

Mental Health Response Advisory Committee Meeting
Monday, September 11, 2017
ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County

Present: Co-Chairs: Valeria A. Harper, ADAMHS Board; Ed Eckart, City of Cleveland; Captain James Purcell, Cleveland Division of Police.

Committee Members: Yolanda Armstrong, Big Brothers/Big Sisters; Carole Ballard, ADAMHS Board; Michael Baskin, NAMI Greater Cleveland; Gabriella Celeste, Case Western Reserve University; Rosemary Creeden, Frontline Services; Dr. Rick Cirillo, Board of Developmental Disabilities; Mike Evanovich, Department of Justice; Yolanda Gordon, Cleveland Municipal Court; Larry Heller, Greater Cleveland Congregations; Vincent Holland, Advocate; Shannon Jerse, Saint Vincent Charity Hospital; Christina Kalnicki, Care Alliance; Karen Kearny, MHAC; Derek Moore, Cleveland Municipal Court; Susan Neth, Frontline Services; Marie Nemas, Cuyahoga County Probation Department; Scott Osiecki, ADAMHS Board; Charles See, Cleveland Police; Carolyn Sweda, Cleveland VA; Heather Tonsing Volosin, Department of Justice;

MHRAC Members on the phone: Dr. Randy Dupont, Monitor
Rosie Palfy, Advocate
Kathy Stoll, Advocate

Cleveland Police Commission: Dr. Kathleen Clegg

Valeria A. Harper opened the meeting with introductions at 9:01 a.m. The MHRAC members reviewed and approved the minutes from August 14, 2017 with amendments from R. Palfy regarding the following: No mention of discussion regarding homelessness and crisis issues. Minutes will be revised to reflect these issues. Minutes were approved.

Discussion:

Cleveland Police Commission:

Dr. Kathleen Clegg, representative from the Cleveland Police Commission (CPC) disseminated a summary which was read and discussed in the meeting. Handout is attached to the meeting minutes. The following are brief highlights:

- Dr. Clegg acknowledged that there has been some turnover of the Commission members but they are now stable and have also hired five people as staff.
- CPC b- laws are in the process of being discussed and revised regarding CPC member attendance.
- Dr. Clegg invited MHRAC Community Engagement to the CPC Community Engagement Committee meeting in the future in order to update the group on its activities.

Sub-committee Reports:

Training: Dr. Cirillo, sub-committee co-chair, stated that the committee met on August 21st, and is working on the 40-hour Specialized CIT Officer Training and will be using a similar format to the 8-hour training. Committee is hoping to hear back from the Monitoring Team on the 40-hour Specialized CIT training outline. Committee is also reviewing de-escalation training area following consultation with Dr. Dupont.

Community Engagement: Karen Kearny, sub-committee co-chair, stated that the committee met twice and is working on the development of a speaker's bureau and future public forums. The group was meeting right after the MHRAC meeting. A member asked about the resource cards that the committee developed. Captain Purcell updated the group that the cards will not be given to officers until all officers have completed the 8-hour training. The CDP wanted all officers to have the initial training before the cards were distributed. Committee indicated that they would like to reach out the Cleveland Police Commission in the future for collaboration. Also, there was a suggestion of connecting with the Faith-based communities.

Diversion: Ms. Harper updated the group that the date for implementation for the CSU Pilot Drop-off Point is being pushed back from the October 1, 2017 date mentioned in the last meeting. The committee will schedule a follow up meeting with the Detroit-Shoreway Development Association to determine if there are any additional issues or concerns that need to be addressed.

Community Clinical Quality Review Committee: Gabriella Celeste, sub-committee co-chair, discussed the purpose of the Quality Improvement Subcommittee. Group met August 24th to confirm the charge and identify the top agenda items to review and discuss for future meetings. The topics are:

- The challenges of responding to the Emergency Certificate i.e. Pink Slip vs. the New Use of Force Policy.
- Violent patients in the private hospital.
- Diversion as a process and not a destination.
- Addressing continuity of care vs. Assessment only.

Captain Purcell indicated that officers are increasingly questioning the use of the Pink Slip in lieu of the Use of Force Policy. When officers arrive on the scene and the client is quiet and conforming, officers are reluctant to engage further. Dr. Clegg indicated that the completion of Pink Slip is always the last resort at an agency. A lot of discussion has gone into the appropriateness of the action. Providers are concerned that officers are “second guessing” the legitimacy of the pink slips.

Susan Neth stated that agencies are aware that the facilitation of the pink slip could trigger a trauma for the client and do consider the process thoroughly. Captain Purcell indicated that he wants to hear about the individual cases in order to determine the appropriateness of the officers’ decisions. He further stated that most of the hesitancy is coming from the Use of Force Policy training and officers do not want to be disciplined for their actions.

Dr. Dupont indicated that these are important issues for discussion. He is in consultation with Mathew Barge regarding the potential conflicts that the Use of Force policy may be creating for the officers. He indicated that it is also great to hear that the officers are taking the training and issues seriously and want to do a good job. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis based upon the data being presented.

Shannon Jerse indicated that these are risk management issues. If the officers do not take the person there are issues. Hospitals have relied upon St. Vincent Charity for second opinion in similar cases.

Ms. Harper stated that there are a lot of issues to be addressed. Looking forward to the Committee bringing back recommendations to the MHRAC.

Co-Responder Team Update: Captain Purcell indicated that the Pilot Project has struggled with some issues. Currently, staff are conducting follow-up contact with people seen by CIT Officers in order to reduce police contact with high utilizers of service. This process has been effective. Staff will be speaking with other Officers in Second and First District in order to generate more referrals for follow-up. Staff and CIT Officers will have monthly meetings to look at high utilizers and addresses. There has been some discussion with the Second District Commander regarding access to the CDP radio.

Open Discussion:

- A member asked about the status of the Diversion Committee. There was some confusion on if the Diversion Committee was still meeting. The ADAMHS Board and Frontline Service had been meeting about the CSU Pilot Project.
- A member questioned the status of the two Crisis Centers referenced in the newspaper by the County Executive. Ms. Harper indicated that the County Executive did not guarantee any funding availability for this project. A follow-up meeting is scheduled.
- A member stated that on the CIT International website, the power point presentation delivered by Carole Ballard and Captain Purcell had the CIT Co-Responder data and wondered why this data is not available to the

MHRAC members. It was explained that some information may or not be shared with the MHRAC depending on timing.

- Scott Osiecki indicated that Mathew Barge stated through an e-mail that MHRAC is doing a great job in response to the submission of the Second Year Work Plan.
- A member questioned when the ADAMHS Board would be updating the MHRAC membership list. Ms. Harper indicated that the Board was working on the method to update the list and will hopefully have an update at the next meeting.
- It was decided that since Columbus Day falls on the second Monday of October, the MHRAC will meet on Tuesday, October 10, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. at the ADAMHS Board.

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.