or Cuyahoga County Council to inform them about objectives of program, perhaps a housing ask
  
- 3) Engaging the Recovery Community
  - Identify & invite recovering women to join Advisory Committee
  - Return to alumni groups to give updates and encourage participation
  - Ask recovering women to distribute information to their friends

#### 5. S.C.A.L.E. PROGRAM UPDATE (*Screening, Centralized Assessment, Levels of Care & Engagement*)

A year-to-date SCALE Update for 1/3/11 through 5/31/11 was provided by Dr. Delos Reyes, Chief Clinical Officer:

- Weekly phone meetings with Connections continue
- Monthly Point Person meetings continue
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Phone Screener started at West 25<sup>th</sup> Street office
- Quarterly stakeholder meeting scheduled for 6/21/11
- 34 clients have received Interim Services from Connections
- Longer wait times for receiving agency appointments due to decreasing capacity

Year to date statistics indicate that Connections completed 372 assessments and made 240 referrals.

#### 6. FUTURE TOPICS FOR PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

- Art/music therapy, physical fitness & nutrition (part of recovery process)
- Domestic violence issues
- Integration of Primary Care

## 7. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Denihan reported that the Re-Entry Leadership Coalition, when meeting earlier this week, decided to schedule its next meeting on Friday, June 17, 2011, from 10 AM - 2 PM in Columbus at the Ohio State House. A room has been rented as a way to offer Governor Kasich and the three state directors from Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Addiction and the Prison system an offer they cannot refuse.

The message is that: 1) Cuyahoga County will see 25% of all prisoners returning to the community. 2) Our county has the best programs in re-entry and behavioral health for the needs of these individuals. 3) What is needed is the funding to make this happen. Arrangements are being made for buses to leave at 7:30 a.m. from the ADAMHS Board parking lot; persons interested in joining the coalition, should contact either Mr. Osiecki or Mr. Denihan.

- Mr. Denihan noted that he had the responsibility to notify 14 individuals holding positions at the ADAMHS Board that their job would be abolished as of 7/1/11; 5 other vacant positions were also abolished. This action is the result of the extraordinary budget reductions from the state and the county over the past several years. Losing 19 positions out of 65 is a major hit to the agency. He noted that staff involved lost their jobs as no fault of their own. Later in the month, Mr. Denihan will bring before the full Board a contract with Dise Company, an outreach firm that advises personnel regarding placement, resume development, etc. The company representatives were introduced to the affected staff and two full day workshops are planned for later this month. July 1<sup>st</sup> was picked so that staff would receive medical benefits for the entire month of July and letters of reference will be provided by Mr. Denihan.

A Plain Dealer reporter interviewed Mr. Denihan regarding the layoff process. Mr. Denihan explained to the reporter that the anticipated reductions will also affect service provider contracts as a result of a disinvestment in the behavioral health system not only locally but state-wide. Over the past ten years, non-Medicaid funding for community mental health services have been cut by 76% and addiction services have been cut by 51%. The Plain Dealer article will appear in the 6/9/11 issue.

- Mr. Denihan announced that he has received approval from Board Chair, Rev. Still Noble, and Finance & Operations Committee Chair, Pastor Charles Brown, to convene a Committee of the Whole on Wednesday, June 29, 2011. Consequently, both previously scheduled meetings, the Finance & Operations Committee on 6/15/11 and the General Meeting on 6/22/11 will be canceled.

This arrangement will allow the ADAMHS Board to react to the General Assembly's final budget and to meet individually with providers regarding the reductions to their FY2012 allocations. Written notice regarding the meeting schedule change will be sent to all Board of Directors and public notice via the Board's Web site. Mr. Denihan confirmed that agencies will know their allocation as a result of the individual meetings before the Committee of the Whole on 6/29/11. For those audience members present who had additional questions, Mr. Denihan offered to stay after the meeting to address them personally.

*There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.*

*Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist*

*Approved by: Pythias D. Jones, M.D., Planning & Oversight Committee Chair*