

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

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES APRIL 28, 2021

ADAMHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT:

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

ABSENT: Steve Killpack, MS, Jena Olsen

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, Joseph Arnett, Carole Ballard, Christina Bohuslawsky-Brown, Danielle Clark, Curtis Couch, Tami Fischer, Cheryl Fratalone, Madison Greenspan, Felicia Harrison, Esther Hazlett, Bill Hebble, Charde' Hollins, Woo Jun, Leslie Koblentz, Linda Lamp, Vicki Roemer, Clare Rosser, Jessica Saker, Allison Schaefer, Starlette Sizemore-Rice, Larry Smith, Jr., Michael Smith, Maggie Tolbert, 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 4:02 p.m.

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 March 24, 2021, General Meeting were approved as submitted.

[Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., Gregory X. Boehm, M.D., and Erskine Cade, MBA, entered the Zoom meeting.]

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

Rev. Gohlstin reported that each year the ADAMHS Board of Directors is required to participate in an annual training retreat. This year's training, held on Saturday, April 24, 2021, included two presentations from Cheri L. Walter, MA, LICDC, Chief Executive Officer, and Liz Henrich, Associate Chief Executive Officer, of the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA), regarding delineating roles and responsibilities as well as the State Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget. The Board of Directors also heard from Gwendolyn Jarvis, Ph.D., Registered Parliamentarian, about parliamentary procedures.

Rev. Gohlstin reported that the State of Ohio will receive approximately \$3 billion for behavioral health; and that a group of community advocates are collaboratively engaged to approach the Governor to ensure that Cuyahoga County receives a fair share of these funds.

5. OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES (OHIO MHAS) NALOXONE COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTION PARTNERSHIP

Ms. Beth Zietlow-DeJesus, Director of External Affairs, reported that OhioMHAS is facilitating a naloxone blitz in partnership with local Boards, Harm Reduction Ohio and the Ohio Lodging Association. The blitz involves getting naloxone into the hands of community members, family members and individuals living with substance use disorders. The distribution will target high incident zip codes for fatal and non-fatal overdoses, which are based on the number of emergency room visits for that zip code. The state has created a tier system to determine the allocation of naloxone in each of the 23 counties in Ohio that were identified as high risk overdose counties. Tier 1 (lowest tier) includes zip codes that had 30 to 39 fatalities or 124 to 174 non-fatal presentations to emergency departments. Tier 2 (middle tier) includes zip codes that had 40 to 69 fatalities or 175 to 274 non-fatal presentations to

emergency departments. Tier 3 (highest tier) includes zip codes that had 70 plus fatalities or 275 plus non-fatal presentations to emergency departments. Cuyahoga County has two Tier 3 zip codes - 44109 and 44102, two Tier 2 zip codes – 44111 and 44105 and four Tier 1 zip codes – 44107, 44135, 44125, and 44130.

Ms. Zietlow-DeJesus reported that the state will be providing a total of 2,305 units of naloxone to the Board to distribute in these zip codes. They will also be providing allocations for Naloxboxes. Each Tier 1 zip code will receive one Naloxbox. Each Tier 2 zip code will receive two Naloxboxes and Tier 3 zip codes will receive three Naloxboxes. The Board's distribution strategy was submitted to the state on Friday, April 23, 2021 and included community events and grassroots distribution efforts with several partners. Once the state has approved this plan and the naloxone is received, the Board will have 30 days to distribute. Ms. Zietlow-DeJesus reported that Cuyahoga County has already submitted plans for Naloxboxes, due to already identifying locations based on high incident overdoses.

The state is facilitating this naloxone blitz because historically there has been a record number of overdoses in May since 2015. Cuyahoga County is already breaking records for March and April 2021. As a result, this community distribution is important to Cuyahoga County's efforts to save lives.

Ms. Zietlow-DeJesus responded to questions and indicated that the state has asked an organization to take the lead on marketing, and once this initial announcement has been made, local Boards can share. In preparation of this, the Board has created a press release and will be sharing on social media.

6. FAITH-BASED OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Gwendolyn Howard, Faith-based Outreach Committee Chair, reported on the Faith-based Outreach Committee meeting held on April 7, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. via a Zoom meeting. Committee members heard the following items of discussion:

- 2020 Faith-based Outreach Program Year-End Report

Ms. Clare Rosser, Chief Public Affairs Officer, and Ms. Starlette Sizemore-Rice, Director of Special Projects, reported that the 2020 Faith-based Outreach Program Year-End Report consists of 46 pages of in-depth analysis; including measurements for all 10 providers individually, plus combined data and observations about 2020's outcomes. Ms. Rosser highlighted a table identifying each of the Board's Faith-based providers, in addition to the counts of the actual number of clients served in 2020 and the projected/expected client counts for 2020. It was noted that several providers surpassed their expected client counts and others come up short of their projection.

The below expectation counts may be explained, in part, by the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ability to modify established programs to fit within Department of Health guidelines to keep people safe from COVID-19. 99Treasures Arts and Culture, Brenda Glass Multipurpose Trauma Center, Naaleh Cleveland and Trinity Outreach Ministries served clients exceeding their expected annual total. Faith Community Supportive Services, Far West Center, Inner Healing Ministries, Life Recovery Ministries, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Greater Cleveland and OhioGuidestone did not meet the estimated number of clients expected to serve.

Providers are meeting service expectations utilizing all outcome tools. The providers report that they are excited and thankful to partner with the Board. They are enrolling and recruiting new participants, providing face-to-face, online and virtual services and beginning to enact new virtual activities. They are providing spiritual care services by way of virtual platforms with individuals and accessing mental health services for the first time with some of their clients. They are experiencing achievements with more teen participants and are planning a webinar for faith leaders; and are growing and improving program operations to better serve their clients. In addition, the providers are looking forward to more productivity in 2021; and positive feedback has been received concerning COVID-19 vaccinations.

- Eliminating Structural Racism Brainstorming Session

In response to the ADAMHS Board and their partners creating a Strategic Plan to address racism and implement solutions to eliminate structural racism in behavioral health care, it was reported that the faith community/organizations play an important role in their communities - counselors, advisors, etc. As a result, Board staff wanted to use this opportunity to get their input regarding eliminating structural racism in behavioral health care. To accomplish this, three random breakout groups, hosted by Ms. Carole Ballard, Director of Education and Training, Ms. Sizemore-Rice and Ms. Zietlow-DeJesus, were utilized to discuss the following two questions:

1. Faith-based organizations have a unique position in their community. They often serve as “counselors, listeners and supporters” for people in crisis. In your experience, what have you heard, experienced, and learned about the impact of racism in behavioral health care?
2. As members of the faith-based community, what are your specific recommendations to address the racism and implicit bias within the delivery of behavioral health care?

Once the time allowance transpired, committee members were placed back into the Zoom meeting to discuss the results of the three breakout groups. Some of the responses discussed regarding the first question included increased stigma, cultural barriers in communities of color, training is needed that does not confuse cultural competence with stereotyping or identity and labeling, underrepresentation of employees of color, especially in leadership positions and high turnover rates in the behavioral health workforce. Overrepresentation of certain diagnoses and overprescribing of medication was also noted; and that health disparities and physical and mental health are broad. Participants also identified that a lack of resources, outreach and access to care was prevalent.

Recommendations provided from participants regarding the second question were identified as addressing workforce shortages and surveying staff and clients to better understand experiences. Publications and signage should be reviewed to ensure they are welcoming to every demographic; whereby every aspect of the organization should be re-evaluated to ensure cultural competency is being maintained for the individuals being served. Increased exposure for providers and clients by bringing diverse groups together; and there should be access to spiritual leaders for behavioral health care providers.

Ms. Howard shared her appreciation for Board staff regarding this endeavor; and for the ability of all meeting participants to share their concerns and voice suggestions and recommendations regarding solutions. She reported that a document summarizing the outcome of these breakout sessions will be developed and shared at the next Faith-based Outreach Committee meeting. Also, anyone hoping to obtain specific detailed data regarding provider service outcomes can do so through the ADAMHS Board’s website.

7. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Elsie Caraballo, Nominating Committee Chair, reported on the Nominating Committee meeting held on April 14, 2021, via a Zoom meeting. Committee members heard the following items of discussion:

- Currently there is one Cuyahoga County Board member vacant seat. Based upon information shared, committee members also referenced two County appointments and four State appointments will be expiring on June 30, 2021. The referenced six Board members will be completing their first term as county or state appointments. Board members have the ability to serve two terms for the County and two terms for the State, with the additional ability to alternate between the two types of appointments. All six Board members have requested reappointment through their respective appointing authority.

Mr. Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, reported that a conversation was had with Ms. Michele Pomerantz, Cuyahoga County Director of Regional Collaboration, regarding the ADAMHS Board’s Cuyahoga County appointments. Ms. Pomerantz indicated that the ADAMHS Board may recommend Board member candidates for reappointment, however, it is up to the County Executive to make these appointments; and there is no guarantee that these individuals will get reappointed. It was also noted that during this conversation Board staff referenced that Ohio Revised Code (ORC) §340.02 requires that at least one Board member shall fill each of the following categories:

- A clinician with experience in the delivery of mental health services
- At least one person who has received or is receiving mental health services
- At least one person who is a parent or other relative of a person has received or is receiving mental health services
- A clinician with experience in the delivery of addiction services
- At least one person who has received or is receiving addiction services
- At least one person who is a parent or other relative of a person has received or is receiving addiction services

Based upon ORC §340.02, it was reported that both Cuyahoga County Board members requesting reappointment presently fill one of the aforementioned categories.

Mr. Osiecki reported that the Board of Directors is culturally diverse and is representative of the community being served.

Based upon input shared, committee members reached consensus that two County appointment candidates be recommended for reappointment by the County and four State appointment candidates be recommended for reappointment by the State. Once these reappointment recommendations are finalized, one County vacancy will remain.

Motion to request authorization from the full Board to submit for consideration the reappointment recommendations for two Cuyahoga County appointments and four OhioMHAS appointments. MOTION: G. Boehm / SECOND: K. Kern-Pilch / AYES: B. Addison, A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, C. Bryant, E. Cade, E. Caraballo, R. Fowler, G. Howard, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, M. Rodas, S. Rosenbaum, H. Snider / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

8. PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Katie Kern-Pilch, Planning & Oversight Committee Chair, reported on the Planning & Oversight Committee meeting held on April 14, 2021, via a Zoom meeting. Committee members heard the following presentations and items of discussion:

- **Opioid Settlement Fund Utilization:**

- **St. Vincent Charity Medical Center**

- Michael J. Biscaro, Psy.D., ABPP (Forensic) Chief, Behavioral Health Service, St. Vincent Charity Medical Center, and his team provided an overview of St. Vincent's expanded services and access to an Integrated Behavioral Continuum of Care from the Psychiatric Emergency Department (PED) to inpatient and detox programming, with easy transitions to intensive inpatient programming, then community transition to outpatient services and primary care follow up, including a clinic for wellness and trauma services. They discussed 24/7 detox accessibility with medical and behavioral triage, and an expanded Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP). Also, all these locations and services have a successful peer support presence. The goal is to decrease admissions, reduce length of stay (LOS), reduce recidivism rates, increase adherence to plans, and provide a fluid transition on the continuum care scale for each individual.

- **Stella Maris**

- Mr. Daniel Lettenberger-Klein, MS, MBA, LMFT, Executive Director, Stella Maris, reported on the expansion of services, adding 27 staff members. In 2019 Stella Maris had 63 employees, however, presently they employ 120. They are implementing a streamlined Central Intake, expanding their Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) and IOP to include a LGBTQ track, developing a hybrid model for OP, including Equine and Meditation programs in Residential Treatment and renovations throughout their sites, including the renovation of St. Malachi Convent for expansion of 17 Supportive Housing beds for Women. In 2022, 32 residential beds for all genders will open in the former Matt Talbot building in Tremont. These ongoing programs, expansions and maintained continuity of residential, supportive housing and outpatient services continued despite the challenges of COVID-19 and necessary precautions.

- **Thrive Behavioral Health**

- Mr. Brian Bails, Co-Founder, Thrive Behavioral Health Care, Inc., and his team presented on Thrive Behavioral Health and expansion into six University Hospital locations. They are a fully integrated part of the Emergency Psychiatric Access Team and had 73% engagements from those referrals.

Ms. Erin Helms, Executive Director, Woodrow, spoke of expansion efforts with Project SOAR at Lakewood and Lutheran Hospitals. They are looking to add six additional Cleveland Clinic sites in partnership between Thrive and Woodrow.

- **EDEN, Inc.**

- Ms. Elaine Gimmel, Executive Director, and Ms. Jen Griffin, Director, Housing Programs, at Emerald Development and Economic Network, Inc. (EDEN), presented on the Housing Assistance Program (HAP). Ms. Gimmel reported that EDEN began in 1990 as a scattered housing site model providing temporary (two+ years) rental assistance for clients who live with mental illness. This program allows clients who choose to live independently anywhere in Cuyahoga County with private landlords in single, duplex, multifamily and apartment buildings. The clients pay 30% of their adjusted income toward rent and utilities. After two years, participants move to a more permanent housing subsidy. Ms. Gimmel also discussed risks for homelessness and that there are currently 792 individuals on the EDEN waiting list.

- Ms. Schaefer requested the Board to amend Resolution No. 20-11-07 to utilize Health and Human Services (HHS) levy funds to provide EDEN an increase in the Housing Assistance Program in the amount of \$500,000 for May to December of this year. This will decrease the waiting list and add 70 additional households.

- The Effective Leadership Youth Academy will hold a two-day weekend in person/virtual Youth Wellness Summit in September for high school students to age 25. They will experience college tours and networking, keynote speakers, partner presentations and a community wellness competition for youth led organizations. Funding of \$71,188 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Healthy Transitions Grant was requested.
 - Amendment to Resolution No. 20-10-03 was requested to utilize additional OhioMHAS approved carryover funds in the amount of \$5,600 for Addiction Treatment Program Court Administrative Funds in agreement with the Common Pleas Drug Court. Judge Nancy R. McDonnell's Common Pleas Drug Court Docket was accepted into the Addiction Treatment Program. The additional funding is for July 2020 to June 30, 2021.
 - Ms. Rosser requested approval to issue a Request For Proposal (RFP) for an organization or individual consultant for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Assessment and Planning to address ADAMHS goals for eliminating structural racism in the behavioral health community.
 - Discussion was had regarding the ADAMHS Board's Public Comment Policy.
- **RESOLUTION NO. 21-04-01**
AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR AN ORGANIZATION OR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION (DEI) ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

Questions were raised regarding the composition of the RFP Review Committee. Mr. Osiecki reported that if Board members feel strongly on a matter, they can participate in this committee, however, the Review Committee will be bringing the results and selection forth for Board approval. Once further discussion was had, it was reported that Board members are welcome to participate in the RFP process for the selection of an organization or individual consultant for DEI Assessment and Planning.

Mr. Osiecki recommended Ms. Crystal Bryant's participation on the RFP Review Committee.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 21-04-01. MOTION: G. Boehm / SECOND: R. Blue / AYES: B. Addison, A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, C. Bryant, E. Cade, E. Caraballo, R. Fowler, G. Howard, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, M. Rodas, S. Rosenbaum, H. Snider / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

- **POLICY STATEMENT REVISION – 1ST Reading & Official Vote**

Ms. Kern-Pilch reported that the structure of an agenda for the ADAMHS Board of Directors meetings concludes with opening the floor for New Business and audience input, which is a valuable part of these meetings. This portion of the agenda provides the opportunity to introduce new information and open dialogue; and the ADAMHS Board appreciates this community exchange and frequently follows up on concerns and ideas shared.

After dialogue was had regarding revisions to the Public Comment Policy around clarity of public agenda item requests and comments, this agenda item was tabled for further discussion.

9. FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Sharon Rosenbaum, Finance & Operations Committee Chair, reported on the Finance & Operations Committee meeting held on April 21, 2021, via a Zoom meeting and highlighted the Vouchers, Contracts and Amendments as listed below.

CONSENT AGENDA: Resolution Nos. 21-04-02 through 21-04-04

- **RESOLUTION NO. 21-04-02**
ACCEPTING THE REPORT OF THE CEO ON EXPENDITURES AND VOUCHERS PROCESSED FOR PAYMENT DURING FEBRUARY 2021

Ms. Rosenbaum highlighted that Board staff continue to utilize the new reporting format to present the Voucher and Expenditure Reports for February 2021. These reports are generated from QuickBooks with no interpretation; and continue to be reviewed and changed on a routine basis until the reports display a format that encompasses all information relative to what was presented in past Voucher and Expenditure Reports. Ms. Rosenbaum commended Ms. Felicia Harrison, Chief Financial Officer, and Ms. Danielle Clark, Director of Finance, for their efforts with this endeavor. She also noted that financials are very simple to read, understand and encompass relevant information for Board analysis and fiduciary responsibility.

Ms. Rosenbaum reported that relative to the Administrative Budget for the month of February, expenses were \$778,648.78; that is roughly 12% of the total Administrative Budget. She noted that 2 months of the year is roughly 16.67%. As a result, the Board has underspent by 4.67%.

Ms. Rosenbaum reported that the Board's Voucher Report February 1 through February 28, 2021, was not accessed from QuickBooks, but rather the County's system and was reformatted to show the vouchers expended in the Administrative Budget; and is similar to what has been received in the past. She reported that the February 2021 voucher total is \$131,476.76.

The Funding Source Budget to Actual YTD, February 2021, displays the Board's total revenue budget for administrative and grants. The total revenue expected to receive from Federal, State and local levy funds is \$66,562,351; and through the end of February 2021, the Board has received \$48,016,862.10. The bulk of these funds consists of the Board's annual amount from the County levy subsidy, which was \$43,463,659, and includes the increase of \$4.1 million from Cuyahoga County starting in 2021. Ms. Rosenbaum reported that 72% of the budget has been received.

The Revenues By Source By Month report reflected that in January 2021, the Board received revenues of \$1,297,905.42 and in February 2021, the Board received revenues of \$46,718,920.68. As a result, the total revenues thus far in 2021 total \$48,016,826.10.

The total expenditure budget does not include the Diversion Center or the Opiate Settlement. Once expenses are incurred for the Diversion Center or the Opiate Settlement, future financial reports will provide separate expenditure budgets for each. The ADAMHS Board Budget vs. Actuals for 2021 reflect that February YTD Actual is \$6,287,680.43 that is roughly 9% of the Board's anticipated expenditures for the calendar year.

Revenue and Expenditures All Accounting Units By Month January – February 2021 includes administrative accounts as well as grant accounts. The total expenditures for February 2021 is \$4,746,894.73; and includes the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Administration, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Grant and Other Grants. The total expenditures through the end of February 2021 is \$6,287,680.43.

The Revenues and Expenditures Grants YTD, February YTD reflects the Grant Accounting Units that include the OOD Grant, Other Grants and State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant. Committee members requested that this document include Federal Grants in the title. The total revenues and expenditures for grants YTD is \$402,876.11.

The Cash Flow Report, February 2021, shows the 2019 Actual, 2020 Actual, January 2021 and February 2021. This report shows a comparison of the available beginning balance, total available resources, expenditures and available ending balance. The available ending balance through February 2021 is \$70,903,605.29 and includes the County levy funds, which will be spent down throughout the remainder of 2021.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 21-04-03 – APPROVAL AND RATIFICATION OF CONTRACTS:**

- 1) Youth Wellness Summit 2021
 - Effective Leadership Academy (ELA) - \$71,188

The SAMHSA Healthy Transitions grant is designed to improve access to treatment and support services for youth and young adults, ages 16-25, who have a serious emotional disturbance (SED) or a serious mental illness (SMI) to assist transitioning out of child serving systems to adult serving systems and maximize their potential to assume adult roles, responsibilities and lead full, productive lives. ELA provides students and professionals with custom designed and interactive programs which focus on the development and enhancement of critical soft-skills and give youth the social and emotional tools they need to succeed in the 21st Century.

ELA will hold a two-day weekend in person/virtual Youth Wellness Summit in Cuyahoga County in September 2021 for students that age from high school juniors and seniors to 25 years of age. During the Summit, students will experience college tours and networking, keynote speakers, partner presentations and a community wellness pitch competition for youth led organizations.

- 2) Chief Clinical Officer Consultant
 - Leslie M. Koblentz, M.D., J.D., M.S. - \$140 per hour

The Chief Clinical Officer function is required under the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) for the mental health component of the funds rendered to the Board by OhioMHAS. Dr. Koblentz is a psychiatrist with extensive experience in clinical and administrative areas. She brings a unique perspective to the Board, being both a physician and a lawyer. With over 20 years of experience, Dr. Koblentz has dedicated her career to the public mental health system and has collaborated with various systems to ensure that people living with mental illness and substance use disorders receive the best treatment and recovery supports available. Dr. Koblentz has been the Chief Clinical Officer Consultant since May 1, 2019, and will provide up to twenty hours of service to the ADAMHS Board each week.

Dr. Koblentz will serve as the Chief Clinical Officer Consultant for the ADAMHS Board and will represent the ADAMHS Board on administrative clinical issues, clinical services and inpatient care services.

• **RESOLUTION NO. 21-04-04 – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENTS:**

- 1) Amendment to Resolution No. 20-11-07, Housing Assistance Program (HAP) Funding
 - Emerald Development and Economic Network, Inc. (EDEN) - \$500,000

Ms. Rosenbaum reported that the Board is amending EDEN's CY2021 contract for HAP from \$745,665 to \$1,245,665. This increase will help reduce EDEN's HAP waiting list, which is currently 792 individuals, through the addition of 70 households. HAP is a rental assistance program for clients who live with mental illness. HAP allows the clients in the program to choose where they want to live in Cuyahoga County. The clients pay 30% of their adjusted income toward rent and utilities.

- 2) Amendment to Resolution No. 20-10-03, Addiction Treatment Program (ATP) – Court Administrative Funds
 - Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Drug Court - \$5,600 Increase

In July 2020, OhioMHAS approved \$22,477.36 for this Court, based on the number of ATP clients served in the previous fiscal year. In January 2021, a new Judge was certified, and OhioMHAS authorized additional administrative funds for this court. The funds are intended to assist courts in serving more clients and covering staff time for collaboration with other agencies involved in the ATP, notifying Managed Care Plans, paperwork, and other responsibilities related to serving ATP clients.

The ADAMHS Board has received authorization from OhioMHAS to make an additional lump sum payment of administrative funds to the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Drug Court. This authorization was granted after the acceptance of Judge Nancy R. McDonnell's Common Pleas Drug Court Docket into the ATP.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda (Resolution Nos. 21-04-02 through 21-04-04). MOTION: P. James-Stewart / SECOND: G. Boehm / AYES: B. Addison, A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, C. Bryant, E. Cade, E. Caraballo, R. Fowler, G. Howard, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, M. Rodas, S. Rosenbaum, H. Snider / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

10. 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN QUARTERLY UPDATE

Mr. Osiecki stated that the ADAMHS Board's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan positions the Board and its service delivery system for success in a continually changing and increasingly demanding behavioral healthcare environment and includes the following six goals: 1) Strengthening Service Delivery System, 2) Measuring Impact, 3) Maximizing Available Funding, 4) Maintaining a High-Performing Organization, 5) Strengthening Behavioral Health Workforce, and 6) Sharing Information. This plan is a living document that will be modified with the ever-changing environment, reviewed and updated as needed with periodic updates provided to the ADAMHS Board of Directors on the goals achieved and progress made on the plan.

Mr. Osiecki and Ms. Tami Fischer, Chief Administrative Officer, provided a detailed review of each of the six goals outlined in the Board's Five Year Strategic Plan by sharing an extensive list of activities and progress made on each of the identified goals during the last quarter. Mr. Osiecki also reported that a significant amount of time was spent on the Diversion Center to discuss contracting, funding, process flow, law enforcement involvement, services, staffing, building modifications, furniture, training, metrics collection, security, video production and community communications and licensure. Board staff have participated in monthly meetings with law enforcement and dispatchers related to the Diversion Center and are creating a scenario video and collateral materials to be shared with law enforcement officers in Cleveland, as well as Cuyahoga County. He also reported that the Board has had nine Crisis

Intervention Team (CIT) trainings that were provided to 194 law enforcement participants. The CIT trainings consisted of refresher training, dispatch training and the 40 hour community CIT training. Through these efforts, the Board is ensuring a system of care that enables individuals to access high quality, culturally competent, behavioral health services in Cuyahoga County. (The Five Year Strategic Plan Quarterly Update will be available on the ADAMHS Board's website.)

11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

- **Diversion Center Update:**

- The Diversion Center opening was unavoidably delayed until OhioMHAS licensing is obtained.
- Individuals continue to work with OhioMHAS surveyors to answer additional questions and provide documentation to resolve any outstanding issues.
- Committee members met with OhioMHAS Director Criss and her team recently to discuss available options for resolution in order to obtain OhioMHAS licensing approval.
- Presently, there are no rules/regulations for a Diversion Center.
- OhioMHAS is currently using the Residential One licensing criteria for mental health.
- Oriana House held a police open house last Friday, April 23, 2021, and over 200 interested officers representing Cleveland and the suburbs came for the tour.
- Ms. Rosser and the county hosted a media open house on Monday, April 26, 2021.
- Mr. Osiecki was interviewed by Ms. Monica Robbins about the Diversion Center. The story should be released on Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

- **Racism is a Public Health Crisis Update:**

- Mr. Kevin Fischer, from NAMI Michigan, the First African American Director in their history was the guest speaker at the monthly Eliminating Structural Racism in Behavioral Health Care meeting. Mr. Fischer became interested in mental health upon the loss of his son, who died by suicide.
- Mr. Fischer spoke about the power of advocacy and importance of eliminating stigma, especially in communities of color.
- The next scheduled meeting is Monday, May 3, 2021. Ms. Habeebah Grimes, Chief Executive Officer, Positive Education Program, will be the guest speaker. She is planning to present on her work with the OhioRise Advisory Council, which is related to high-risk children that are involved in the behavioral health system and other public systems.
- During the Faith-based Outreach report, Ms. Howard reported that focus groups were held and each of the three groups reported out on the results of their respective discussion.
- Mr. Osiecki thanked the Board for approving the release of an RFP for a consultant or organization to assist with eliminating structural racism in the behavioral health care arena.

- **COVID-19 Update:**

- **Provider Vaccinations:**

- During the All Provider meeting that was held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, Board staff asked about agency staff being vaccinated and their plans regarding in-person services moving forward.
- The majority of providers reported that between 50% to 85% of their staff have been vaccinated. 100% of some provider agency staff have been vaccinated.
- Providers have indicated that they are continuing to provide a blend of telehealth and in-person visits when needed. Some indicated that when the General Population reaches 50% being vaccinated, they will open their agencies to more in-person visits for routine visits.

- **Test Kits:**

- OhioMHAS has asked the Boards for assistance with the distribution of At-Home COVID-19 Test Kits for Level 1, 2 & 3 Recovery Housing.
- Ms. Leshia Yarbrough-Franklin, Adult Behavioral Health Specialist I, will be facilitating this undertaking.

- **Housing:**
 - Class 1 Residential Facilities (RCFs): Have all adopted and continue to utilize detailed COVID-19 protocols. CSN, Flores and Buckeye are all accepting new admissions (from both the hospital and the community). Buckeye and Flores require a negative COVID-19 test upon admission. All Class 1 Facilities now have beds available for new admissions.
 - Class 2 Residential Facilities (ACFs): Overall doing well and 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.
 - Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) is continuing to be offered face to face and video conferencing.
 - Detox and Residential treatment providers have started to slowly increase their capacity while still accommodating for social distancing.
 - Some Residential treatment and Detox providers continue to see an increase in referrals while other provider admissions fluctuate up and down from month to month.
 - Many Recovery Housing providers continue to have an empty bedroom available if someone tests positive or needs to be in quarantine.
 - Some Recovery Housing providers are allowing visitations with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.
 - Some Recovery Housing providers are loosening restrictions on leaving the home and being out in the community more often.
 - Providers continue to do routine cleaning and follow CDC guidelines.
 - Staff and clients who wanted the COVID-19 vaccine have received both injections from Cleveland Department of Public Health (CDPH) neighborhood Points of Distribution (PODs) in the community.
- **Children & Adolescent Programs:**
 - Children's Behavioral Health programs continue to offer services both through telehealth and in-person.
 - All programs are in the process of reviewing COVID-19 protocols and safety regulations and hope to increase in-person services based on vaccination status and the number of COVID-19 cases in Cuyahoga County.
 - Residential/Crisis programs continue to follow CDC guidelines for congregate care and limit nonessential visitors to the facilities. Telehealth is used for family therapy and visits but are looking to offer more in-person visitation as more clients and their families are vaccinated.
 - Workforce shortages are reported for the children's crisis stabilization and residential programs. One program has temporarily closed admissions and other programs have a waitlist for services.
 - Home-based programs offer both telehealth and in-person services. One in-home program reports a waitlist for services due to staff resignations in April.
- **Peer Support Services:**
 - Peer support programs continue to be available via telehealth (individually and groups) to provide regular contact and peer support to clients.
 - The 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. Currently, there is one vacancy.
 - Peer Run organizations, also known as Consumer Operated Services, remain closed for in-person services. They are tentatively looking to resume in-person services in June. 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 peer support.
 - The OhioMHAS online 40-Hour Peer Recovery Supporter Training continues to be available via Zoom for individuals interested in becoming certified peer supporters. The April training was completed on April 23, 2021. May and June trainings are full.

- **Prevention-SUD & School-Based:**
 - Prevention-SUD & School-Based services are being provided virtually. Programs include peer led groups, parenting groups and hosting various informational webinars.
 - Individuals continue to work 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 now offering in-person services to partnering schools.

- **Prevention-Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH):**
 - Prevention-ECMH services are provided 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
 - They continue to receive 1/12th funding from the ADAMHS Board.

- **Criminal Justice System:**
 - Jury trials at the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court resumed Monday, April 26, 2021. Specialty Court Staff continue to be conducted via Zoom; and Jail liaisons continue to regularly communicate with the Court regarding inmates who are at increased health risk remaining in the jail and/or can be appropriately supervised in the community.
 - Programming within the Cuyahoga County Jail, such as educational, recreational, and Church services, are hopeful to begin again soon, albeit no set date has been announced.
 - Ohio's incarcerated population has yet to be included in any phase of the state's vaccine distribution. The temporary pause of the Johnson & Johnson one-dose vaccine may have delayed this process.

- **Adult Behavioral Health Services:**
 - For the most part, Behavioral Health providers continue to conduct business via a combination of in-person and telehealth services. As more and more staff continue to be vaccinated, in-person services are increasing.
 - Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment (CPST) staff are increasingly returning to providing transportation of clients. Recovery Resources, for example, has reinstated this service for clients on Conditional Release who have restrictions related to community travel and curfews and depend upon CPST staff to be transported to medical appointments. As well, FrontLine Service advised (and this appears to be the standard protocol among providers) that if their CPST staff are comfortable transporting clients they are approved to do so but are not mandated to.

- **All Provider Meeting:**
 - An All Provider Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. Discussion was had regarding vaccinations of staff, the Cuyahoga County Diversion Center, and provider agency participation in Open Beds. Staff also addressed a request from the Council of Agency Directors(CAD) regarding the issuance of RFPs. They were suggesting that the ADAMHS Board issue RFPs for services that would amount to over \$200,000 – and some wanted it even less. Through discussion, it was pointed out by providers that this topic arose as a result of the opioid settlement money. Also, discussion was had regarding the County being in charge of the funding and not the ADAMSHS Board. Several providers indicated that they would like to see the ADAMHS Board be in charge of monitoring this funding. Mr. Osiecki stated that the County is spending a portion of the funding on the current Diversion Center, as well as a permanent Diversion Center in the future.
 - Discussion was had regarding the Behavioral Health Workforce Shortage and the crisis that it has caused for the Children's Residential providers. Staff even touched on the sensitive subject of having providers partner together or merge as a solution.

- Mr. Osiecki asked for volunteers to participate in a task force with the Board to tackle this challenge. Several providers volunteered to work with staff on this matter.
- **Staff Update:**
 - Mr. Dalton Skerlec will be starting at the ADAMHS Board on Monday, May 3, 2021, as the new Database Specialist.
 - Mr. Anthony Henderson, Jr., will be starting at the ADAMHS Board on Monday, May 10, 2021, as the Chief Compliance Officer.
 - Mr. Douglas Nichols will be starting at the ADAMHS Board on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, as the CIT Training Officer.
 - Board staff have made an offer to an applicant for the Network and Systems Specialist position and are working through the background check process and anticipate the individual will be starting on Monday, May 17, 2021.
- **Specialized Housing RFP Update:**
 - The Board released the RFP for Specialized Recovery Housing on Monday, April 19, 2021, and questions about the RFP were due back on Monday, April 26, 2021. The deadline for submission is Friday, May 14, 2021.
 - The RFP responses are being submitted through our new metrics system, WizeHive.
- **Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) Public Health, Prevention and Community Interventions Panel:**
 - Mr. Osiecki reported that he recently had the opportunity to be part of a CWRU panel regarding public health, prevention and community interventions. Dr. Gilson's staff member spoke about overdose deaths this past year, and the Chief Executive Officer of the Health Authority in Brexar County Texas spoke about their Diversion Center and also presented on Cuyahoga County's Diversion Center. Approximately 200 individuals participated via a Zoom meeting.
- **Senator Nickie Antonio Visit:**
 - Recently, Ms. Walter and Ms. Henrich had a telephone visit with Senator Nickie Antonio regarding the Budget Bill.
- **Children's Residential Staffing:**
 - The Board's Executive Team met with the Executive Teams from Bellefaire JCB, Applewood and OhioGuidestone regarding the staffing crisis.
 - They will be providing Board staff with background information regarding the cost of raising residential staff salaries from \$12.00 to \$13.50 per hour. Once this information is obtained, Board staff will be bringing forth a request to provide this funding through the May meeting cycle.
 - This is just a first step in working to stabilize the children's residential system.

[Ms. Bishara Addison, Ms. Crystal Bryant, Esq., MS, LSW, Ms. Elsie Caraballo, and Rev. Max M. Rodas, MA, left the Zoom Meeting.]

12. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Osiecki requested that Ms. Rosser present Resolution No. 21-04-05 Position on Substitute Measure of House Bill (HB) 110 (2022-2023 State Operating Budget). Ms. Rosser reported that the substitute measure of Ohio HB 110 incorporates changes to the number and way that Governing Board members are appointed to local ADAMHS Boards, in a manner that will meet one County's need but unnecessarily disrupt other Board areas across the state. Currently ADAMHS Boards have either 14 or 18 members on their Board of Directors. Membership is comprised of County Commissioner or Executive appointments, as well as appointments by OhioMHAS. Membership also includes "category" appointments that ensure client, family and clinical voice in the governing process of Boards, including:

- clinician with experience in the delivery of mental health services
- clinician with experience in the delivery of addiction services
 - a single member who meets both qualifications may fulfill the requirement for a clinician
- person who has received or is receiving mental health services
- parent or other relative of such a person receiving/has received mental health services
- person who has received or is receiving addiction services
- parent or other relative of a person receiving/has received addiction services

The HB 110 substitute measure would remove the requirement that client, family and clinical voice would be included, and would also allow for a decrease in the number of Board members to five or nine without input from the current Board. The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County is devoted to fair representation and citizen leadership on its Board of Directors, as currently written in Section §340.02 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC). It is the Board's belief that the appointed volunteer Board Members serve a critical role in our local systems of care. As such, we need to ensure robust community representation from all areas, and that our 18-member Board is necessary for representing the constituents of our diverse, populous county. The Board recognizes that this measure originated from a legislator from one board area, Erie and Ottawa Counties, and is not representative of the position of ADAMHS Boards across the state.

The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County states that the current system of Board appointment is working well. The substitute measure of HB 110 is a change that is not requested or supported by the ADAMHS Boards across the state, and it is the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County's position that the measure should be revised, at minimum, to only apply to Erie and Ottawa Counties.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 21-04-05. MOTION: R. Fowler / SECOND: R. Blue / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, R. Fowler, G. Howard, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, S. Rosenbaum, H. Snider / NAYS: None / **Motion passed.**

13. AUDIENCE INPUT

Mr. Larry Heller inquired with Mr. Osiecki regarding advocacy efforts on behalf of the Diversion Center. Mr. Osiecki reported that this matter will be discussed with Ms. Brandy Carney, Cuyahoga County Chief of Special Operations, in the near future.

Ms. Rosie Palfy, a homeless advocate, shared her concerns regarding the portion of the General Meeting agenda titled Audience Input.

14. UPCOMING MAY AND JUNE BOARD MEETINGS:

- Community Relations & Advocacy Committee Meeting: May 5, 2021
- Planning & Oversight Committee Meeting: May 12, 2021
- Finance & Operations Committee Meeting: May 19, 2021
- General Meeting: May 26, 2021
- Faith-based Outreach Committee Meeting: June 2, 2021
- Planning & Oversight Committee Meeting: June 9, 2021
- Finance & Operations Committee Meeting: June 16, 2021
- General Meeting: June 23, 2021

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Submitted by: *Linda Lamp, Executive Assistant*

Approved by:

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