

**ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY
PLANNING & OVERSIGHT (P&O) COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 9, 2011 MINUTES**

Committee Chair, Pythias Jones, M.D., called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Harvey Snider 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: David E. Biegel, Ph.D., Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Pythias Jones, M.D., Harvey Snider, Ericka Thoms, Mary R. Warr, Anngela Williams

Absent: Rev. Charlotte Still Noble, Mary Step, Ph.D.

Board Staff Present: William M. Denihan, C.E.O., Carole Ballard, Ada Cancel, Vivian Catchings-El, Danei Chavez, Cynthia Chaytor, John Coleman, Christina Delos Reyes, M.D., Michael Doud, Craig Fallon, Valeria Harper, Myra Henderson, Judy Jackson-Winston, Carol Krajewski, Linda Lamp, Ruth Lukehart, Chris Morgan, Michelle Myers, Esmat Nasr, Maggie Tolbert, Thomas Williams, Leshia Yarbrough-Franklin

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Planning and Oversight Committee minutes of October 12, 2011, were reviewed. One correction was made to the attendance roster to include Ms. Warr; the minutes were approved as revised.

2. RECOVERY TO WORK – VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION, PUBLIC & PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS 3

Employment/Recovery Specialist, Myra Henderson, provided an overview of the Project Update Summary. The target populations served are:

- Individuals addicted to opiates
- Individuals with an addiction or mental illness diverted or re-entering from a local or state correctional facility
- Youth or young adults in transition with an addiction or mental illness
- Veterans with a mental illness or addiction
- Individuals with a mental illness or addiction

To date, approximately 400 Recovery to Work applications have been received in Cuyahoga County and are being processed. According to the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Healthcare Authorities Web site, there have been over 1100 applications received state-wide. Representatives from each of the VRP3 providing agencies presented a brief introduction to their respective programs; handouts distributed are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit. Committee members were invited to direct questions to each presenter.

• Catholic Charities Services Corporation – Niioka Reed, Vocational Rehabilitation Coordinator

Catholic Charities provides a full range of employment and vocational rehabilitation services to individuals addicted to opiates, individuals with an addiction or mental illness diverting or re-entering from the County or State correctional facility, and youth or young adults in transition with an addiction or mental illness. Services include, but are not limited to, vocational rehabilitation counseling, job readiness training, transportation assistance, information and referral to treatment, job search and placement assistance. A monthly calendar of employment classes is produced.

• Cuyahoga County TASC (Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime) Program - Melissa Foster, VRP3 Supervisor

The Cuyahoga County TASC Program provides alcohol and drug treatment services and coordinates vocational rehabilitation services to adults who have been convicted of a criminal offense in either *Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas* (felony level) or the *Cleveland Municipal Court* (misdemeanor level), and individuals under the *Adult Parole Authority*, with a history of substance abuse or dependence. An Open House is scheduled for November 29th from 10 am – Noon and for providers on December 1st from 2:30-4:00 PM.

• Jewish Family Service Association (JFSA) – Elizabeth Little, VRP3 Supervisor

JFSA provides a full range of employment and vocational rehabilitation services for adults with mental illness living in Cuyahoga County. Services include vocational evaluations, community based assessments, work adjustment, placement and retention, clerical and computer training, and benefits analysis. JFSA's philosophy is to (1) engage clients quickly and maintain engagement (2) work is part of the recovery process (3) Client driven, individualized, and collaborative (4) Wrap around services.

- **Magnolia Clubhouse – David DiTullio, Program Manager**

Magnolia Clubhouse is a psychosocial rehabilitation center for adults 18 years and older with mental illness and a resident of Cuyahoga County. Clubhouse members work in partnership with staff in determining and conducting the work of the Clubhouse, as well as their own recovery. The VRP3 program offers a full range of employment and vocational rehabilitation services including work adjustment, transitional employment services and independent supported employment. Mr. DiTullio was pleased to announce that Magnolia Clubhouse recently hired Debbie Barris, formerly of the Employment Alliance, to work specifically with this project and subsequent trainings.

- **Mental Health Services, Inc. – Edward Gemerchak, Program Manager**

Mental Health Services provides a full range of employment and vocational rehabilitation services to homeless men and women diverted or re-entering from local and/or state correctional facilities that are diagnosed with alcohol and other drug addictions and/or mental illness. Referrals generate from consumers presenting and residing at MHS' North Point Transitional Housing Program, 2100 Lakeside and the Norma Herr Women's Center. Mr. Gemerchak noted that this population is generally very discouraged and it takes a lot of effort to reinitiate discussions around employment and the possibility of getting and keeping a job. The program has begun to work with those at the Housing First programs and Southpoint consumers. The initial goal is to find an interim job to get individuals out of homelessness and then to work toward the next step in acquiring their long-term position or career.

- **Recovery Resources – Brandon Wray, VRP3 Supervisor**

Recovery Resources provides a full range of employment and vocational rehabilitation services to individuals 16 years and older who express interest in full or part-time, competitive employment, who experience mental illness and/or substance addictions. Individuals may also be transitioning from school to work, re-entering the community from incarceration, needing a diversion from incarceration, and/or a military veteran. The agency has accepted 200 applications to date and has 5-1/2 counselors. Referrals are received from Recovery Resources and other ADAMHS Board providers. It was noted that at least ½ of the applicants have a criminal justice history.

- **Cleveland Sight Center – Steve Friedman, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer**

Dr. Friedman noted that the Cleveland Sight Center is the fiscal agent for 3 partnership contracts. The program is in its second year and outcome statistics were shared for two of the programs: Call Center Training Program and VRP3 Supported Employment Program. Dr. Friedman highlighted the programs which serve people who are blind or visually impaired who may also have other disabilities as well. The Cleveland Sight Center is fortunate to have a close partnership with a company called Invocision, which is the 3rd largest Call Center in the country and is based in Akron, OH. (Outcome handouts are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

Ms. Warr encouraged all programs and providers to train consumers and clients so that they are able to enter the work force in positions that are other than entry level jobs and might also be out of our geographic area.

3. CLIENTS RIGHTS ANNUAL REPORT

Consumer Relations Specialist, Craig Fallon, and Client Rights Officer, Judy Jackson-Winston, presented the Clients Rights Annual Summary for SFY 2011. A power point presentation was reviewed by Mr. Fallon and is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit. The presentation goal was to:

- Review data and observations regarding contacts made directly with the ADAMHS Board Clients Rights and Consumer Relations Unit.
- Review data and observations regarding grievances and complaints filed system-wide at all behavioral health agencies.
- Offer Quality Improvement recommendations.

CLIENTS RIGHTS ANNUAL REPORT *(Continued)*

Questions of committee members were addressed by presenters. Copies of the full Annual Clients Rights Report were made available to those interested individuals. Jackson-Winston reported that a legislative change expected in January 2012 may alter the current Clients Rights Rule.

4. HOARDING NETWORK

Ms. Leisha Yarborough-Franklin, Adult Programs Specialist, explained that this program was a result of a previous initiative of the former Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board (Project ASSIST) in partnership with Senior and Adult Services and Benjamin Rose Institute. These entities co-sponsored a seminar on hoarding presented by the Orange County California Governing Task Force. Stakeholders attending this initial conference decided to start a committee in our area to address this issue. The Hoarding Connection was formed in 2009 and meets the second Thursday of the month. There is no funding for this initiative; all participation is on a volunteer basis. Ms. Yarborough-Franklin & Keith Brown, Ph.D., Assistant Director of Mental Health Services/Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging, are co-chairs. The Web site is www.HoardingConnectionCC.org

The Hoarding Connection of Cuyahoga County's mission *"is to provide support and advice, educate, develop best practices, and assist in identifying needed resources for individuals who hoard and those who work with individuals who hoard."* (A copy of the brochure is attached to the original minutes in the Executive Unit.)

Ms. Yarborough-Franklin introduced Keith Brown, PhD, a local expert on hoarding who provides treatment for people who hoard, makes numerous presentations on this topic and has been also a participant on the A&E show, Hoarders. Dr. Brown reported the goals of the Hoarding Connection:

1. Produce a list of services for providers.
2. Educate people what hoarding is and that hoarding is actually a mental disorder. (It was noted that in 2013, hoarding will have its own DSM-5 code.)
3. Gather research around prevalence and incidents from municipal police departments, fire departments, etc. in order to go after grant funding which will ultimately benefit individuals and communities affected.

5. FUTURE TOPICS FOR PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Dr. Biegel, Committee Vice Chair, introduced the proposed list of future topics and tentative schedule for their review:

- Reportable Major Unusual Incidents Update *(January)*
- ADAMHS Board Outcome Data *(January)*
- Access Issues For Adult Non-Medicaid Clients *(January)*
- Art/music therapy, physical fitness & nutrition as part of recovery process *(January)*
- Domestic violence issues *(February)*
- Impact of FY2012 Budget Cuts *(February)*
- Lapsed Medicaid Report *(February)*
- FIRST Treatment Program Report *(February)*

6. OLD/NEW BUSINESS - None

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

Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist

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