



Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC)

Monday, March 8, 2021

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a. m.

ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County

Location: Zoom

MEETING SUMMARY

Present: Co Chairs: **Scott Osiecki**, ADAMHS Board; **Captain James McPike**, Cleveland Division of Police and **Commissioner Nicole Carlton**, Cleveland EMS

Committee Members: **Carole Ballard**, ADAMHS Board; **Gabriella Celeste**, CWRU Schubert Center; **Dr. Rick Cirillo**, Board of Developmental Disabilities; **Curtis Couch**, ADAMHS Board; **Michael Evanovich**, Department of Justice; **Clare Rosser**, ADAMHS Board; **Dr. Randy Dupont**, City of Cleveland Monitoring Committee; **Beth Zietlow-DeJesus**, ADAMHS Board; **Tom Williams**, ADAMHS Board; **Christina Kalnicki**, CareSource; **Yolanda Gordon**, Cleveland Municipal Court; **Larry Heller**, N.O.R.A.; **Vincent Holland**, Cuyahoga County Community College; **Karen Kearney**, MHAC; **Sgt. Brigitte Dorr Guiser**, Cleveland Division of Police; **Samantha Holmes**, Recovery Resources; **Rick Oliver**, Frontline Services; **Charles See**, City of Cleveland Monitoring Team; **Carolyn Szweda**, Beech Brook; **Ruth Simera**, NEOMED; **Rodney Thomas**, CWRU; **Dr. Megan Testa**, Cleveland Police Commission; **Marsha Blanks**, Community Advocate; **Rosie Palfy**, Community Advocate; **Megan Rochford**, NAMI Greater Cleveland; **Madison Greenspan**, ADAMHS Board; **Sue Neth**, Frontline Services.

Guests: **Mary Crowley**; **Mike Thomas**; **Sara Chuirazzi**; **Patrick Murray**; **Joe Gaston**; **Lauren Joy Fraley**; **Lu Zucker**; **Angela Cecys**; **Theresa Markovitz**; **Angela Noecker**; **Donna Weinberger**; **Josiah Quarles**; **Kevin Ballou**; **Krista Gigone**; **Molly Nagin**; **Sam Horne**; **Amy W**; **Chris Knestrick**.

Goals of the MHRAC:

Fostering relationships and support between the police, community and mental health providers; identifying problems and developing solutions to improve crisis outcomes; providing guidance to improving, expanding and sustaining the CPD Crisis Intervention Program; conducting a yearly analysis of incidents to determine if the CPD has enough specialized CIT officers, if they are deployed effectively and responding appropriately and recommending changes to policies and procedures regarding training.

Goals of this meeting:

- To learn about select health-first responses to mental health and addiction crises.
- To conduct the regular business of the MHRAC.

Review/Acceptance of January 11, 2021 meeting summary

- Meeting summary for January 11 was accepted.

Care Team Presentation & Discussion: Non-Law Enforcement Crisis Response

- Mike Thomas, R Strategy Group, and Mary Crowley, Fountain House of New York, presented on the Care Team model of health-first, non-law enforcement response to mental health crises and emergencies in communities.

- Clubhouses, like Fountain House, have been replicated in 200 communities in the United States, including Cleveland with Magnolia Clubhouse. Clubhouses take a public health approach to serious mental illness. Clubhouses address both the health and social needs of members through an integrated model that connect the physical clubhouse, where members are engaged in an innovative therapeutic community, with access to clinical support, housing and care management. Clubhouses are emerging as advocates for the health-first response model, in part due to a 2016 incident in which a Bronx, New York Clubhouse member died during a police interaction.
- Health-first responses include:
 - Care Team/Care Response
 - Crisis Assistance Helping Out on the Streets (CAHOOTS)
 - Two-person teams that include a medic or EMT with a crisis worker; 75% of crisis workers are peers
 - Handled 24,000 calls last year and called for police assistance for only 1% of those calls
 - Based in Eugene, Oregon
 - Support Team Assistance Response (STAR) program in Denver
 - Connects with neighborhoods and grassroots organizations to refer out to non-law enforcement responses
 - Customized to how each community handles the concerns
- Peer involvement can be an important piece, and is being emphasized by organizations such as the local Magnolia Clubhouse.
- Another potential component is having a separate number to call (like the 9-8-8 suicide prevention effort underway nationally), and has been helpful to communities that have an option like that in place.
- Discussion: participants asked about:
 - the intersection between police and Care Teams: would a police officer call for the Care Team to assist with something like public intoxication? Crowley responded that each community designs their response according to community need, but if someone was having a mental health crisis, then it might be a cooperative effort between police and a Care Team, or the Care Team might be called first.
 - funding: could the money that is saved from these approaches be put back into communities? Could funding from public safety be used to launch a program of this type? Thomas responded that they are working on meeting needs across the entire continuum. Money can be saved, but follow-up care needs to be there after the emergency has been resolved.
 - the City of Cleveland's involvement in programs like CAHOOTS. Captain McPike responded that there is a natural progression that is taking place, and Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training is the beginning.
 - CAHOOTS data that indicates that 80% of calls do not need police, but CAHOOTS is handling 20% of calls. There was a question about what happens with the other 60% of calls. Crowley and others indicated that those calls may not involve someone with a mental health or addiction concern, so they are handled outside of the Care Team model.
- Slides with data will be shared with the group.

MHRAC Meeting Organization and Process Update

- Status of the Ad Hoc Committee with development of the by-laws
- Captain McPike did not have an update; Rosie Palfy noted that she has sent updates and information to the group but has not received a response; they will coordinate.
- If anyone else wants to be involved in this process, they can contact Palfy.

Update on MHRAC 2020 Annual Report

- The report has been submitted to the ADAMHS Board and City of Cleveland.
- Available online: <https://www.adamhsc.org/about-us/current-initiatives/task-forces-and-coalitions/mental-health-response-advisory-committee-mhrac>

Update on Cuyahoga County Diversion Center

- Expected to open in April.
- Building construction is currently happening.
- Appropriate licensure in process.
- Oriana House is staffed and ready to go and has stepped up the process of training staff.
- Carole Ballard and the CIT team have had two full 40 hour CIT Trainings for law enforcement. The CIT Trainings are booked for the month of March. The CIT Training team has had two 8 hour CIT update trainings as well.
- Frontline and Rick Oliver's team will be able to provide a screening when a call is made to them. Frontline operates the crisis center. Frontline will have the capability to do video conferencing with the officer on scene as well. There was some discussion about HIPAA compliance, which Oliver addressed.
- The ADAMHS Board will host all-provider meeting to discuss follow-up care after a person is discharged from the center.
- Discussion: participants asked about:
 - the County's RFP for design services, to create a permanent diversion center. In February they put out an RFP for aftercare services. The County Council passed a resolution that they are creating a Diversion board but have not set up qualifications as of right now.
 - how officers are being trained to use this facility. The County is creating a video with Cleveland Police to share information about the center. CIT training is being held for many departments in Cuyahoga County. Captain McPike said his goal is to get 25-30% of the officers in their department trained.
 - if there is a special force of officers that are specifically trained to evaluate what is going on in mental health situations. It was noted that CIT prepares officers for these situations, but there is some interest in health-first, non-law enforcement approaches as well. A major concern is follow-up care and what happens after a crisis.

MHRAC Retreat Discussion

- Clare Rosser will schedule a retreat in April. She asked what has been useful to cover at retreats in the in the past and what members would like to see this year.
- Send any questions or comments about the retreat to rosser@adamhsc.org

Sub-committee Reports:

Community Engagement

- Subcommittee last met in January.
- Updates are being shared on social media, related to MHRAC.
- Opportunities for virtual follow-ups with the CIT officers are being explored.

Diversion

- No updates. Have not met recently. Going through a state of reorganization. Need to pick a chair and co-chair. These issues will be addressed after the retreat.

Training

- People on the call have helped develop Autism training. The in-service training is on March 17. It will be 4 days a week for 17 weeks (Monday through Thursday). Dr. Cirillo and their team went through the training.
- Training committee met in January and February for CIT Training next year will be on homelessness. They are outlining training topics for officer, with the goal of a plan by the end of summer.
- The Emergency Commitment training will be revamped, but the CIT refresher course addresses a portion of it.

Quality Improvement

- Rodney Thomas commented that he is putting together a calendar on analysis plans for the coming year and would like people to add to it. He will share it with the QI committee but can share with the larger committee going forward.
- There was a note that significant data that needs to be reported out needs to be identified, now that data is being collected. Need to show progress for QI subcommittee.

Open Discussion

Announcements:

- MHRAC page on ADAMHS Board website: <https://www.adamhsc.org/about-us/current-initiatives/task-forces-and-coalitions/mental-health-response-advisory-committee-mhrac>
- Gabriella Celeste: anyone interested in youth specific issues with police interactions, send request to mgc36@case.edu
- Action Committee Advocating Change (ACAC) meeting times are posted on the ADAMHS Board website. This is a group that advocates to the ADAMHS Board on things that need to be addressed: <https://www.adamhsc.org/resources/client-information/action-committee-advocating-change-acac>