

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

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 24, 2021

### ADAMHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Bishara W. Addison	Gwendolyn A. Howard, LSW, MSSA
Ashwani Bhardwaj	Patricia James-Stewart, M.Ed., LSW
Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D.	Katie Kern-Pilch, ATR-BC, LPC-S
Gregory X. Boehm, M.D.	Steve Killpack, MS
Crystal L. Bryant, Esq., MS, LSW	Jena Olsen
Erskine Cade, MBA	Rev. Max M. Rodas, MA
J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D.	Sharon Rosenbaum, MBA
Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr.	Harvey A. Snider, Esq.

**ABSENT:** Elsie Caraballo

**BOARD STAFF PRESENT:** Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, Joseph Arnett, Carole Ballard, Christina Bohuslawsky-Brown, Danielle Clark, Curtis Couch, Erin DiVincenzo, Tami Fischer, Cheryl Fratalone, Madison Greenspan, Felicia Harrison, Esther Hazlett, Bill Hebble, Myra Henderson, Charde' Hollins, June Hudson, Richanda Jackson-Birks, Leslie Koblentz, Linda Lamp, Beth Pfohl, Vicki Roemer, Clare Rosser, Jessica Saker, Allison Schaefer, Starlette Sizemore-Rice, Larry Smith, Jr., Michaele Smith, Regina Spicer, Maggie Tolbert, Thomas Williams, Leshia Yarbrough-Franklin, Beth Zietlow-DeJesus

### **1. CALL TO ORDER / AUDIENCE INPUT**

Board Chair, Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., called the General Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. No audience input regarding agenda items was received.

### **2. BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL**

Due to the current public health orders surrounding COVID-19, and the Board's commitment to ensuring the health and safety of our Board members, staff, partners, and stakeholders, the General Meeting was held via a Zoom meeting. To assure a quorum, Ms. Linda Lamp, Executive Assistant, completed the Board member attendance roll call.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - The minutes from the January 27, 2021, General Meeting were approved as submitted.

### **4. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Rev. Gohlstin reported that the mission of the AIDS Funding Collaborative (AFC) is to strengthen the community's response to HIV/AIDS, as a public/private partnership providing coordination, leadership, advocacy and funding in greater Cleveland. The ADAMHS Board has been a funding partner of the AFC since 2006. According to the AFC's Bylaws, which states "Each funding partner shall have two representatives on the AFC. One shall be a staff representative from the funding organization, and the second representative shall be a volunteer board member, or board-appointed representative of the funder".

Since January 2020, Ms. Crystal Bryant has participated on the AFC Advisory Committee as the Board representative. However, Ms. Bryant has indicated a need to step down from her appointment as the Board representative. As a result, Board members were previously polled for their interest in participating as the Board representative on the AFC and Rev. Max Rodas was selected to fill this vacancy.

### **5. FAITH-BASED OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Gwendolyn Howard, Faith-based Outreach Committee Chair, reported on the Faith-based Outreach Committee meeting held on February 3, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. via a Zoom meeting. Committee members heard the following provider program presentations and items of discussion:

- Faith Community Supportive Services (FCSS)/2nd Chance Youth Program  
Mr. Charles Britton, Program Manager of FCSS, provided historical information regarding the 2nd Chance Program. He reported that this program is a spinoff from a program previously called Clergy United for Juvenile Justice from years prior; whereby the churches deal with the court regarding youth in the Juvenile Justice system. FCSS is a continuation of this

program and through the 2nd Chance Program, they are able to carry on with the original program with Juvenile Court. Mr. Britton introduced Ms. Minnie Scruggs, Executive Director, who reported that the basis of the 2nd Chance Program is the three R's – Rules, Respect and Responsibility.

Ms. Scruggs stated that FCSS is located inside the Hough Community Multi-Purpose Building and has been providing a variety of services/support to the Hough Community for many years; serving many neighborhoods, races, religions and all levels of income. The 2nd Chance Youth Program's major goals are to: 1) provide alternative support services to youth involved in the Juvenile Justice System, 2) demonstrate how faith-based outreach initiatives can reduce delinquency and 3) reduce youth recidivism, to improve the lives of the youth they serve.

The 2nd Chance Youth Program provides after-school services/support to high-risk youth (10-17) and their families as an alternative to incarceration in the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court's Juvenile Detention Center. The program also provides services that prevent at risk youth from entering the Juvenile Court System. Participants include: 1) individuals involved in drug violations such as the selling of drugs and/or use of illegal drugs, 2) court referred high risk youth that have been identified as serious felony offenders and 3) individuals expelled from school for repeated violations and behavioral problems.

The 2nd Chance Youth Program provides services/support that include prevention/intervention services, outreach/awareness activities, substance use education and referrals to support services. Specifically, this program provides training and mentoring/tutoring support, personal development, leadership development, outreach support, community service projects, concept art, teen/adult parenting training/support and employment assistance. Additionally, this program provides supportive services and skill development for grandparents that are caring for their grandchildren and utilize referrals for specialized services and support.

Referral sources for the 2nd Chance Youth Program include the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court, parents, churches, schools, community organizations and other sources with services taking place at the FCSS Center, in the community, schools, home and over the phone. Community resource partners include schools, parents, social service agencies, community-based organizations, political officials, business leaders and volunteers.

- Brenda Glass Multipurpose Trauma Center

Ms. Brenda Glass, MSSA, LISW-S, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Brenda Glass Multipurpose Center, reported that victims of violent crimes often experience trauma – the mind's response to a deeply distressing or disturbing event that overwhelms an individual's ability to cope, causes feelings of helplessness, diminishes sense of self and ability to feel the full range of emotions and experiences. The Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) recently decreased or eliminated funding to a variety of programs designed to assist the victims of violent crimes – including eliminating all the \$1.2 million provided to The Centers Trauma Center. Ms. Glass, who assists people of color that are less likely to seek help during the recovery process after violence, presented her program to the Department of Justice in 2007. The Department of Justice liked the program but wanted to fund a larger provider and The Centers was selected to receive the grant. The Centers hired Ms. Glass to run the program, which is based out of Allen Chapel Missionary Baptist Church – the location of the Brenda Glass Multipurpose Trauma Center – 501 (c) (3).

Ms. Glass approached the ADAMHS Board about funding the program. Board staff had several discussions with both The Centers and Ms. Glass, which resulted in the Centers deciding to no longer pursue the program. Staff believed the program should be funded under the Board's Faith-based Initiatives since it is based on providing spiritual support in addition to traditional mental health services. On October 21, 2020, Board members approved to contract with Brenda Glass Multipurpose Trauma Center for the period of November 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 to provide the following services:

- Bedside Stabilization and Intervention.
- Spiritual Counseling Individual/Spiritual Counseling Group.
- Trauma Case Coordination/Housing Procurement.
- Mental Health Skills Building.
- Peer Trauma Support.
- 16-week Group Sessions and Individual Sessions.

The Brenda Glass Multipurpose Trauma Center is expected to serve 60-90 individuals based on the contract period. Presently, 49 individuals have been served; and 8 individuals, in addition to 7 families, have obtained safe shelter upon

victimization. As this is short term shelter, the Brenda Glass Multipurpose Trauma Center is currently working with Jewish Family Service - liaison for Emerald Development and Economic Network, Inc. (EDEN, Inc.) to help secure permanent affordable housing for the individuals who have experienced domestic violence. Jewish Family Service assigns a case worker to help complete the EDEN, Inc. application and coordinate the approval and complete the process for obtaining a Rapid Rehousing voucher. Jewish Family Service also provides advocacy with landlords to encourage them to accept the client and explain the process.

Mr. Glass also reported that in addition to the 49 individuals served, the Brenda Glass Multipurpose Trauma Center has provided 265 mental health skill building sessions, 265 spiritual counseling sessions, 280 care coordination services, 280 peer spiritual support services and 13 trauma groups; whereby a light meal and/or transportation is provided. Additionally, four individuals were given assistance with obtaining employment upon job loss.

- Galilean Theological Center (GTC) Substance Use Disorders Educational & Training Program for Latinx Clergy & Church Leaders

The Galilean Theological Center (GTC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission statement is to provide introductory theological education, training, and job-readiness skills for ministry, leadership, and employment in the Hispanic-Latino churches throughout Northeast Ohio. The main goals of GTC Substance Use Disorders Educational & Training Program are to address disparities and build equity for the Latinx community of Northeast Ohio as it relates to Substance Use Disorders and Mental Health challenges. The focus is to train a cohort group of Latinx Clergy and Church Leaders in the area of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment, while creating access to clinical credentials: Licensure (LCDC I, II, III) and Certification (CDCA). The trainings will consist of two components, Spiritual Caregiving to Help Addicted Persons and Families and Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant (CDCA) Credentialing and Certification.

GTC has been training students who hold a High School diploma or equivalent GED in classical and discipline specific theological education capable of matriculating in graduate study at Ashland Theological Seminary. GTC ministerial training program has been offering (8) courses of 21 contact hours per course - (4) courses in classical disciplines of Hermeneutics, Bible, Theology and Church History and (4) courses in Hispanic Church Studies. Three (3) seminars in preparation for the call to ministry and research & writing for theological study are also offered. Upon successful completion of 8 courses and 3 seminars, students receive a Diploma of Theology in Hispanic Religious Church Studies from Ashland Theological Seminary and are eligible to continue graduate studies at Ashland Theological Seminary.

Since the inception of the program in 2007, GTC has reached over 90 Pastors and over 600 Church Leaders and students in Northeast Ohio. Over a dozen students have continued their graduate work at Ashland Theological Seminary. In addition to this curriculum, GTC is in the process of adding a component on Pastoral Counseling that deals with Substance Use Disorders and Mental Health Disorders.

- Doctoral Student Research Project

Ms. Sizemore-Rice reported on a research collaboration with Ms. Lu Higgenbottom, who is a licensed Clinical Counselor that currently works as Clinical Supervisor. Ms. Higgenbottom is a Doctoral student at Cappel University pursuing a Doctorate in Human Services. One of the requirements for Ms. Higgenbottom's degree is the completion of a research project during her capstone year. Ms. Higgenbottom is particularly interested in working with Faith-based providers and given the Board's funding of a variety of Faith-based programs, she approached the Board to inquire as to whether the Board would be interested in partnering with her on her research; and serve as her advisor on the project. Ms. Higgenbottom would be volunteering her time on this project with no direct cost to the Board; however, the Board will be facilitating introductions to the Faith-based providers, per Ms. Sizemore-Rice's purview and identify providers that would be willing to work with her.

Ms. Higgenbottom's research is focused on the impact of data utilization on the success rate for at-risk youth and addressing and mitigating risk factors. Ms. Higgenbottom is interested in the effect that data collection, management and analysis by providers will have on successful service programming and positive outcomes for the participants. This project is slated to take approximately one year and is to end on December 31, 2021. Ms. Higgenbottom will be providing quarterly reports/updates to board staff serving as her advisor and to obtain direction. Ms. Higgenbottom will also be providing a presentation to the Board of Directors at the conclusion of this project.

- Faith-based Outreach Program Update

Mr. Tom Williams, Evaluation & Research Officer, highlighted accomplishments of each of the Faith-based Outreach Providers illustrated in the written Faith-based Programs Performance Outcomes 2020 Quarters 1-3 Report and referenced

a table reflecting the Board's Faith-based providers, along with the actual number of clients served in the first three quarters of 2020 and the projected/expected client counts for 2020. Several providers have already surpassed their expected client counts.

Ms. Sizemore-Rice highlighted accomplishments of each of the Faith-based Outreach Providers illustrated in the written Faith-Based Program Progress Report dated February 3, 2021. Overall, the faith-based outreach initiatives are making a difference in the lives of those individuals being served and show movement and growth.

The Board endorsed the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Greater Cleveland's use of funding for their faith-based campaign aimed at inclusivity for African-American faith-based communities through the utilization of billboards near prominent African-American churches that they intend to target with a mental health awareness marketing campaign to promote NAMI Greater Cleveland's programs and services and develop and begin new partnerships. This campaign will include four billboards near these churches and will occur during the timeframe of December 2020 through April 2021 to enable individuals to join NAMI Greater Cleveland's virtual programs specifically targeted for their congregations. NAMI Greater Cleveland will also be doing a billboard for the timeframe of one month; with location yet to be determined.

- **New Business**

Mr. Khalid Samad, Chief Executive Officer/Co-Founder of 99Treasures Arts & Culture, reported that 99Treasures Arts & Culture's parent organization, Coalition for a Better Life dba Peace In The Hood, reported that they will be participating in the City of Cleveland's 47th Annual Black History Month Flag Raising ceremony on Saturday, February 6, 2021, 11:30 A.M. All were invited all to attend.

Rev. Gohlstin requested provider agency participation in the Board's workgroup titled "Eliminating Structural Racism in Behavioral Healthcare Workgroup". This workgroup, which meets the first Monday of each month at 1:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M., broke into small subcommittees based on the key focus areas that the group originally decided to focus on and included the following: 1) Workforce, 2) Health equity in behavioral health care, 3) Research and data, 4) Policy and advocacy, and 5) Community collaboration, education and stigma. During subcommittee discussion, workgroup members were requested to author a statement of purpose and provide three suggested objectives and/or goals. These subcommittees moving forward and will be chaired by an ADAMHS staff member and co-chaired by a member of the community.

Starting in March, a series of educational components within these areas; including a number of invited speakers, will be utilized to educate, promote and inspire participants toward developing short term and long term solutions to issues related to behavioral healthcare in the community. Mr. Kevin Fischer, Executive Director at NAMI Michigan, is scheduled as the first speaker in this series. Committee members were requested to contact Ms. Beth Zietlow-DeJesus, Director of External Affairs, or Ms. Carole Ballard, Director of Education & Training, with any questions regarding this initiative.

## **6. PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Katie Kern-Pilch, Planning & Oversight Committee Chair, reported on the Planning & Oversight Committee meeting held on February 10, 2021, via a Zoom meeting. Committee members heard the following presentations and items of discussion:

- **Briermost Foundation**

Briermost Foundation is a Board funded provider agency that helps in transitioning to life after exiting an addiction treatment facility or upon completion of detoxification. Briermost operates recovery housing, an agriculture training program for women, and peer support in both the emergency departments of two Cleveland Clinic hospitals and the Endocarditis Unit at the main campus. In year 3, October 1, 2019 to August 30, 2020, the program served 178 individuals; of which 150 individuals were able to be linked with treatment services, 24% African American/Black and 31% Hispanic. Throughout year 2, they were able to see 72 individuals. During year 3, Briermost Foundation had 84% success with linkages to treatment; and because of COVID-19, during February 2020, they had a decrease in linkages. This decrease was due to the provision of peer support services via face-to-face. However, through the provision of iPads at both emergency departments, they were able to successfully transition to a virtual platform and keep the same success rate of linking individuals to their chosen pathway of treatment.

Briermost Foundation has six certified recovery homes that include 44 beds with 39 being used due to COVID-19. They serve women who are dually diagnosed and prescribed Medication-assisted Treatment (MAT); and have served 96 women. During COVID-19 they have hosted presentations for all residents; and provided the following: 1) Sanitation schedules, 2) Protocols for self-isolation/self-quarantine, 3) Financial support for residents, 4) Increased staff time, 5) Recovery supports,

6) Technology, and 7) Activities. The data provided indicate 86% are sober at the one year mark for individuals that have lived at the recovery house for at least three months, 92% have stable housing, 100% have no recidivism, 71% are employed and 100% are engaged in their chosen recovery program.

Due to the lack of sustainable income, unsafe work environments, criminal history, and insufficient training programs designed to meet the needs of women, Briermost Foundation decided to expand to an agricultural training program with a farm in North Royalton linked to "Path in Ohio Jobs". They surveyed local Nutrition Deserts and are selling their produce at Old Brooklyn Farmers Market. This hands-on training has created a supportive environment for early recovery, enabled individuals to capitalize on existing strengths and learn new skills at their own pace to assist them with re-integrating into the greater community.

Briermost Foundation's newest initiative is in support of Project White Butterfly. The mission of Project White Butterfly is to meet people wherever they are in their recovery journey by sharing messages of hope, to provide a sense of community, and to serve as a resource navigator offering linkage to recovery services.

- Care Team Discussion

Former ADAMHS Board member, Mr. Mike Thomas, from R Strategy Group, Ms. Mary Crowley, Senior Vice President and Chief External Affairs Officer of Fountain House in New York City, and Lori D'Angelo, Ph.D., Executive Director of Magnolia Clubhouse, facilitated a Care Team discussion. Ms. Crowley reported that Fountain House successfully addresses the devastating impact of serious mental illness. They were founded in New York City in 1948 with the belief that people living with mental illness can be active participants in their own and each other's recovery. Each year, over 1,600 members come to Fountain House to contribute their talents, learn new skills, access opportunities and forge new friendships. Fountain House creates a culture that transforms lives. Their members, in partnership with staff, operate employment, education, housing and wellness programs. They perform all activities, including advocacy, administrative support, building maintenance and food preparation that keep their community going. Members hold jobs, graduate from schools, develop social networks and experience fewer hospitalizations and improved overall health. Increased fulfillment, sense of purpose, and stability inevitably follow.

Fountain House has inspired the creation of hundreds of similar programs in 34 countries that serve more than 100,000 people annually. One similar program in Cleveland, Ohio, Magnolia Clubhouse, is based on the research-proven Clubhouse Model. Magnolia Clubhouse is a working community that is purposeful, respectful, and engaging; and was established to benefit the health and wellness of people who live with mental illness. Members and staff work side-by-side to operate the Clubhouse. By working together, members make friends, gain confidence, and learn new skills. At the heart of the Clubhouse Model is the philosophy that work and relationships are rehabilitative. For people with mental illness, it offers a safe and supportive environment for building a better life.

Mr. Thomas, Ms. Crowley and Dr. D'Angelo introduced Care Responders: implementing a health-first approach to mental health emergencies. They emphasized that a Care Response Team has the core principles of "caring for people should come first and peers are an integral part of the process" as significant consideration in all operations. This brought forth a discussion regarding mental illness and the criminal justice system. The nation's jails and prisons have replaced hospitals as the primary facility for mentally ill individuals. Each year two million people living with mental illness will be booked by police. Approximately 20% of people in jails and 15% of people in state prisons, nationally, have a serious mental illness. In Cuyahoga County, approximately one-third of inmates had a serious mental illness or substance abuse issue. On average, these individuals stayed in jail 77% longer than those without mental illnesses or substance abuse issues.

Upon the tragic shooting death of a Fountain House participating member by police, questions were raised as to whether police should be involved with situations of public health versus public safety and appropriate response options. As a result, Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets (CAHOOTS) was presented. CAHOOTS, which was launched in Eugene, Oregon in 1989, mobilizes two-person teams consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. Approximately 75% of their crisis workers are peers – people with lived mental health experiences. Last year CAHOOTS handled more than 24,000 calls, about 20% of the calls dispatched by 911. CAHOOTS teams called for police backup only 250 times – 1% of calls.

- Updates:
- Adult Care Facility (ACF) Mini-grants

During February 2020, the Board approved funding in the amount of \$200,000 to provide mini-grants for property improvements for contracting Class 2 Residential Facilities (Adult Care Facilities/Group Homes) that have received "Peer Seal of Quality" to provide safe, decent and affordable housing for individuals living with mental illness and are eligible for Residential Assistance Program (RAP) funds. The Board contracted with EDEN, Inc. to provide project management services for the mini-grants to provide quality and cost-efficient utilization of the \$200,000 in mini-grant funds. EDEN has charged a flat 8% fee for its project management services. With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Schaefer and Mr. Coleman referenced a number of successful repairs and quality of life purchases through the ACF mini-grants.

- COVID-19 Vaccinations

The Board is working with the City of Cleveland Department of Public Health, Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, the Governor's office and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) on a plan to get all of the Board's congregate living facilities vaccinated that are located in the City of Cleveland. Four locations were chosen 1) The Lantern, 2) Community Assessment and Treatment Services (CATS), 3) Oriana House and 4) Stella Maris. The Cleveland Department of Public Health has completed site visits and walk throughs and the scheduled dates for providers to get vaccinated will occur during the timeframe of Wednesday, February 24, 2021 and Saturday, February 27, 2021. The facility staff and residents of the homes that are offering their space are also getting vaccinated. Congregate living facilities were contacted in these areas and the surrounding areas to invite them to these local Points of Distribution (PODs) for vaccinations.

Board staff also advocated for our behavioral health care providers that anyone doing in-person work with high risk COVID-19 patients; which is our population, is eligible for the vaccine. The Board has worked closely with the City of Cleveland and was able to get an additional POD set up at the Public Auditorium for these employees, during the timeframe of Thursday, February 18, 2021 through Saturday, February 20, 2021. The follow up second dose PODs are scheduled one month out.

In reference to the County Board of Health, all employees needed to register to go through their sites, mostly at the Berea Fairgrounds. The County Board of Health's congregate setting plan has not been shared; but the Board has been informed that they are working on one. As a result, the congregate living facilities outside the City of Cleveland will receive their vaccinations through the County Board of Health; and the Board is waiting for additional information as to how they plan to reach the congregate living facilities outside the City of Cleveland.

- Substance Use Recovery and Workplace Safety Program (SURWSP)

SURWSP is a pilot program providing funding to local Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Boards. The Bureau of Workers' Compensation provides funding to the ADAMHS Board to assist local employers hire workers that are in recovery. The program is designed to develop and perpetuate a recovery friendly employment environment by ensuring the appropriate recruitment, hiring, management and retention of employees who are in recovery from substance use disorder. Eligible employers receive reimbursement for drug testing of prospective or current employees in recovery, and training to better equip supervisors to manage employees in recovery. The ADAMHS Board has provided the Bureau of Workers' Compensation with a list of approximately 25 employers in Cuyahoga County to be contacted and educated around these services. As of July 2020, there was a total of 12 employers participating in these services in Cuyahoga County; and as of January 21, 2021, there were 35 participating employers.

- State Opioid Response (SOR) 2.0 Grant

The Ohio SOR 2.0 Project focuses on building a community system of care (prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery support) that emphasizes service integration between physical health, emergency health care, behavioral health care, criminal justice, and child welfare for persons with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and stimulant use disorders. OhioMHAS is partnering with local ADAMHS boards to implement treatment and recovery programs that expand access to MAT, as well as access to housing and peer support for those with OUD, or a history of opioid overdose or stimulant use disorders. The Board has partnered with fourteen providers to expand access to MAT and recovery support services to persons in Cuyahoga County with OUD and stimulant use disorders. The SOR programs provide direct access to MAT, housing and outreach and peer support for persons struggling with OUD or stimulant disorders.

- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) *Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant and Substance Abuse Site-Based Program (COSSAP)*, MAT in the Diversion Center

This program supports first responder diversion programs, to direct persons away from justice system involvement and into treatment. The project will serve persons in Cuyahoga County who have presented at a pre-booking Diversion Center after an encounter with law enforcement, due to their OUD, stimulant use, or other substance use. The purpose of this project is to provide access to rapid assessment, MAT induction, and peer recovery supports to survivors of overdose of opioid, stimulants or other substances, to divert them from future involvement in the criminal justice system. The creation of MAT

services on site, and Peer Support recovery services within a countywide Diversion Center would reduce the impact of opioids, stimulants, and other substances, including a reduction in overdose fatalities, and mitigating the impacts on crime victims. It is anticipated this program will enable 155 persons to receive treatment and peer recovery support during the grant period.

- **Mental Health Court Program (MHCP)**  
The MHCP funds behavioral health treatment and recovery support services to clients that are involved with selected Mental Health dockets. Awarded funds will be allocated to the ADAMHS Boards and passed through to the Mental Health Court to finance treatment and recovery support services for eligible clients. Treatment for MHCP clients is provided by a community behavioral health services provider certified by OhioMHAS. Cleveland Municipal Court Mental Health Court anticipates serving 75 clients. South Euclid Municipal Court Mental Health Court (F.R.E.E. Docket) anticipates serving 20-30 clients.
- **Galilean Theological Center (GTC) Substance Use Disorders Educational & Training Program for Latinx Clergy & Church Leaders**  
The Galilean Theological Center (GTC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission statement is to provide introductory theological education, training, and job-readiness skills for ministry, leadership, and employment in the Hispanic-Latino churches throughout Northeast Ohio.
- **AIDS Funding Collaborative (AFC) Board Representation**  
To fill the recent vacancy, it was suggested that an email be forwarded to all Board members inquiring about their interest in participating as the Board representative on the AFC.

## **7. FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Sharon Rosenbaum, Finance & Operations Committee Chair, reported on the Finance & Operations Committee meeting held on February 17, 2021, via a Zoom meeting and highlighted the Vouchers, Contracts and Amendments as listed below.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 21-02-01**  
**ACCEPTING THE REPORT OF THE CEO ON EXPENDITURES AND VOUCHERS PROCESSED FOR PAYMENT DURING DECEMBER 2020**

Ms. Rosenbaum reported that during December 2020 the Board spent \$371,818; and that during Calendar Year 2020 the Board has spent a total of \$4,958,494 that is roughly 83.01% of the total Administrative budget.

In December 2020, the Board received revenues of \$1,219,930, bringing our total revenue to \$67,948,488. Expenditures for December 2020 were \$7,993,683 bringing our total expenses for Calendar Year 2020 to \$58,646,100 that is 89.23% of our anticipated expenditures for the calendar year. (The final Financial Reports are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

*[Due to a paperwork oversight, Ms. Bishara W. Addison did not vote.]*

**Motion to approve Resolution No. 21-02-01.** MOTION: K. Kern-Pilch / SECOND: R. Blue / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, C. Bryant, E. Cade, R. Fowler, G. Howard, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, S. Killpack, J. Olsen, M. Rodas, S. Rosenbaum, H. Snider / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Resolution Nos. 21-02-02 through 21-02-03

- **RESOLUTION NO. 21-02-02 – APPROVAL AND RATIFICATION OF CONTRACTS:**
  1. State Opioid Response (SOR) 2.0 Grant – \$2,709,527.95
    - 12 Step Life/Ethel Hardy House - \$157,087
    - Ascent - \$118,461.42
    - B. Riley Homes - \$159,892.80
    - Briermost Foundation - \$148,614.67
    - Griffin Family Homes - \$166,421.45
    - I'm In Transition - \$155,552
    - Mommy and Me, Too! - \$299,949.91
    - NORA (Peer Support) - \$118,000
    - NORA (Housing) - \$127,010.88
    - NORA Women's Housing - \$166,424.90

- Point of Freedom Peer Support - \$327,310
- Recovery First Housing - \$165,665.50
- Thrive - \$170,488
- White Butterfly Peer Support (Woodrow) - \$65,986
- Women of Hope - \$166,402.82
- Woodrow Project (Peer Support) - \$58,813
- Woodrow Project (Housing) - \$137,447.60

The Board has partnered with the providers listed above to expand access to MAT and recovery support services to persons in Cuyahoga County with OUD and stimulant use disorders. The SOR programs provide direct access to MAT, housing and outreach and peer support for persons struggling with OUD or stimulant disorders. All providers may serve clients using MAT.

2. U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) *Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant and Substance Abuse Site-Based Program (COSSAP)*, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in the Diversion Center – \$1,196,326
  - Oriana House - \$1,078,389

The DOJ's purpose in this 3-year COSSAP program is to reduce crime and increase public safety by reducing drug abuse. The program supports first responder diversion programs, to direct persons away from justice system involvement and into treatment. The project will serve persons in Cuyahoga County who have presented at a pre-booking Diversion Center after an encounter with law enforcement, due to their OUD, stimulant use, or other substance use. The purpose of this project is to provide access to rapid assessment, MAT induction, and peer recovery supports to survivors of overdose of opioid, stimulants or other substances, to divert them from future involvement in the criminal justice system.

3. Mental Health Court Program (MHCP) – \$10,345
  - Cleveland Municipal Court - \$5,172.50
  - South Euclid Municipal Court - \$5,172.50

The MHCP funds behavioral health treatment and recovery support services to clients that are involved with selected Mental Health dockets. Awarded funds will be allocated to the ADAMHS Boards and passed through to the Mental Health Court to finance treatment and recovery support services for eligible clients. Treatment for MHCP clients is provided by a community behavioral health services provider certified by OhioMHAS.

4. Galilean Theological Center (GTC) Substance Use Disorders Educational & Training Program for Latinx Clergy & Church Leaders – \$60,000

The Galilean Theological Center (GTC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission statement is to provide introductory theological education, training, and job-readiness skills for ministry, leadership, and employment in the Hispanic-Latino churches throughout Northeast Ohio.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 21-02-03 – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT:**

1. Amendment to Resolution No. 20-09-04, Emerald Development and Economic Network, Inc. (EDEN, Inc.) – Term Extension

The ADAMHS Board has contracted with EDEN, Inc. to provide project management services for the mini-grants to provide quality and cost-efficient utilization of the \$200,000 in mini-grant funds previously approved by the ADAMHS Board. EDEN, Inc. will charge a flat 8% fee for its project management services. However, due to the length of the Pandemic and inability to obtain materials and/or appliances, there is a need to extend the term of the original contract.

*[Due to the finalization of paperwork, Ms. Bishara W. Addison was able to vote.]*



**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda (Resolution Nos. 21-02-02 through 21-02-03).** MOTION: P. James-Stewart / SECOND: S. Killpack / AYES: B. Addison, A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, C. Bryant, E. Cade, R. Fowler, G. Howard, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, S. Killpack, J. Olsen, M. Rodas, S. Rosenbaum, H. Snider / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

## **8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mr. Osiecki shared information regarding the following items of discussion:

- **Staff Update:**

- Ms. Clare Rosser started at the Board on February 16, 2021, as the Chief Public Affairs Officer.
- Ms. Jordan Scharfeld started at the Board on February 1, 2021, as the Administrative Assistant for the Education & Training unit. This position was hired as part of the Diversion Center project.
- Mr. Nick Weaver and Ms. Jess Saker have transitioned into new roles at the Board. Effective February 8, 2021, Mr. Weaver, previously the Database Specialist, is now the Data Analyst. Effective February 16, 2021, Ms. Saker, previously the Network & Systems Specialist, is now the Director of IT. The Board is currently recruiting to fill their former positions.
- Ms. Nancy Mundy will be starting at the Board on March 1, 2021, as the Clinical Adult Utilization Review Specialist.
- Mr. Woo Jun will be starting at the Board on March 8, 2021, as the Director of Risk Management.
- A new staff person will be starting on March 15, 2021, as a CIT Training Officer. Board staff are finalizing the paperwork.
- Ms. Tami Fischer, Chief Administrative Officer, and Ms. Ballard are interviewing applicants for the third CIT Training Officer position.
- Board staff are finalizing the job description for the Chief Compliance Officer position and will be posting the position soon.

- **Mental Health Response Advisory (MHRAC) 2020 Annual Report:**

- The MHRAC completed and submitted its CY2020 Annual Report in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Cleveland and the ADAMHS Board to the City and the Board on January 31, 2021.
- This report contained more statistics because data shared by Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) with the ADAMHS Board was collected by CDP officers using the new Brazos system.
- Prior to February 2020, CIT data collection was primarily completed by paper and submitted to the ADAMHS Board.
- Implementation of the new Brazos data platform allowed CDP to eliminate paper CIT stat sheets, which provided more information in 2020 regarding the encounters with and outcomes for people in crisis.
- Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) was also involved in analyzing the data for the report for a clearer picture of the encounters that CDP have with people living with a mental illness and/or addiction.
- The report is on the Board's website under the current initiatives tab.

- **Diversion Center Update:**

- Committee members continue to meet twice monthly and as needed with the County, their consultants, FrontLine Service and Oriana House.
- A meeting with law enforcement transpired on Friday, February 19, 2021, and had around 45 attendees.
- Both 40-hour trainings were held on Monday, February 8, 2021 with 18 officers and Monday, February 22, 2021, with 35 officers.
- Refresher training and dispatch training were also held.
- The Diversion Center is scheduled to open April 1, 2021.
- A video is in production.
- Final metrics are being finalized.
- County Prosecutor and Chief of Staff are developing a list of low-level offenses for officers and officers always have discretion.
- Board staff is strengthening communication lines - building direct contacts with police.

- **Eliminating Structural Racism in Behavioral Health Work Group:**

- The last meeting was held on Monday, February 1, 2021.

- Mr. Jerome West, Executive Director of East Cleveland Neighborhood Center, shared his experience and ideas to address racism in behavioral health care.
  - The group had a very open conversation about racism and shared ideas of one thing they would like to see change.
  - The next meeting is scheduled on Monday, March 1, 2021, 1 pm.
  - Mr. Ben Miladin, from United Way, is scheduled to present on how United Way is using data to address health inequities in our community.
  - The group is focused on creating actionable steps, not just words on paper, to help break down structural barriers related to racism in behavioral health care as the Board's resolution outlines.
- **COVID -19 Update:**
    - **Housing**
      - Class 1 Residential Facilities (RCFs): Have all adopted and continue to utilize detailed COVID-19 protocols. Community Support Network (CSN) & Flores are accepting clients and have each had new admissions this month. Flores requires clients to have a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of admission. Buckeye Therapeutic Community (TC) (Murtis Taylor Human Services System) reopened admissions on Wednesday, October 7, 2020. They will cap their census at 10 and accept referrals for clients in institutional settings, who have tested negative for COVID-19.
      - Class 2 Residential Facilities (ACFs): All continue to be open for new admissions (if beds are available). All have reported increased cleaning/sanitizing, as well as continued client monitoring and education around COVID-19 and minimizing risk.
    - **Substance Use Disorder (SUD)**
      - SUD Outpatient treatment providers continue to provide telehealth and many now offer face to face services or hybrid, due to clients request for face to face.
      - MAT is continuing to be offered face to face. Doctor and nurse visits are in person and via video conferencing.
      - Detox and Residential Treatment providers have reduced capacity to accommodate for social distancing.
      - Some Residential Treatment providers are seeing an increase in referrals.
      - Many Recovery housing providers continue to have an empty bedroom available if someone tests positive or needs to be in quarantine.
      - Several Recovery housing providers have restricted visitation due to an increase of COVID-19 positive cases in the county.
      - All providers continue to do routine cleaning and follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.
      - There were COVID-19 outbreaks in 2 Recovery homes, however they were able to quarantine in the Recovery homes; and the residents recovered.
      - The Board's Residential and Recovery housing providers and staff have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine or have appointments scheduled with the Cleveland Department of Public Health at neighborhood locations.
    - **Children & Adolescent Programs**
      - Children and adolescent programs are primarily utilizing telehealth to provide services.
      - In-person programs include: Residential/Crisis Stabilization programs, Children's Shelter and MH in Detention Center. Programs are following congregate care guidelines to limit nonessential visitors to the facilities and provide family therapy and visits via telehealth.
      - COVID-19 outbreaks have occurred in 2 Crisis Stabilization/Residential providers and all programs have had staff with COVID-19, which contributed to a staffing shortage at one provider and staff turn-over at all three providers. Programs had management cover staff shifts, moved contracted beds to fully staffed cottages, followed CDC guidelines and continue to partner with University Hospitals to successfully contain COVID-19 outbreaks.
      - Staff are beginning to receive vaccinations. Programs report some staff are reluctant to take vaccine and have had difficulty coordinating with the Health Department to schedule vaccinations for staff. Appointment times are reported to fill up quickly.

- Some in-home or community-based programs are allowing staff to go in the home to provide services or to respond to crisis. This is only allowed if safe and necessary for client safety or engagement purposes following a screening process for staff and families.
- The Ohio Department of Youth Services (ODYS) Aftercare program is still not allowed into ODYS facilities to run groups prior to youths' release date. Program reports client engagement in re-entry services is more difficult without first working with youth in ODYS group prior to their release.

- **Peer Support Services**

- Peer support programs continue to be available via telehealth (individually and groups) to provide regular contact and peer support to clients.
- Transitional Youth Housing Program provides peer support services to young adults ages 18 to 25 years old. Peer support is offered virtually and in person while utilizing COVID-19 safety precautions. No vacancies currently.
- Peer Run Organizations, also known as Consumer Operated Services, remain closed until the Governor lifts the restrictions for adult day support or vocational rehabilitation in congregate settings. The programs serve many older adults and individuals with health challenges that put them at higher risk for contracting COVID-19. The organizations have engaged clients via telephone and via Zoom meetings to provide support.
- Online 40-Hour Peer Support Training continues to be available via Zoom for individuals interested in becoming certified peer supporters. No in person trainings due to COVID-19.
- March and April trainings are full.

- **Prevention - SUD & School-Based**

- Providing services virtually. Programs include peer led groups, parenting groups and hosting various informational webinars
- Working with schools to provide services either in-person or virtually
- Some are hosting learning pods at their facilities
- Care calls and in-person check-ins
- Information dissemination via social media, newsletters, mail and/or handouts
- Implementing Prevention K-12 grant initiative with partnering districts
- Providing in-person services to districts based on school's preference/need
- Catholic Charities is the only agency that is solely serving schools remotely
- Prevention - Early Childhood Mental Health
- Provides services via telehealth
- Partnering with open childcare facilities to support virtually
- Some are meeting in-person based on individual workers comfort level
- Increased attendance for ECMH state trainings
- Linking families to resources for basic needs

- **Criminal Justice System**

- Jury trials at the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court are suspended until at least April 26, 2021. Many Court functions, including criminal arraignments and Specialty Court Staffing's are being conducted via Zoom. All reporting to the Adult Probation Department is done by telephone, unless otherwise instructed by the Probation Officer.
- Jail liaisons continue to prioritize reintegration planning in an effort to reduce the jail population as a COVID-19-safety protocol.
- Re-entry Services provided by FrontLine Service are being completed both in-person or via telehealth for psychiatry, counseling, and case management services. In-person is done when needed or requested by the clients. Staff are not transporting clients yet unless on an emergency basis (mental health or physical health crisis).

- **Adult Behavioral Health Services**

- The vast majority of behavioral health programming continues to utilize a combination of in-person and telehealth services. In-person services are commonly done only when deemed necessary on an individual basis.
- Most providers have reported that their staff who have direct contact with clients have been able to get vaccinated - if they wished to do so.

- **Adult Safe House for Women**

- Catholic Charities Corporation's Season of Hope remains open for women 7 days per week from 7:00 pm to 7:00 am. COVID-19 safety precautions continue for everyone entering the house. Daily census is one to two women currently. Maximum capacity is 8 women. No reported symptoms or positive cases of COVID-19 from staff or clients.

- **Vaccines**

- Board staff has been busy coordinating the vaccine roll out among our providers and group home living environments.
- Ms. Zietlow-DeJesus has literally been in constant contact with the Cuyahoga and the Cleveland Departments of Health to get the most up to date information.
- Cleveland Department of Public Health (CDPH) vaccine Points of Distribution (PODs) for Congregate Settings Update:
  - o Four community vaccine clinics are being held for staff and residents of MH and SUD congregate settings, located in Cleveland, in partnership with the CDPH.
  - o The first clinic was today at The Lantern. Additional clinics are scheduled at Oriana House, CATS and Stella Maris.
  - o Approximately 850 individuals from 61 homes/agencies are scheduled to be vaccinated at the community clinics.
  - o Board staff coordinated with the homes to get them to the location nearest to them and is volunteering at the sites to assist with clients during the clinics.

- **Legislative Visits:**

- Ms. Zietlow-DeJesus and Mr. Osiecki continue to meet with our legislators: Representatives Skindell and Brent; and Senators Dolan and Williams, and they are all supportive of the work that we do.

9. **NEW BUSINESS** - None

10. **AUDIENCE INPUT** - None

11. **UPCOMING MARCH AND APRIL BOARD MEETINGS:**

- Community Relations & Advocacy Committee Meeting: March 3, 2021
- Planning & Oversight Committee Meeting: March 10, 2021
- Finance & Operations Committee Meeting: March 17, 2021
- General Meeting: March 24, 2021
- Faith-based Outreach Committee Meeting: April 7, 2021
- Nominating Committee Meeting: April 14, 2021
- Planning & Oversight Committee Meeting: April 14, 2021
- Finance & Operations Committee Meeting: April 21, 2021
- General Meeting: April 28, 2021

*There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.*

**Submitted by:** *Linda Lamp, Executive Assistant*

**Approved by:**

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**Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Chairperson, ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County**