



Mental Health Response Advisory Committee

Monday, July 12, 2021

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a. m.

Tri-chairs: *Jim McPike*, Cleveland Division of Police CIT; *Scott Osiecki*, ADAMHS Board; *Nicole Carlton*, Cleveland EMS

Participants: *Hassan Aden*, Consent Decree Monitor; *Carole Ballard*, ADAMHS Board; *Sgt. Brigitte Dorr-Guiser*, Cleveland Division of Police CIT; *Randolph Dupont*, City of Cleveland Monitoring Committee; *Joan Englund*, MHAC; *Mike Evanovich*, Department of Justice; *Lauren Joy Fraley*; *Joe Gaston*, NEOCH; *Krista Gigone*; *LaTonya Goldsby*, Black Lives Matter Cleveland; *Yolanda Y. Gordon*, Cleveland Municipal Court; *Madison Greenspan*, ADAMHS Board; *Larry Heller*, N.O.R.A.; *Samantha Holmes*, Recovery Resources; *Dr. Rania Issa*, CDP; *Kyle Jarus*, CDP; *Shannon Jerse*, Sisters of Charity Health System; *Amanda Kafcsak*, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities; *David Lima*, Showing Up for Racial Justice; *Samantha Maloy*, VISTA ADAMHS Board; *Susan Neth*, FrontLine Service; *Rick Oliver*, FrontLine Service; *Rosie Palfy*, Community Advocate; *Dawn Pullin*, Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition; *Josiah Quarles*, Black Spring Cleveland; *Michelle Riske-Morris*, Begun Center CWRU; *Megan Rochford*, NAMI Greater Cleveland; *Clare Rosser*, ADAMHS Board; *Elaine Schleiffer*, Black Lives Matter Cleveland; *Charles R. See*, City of Cleveland Monitoring Team; *Ruth Simera*, Coordinating Centers of Excellence, NEOMED; *Carolyn Szweda*, Beech Brook; *Jenn Kinsley Smith*, Legal Aid; *Dr. Megan Testa*, Cleveland Police Commission; *Rodney Thomas*, CWRU; *Thomas Williams*, ADAMHS Board; *Jay Youngless*, Begun Center, CWRU

MEETING SUMMARY

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:

- Review workplan
- Review recent subcommittee progress

Review/Acceptance of May Meeting Summary – *Osiecki*

- Rosser noted that updates had been provided by email and would be included in the final version.
- Approved with emailed changes.

Discussion of Workplan – *McPike/Osiecki*

- Group review the draft workplan that has been developed from the responses/themes/priorities from MHRAC members.
- McPike read through the current components of the workplan, and noted the following in particular:

- Clarification regarding #2 “CDP will provide enhanced specialization training (Specialized CIT)”: Field Officers must complete trainings, but it is a voluntary decision to become and be identified as Specialized CIT Officer.
- [CDP website](#) has been updated; he thanked the ADAMHS Board for keeping and posting information online as well.
- Osiecki noted that the previous community surveys were related to the development of policies. (Per the [2016 MHRAC Annual Report](#), the MHRAC held community meetings/focus groups in March and December 2016, and also conducted an online survey in both English and Spanish. Recommendations from the forums were included in the final draft of the policies that were submitted to the Monitoring Team.)
- McPike noted that the chair of the Community Engagement Subcommittee changed due to Karen Kearney’s departure.
- Rosser asked about next steps of the workplan. McPike asked that we finalize and post it. Osiecki and Evanovich noted that it does not need to be approved by the Monitoring Team.
- Gaston recommended that we use guidance and input primarily from other cities under a consent decree that have had success. Dupont clarified that in the beginning, that was the process, and now Cleveland has become an example itself that helps guide cities newly under consent decrees. He emphasized that the highest standards have been followed, with court approval.
- Gaston noted that there have been police-involved shootings since the consent decree, and wants to bring attention to that. Dupont noted that critical events are monitored closely by the federal team. Dupont encouraged involvement in the QI/Data subcommittee, because that is where many of these incidents will be discussed.
- Lima asked if CIT training is done by experts and not by officers who have had previous training. Ballard provided this update: trainings is conducted by providers like FrontLine Service, Veteran’s center, St. Vincent Charity Hospitals, etc., with expertise on law enforcement trainings. Officers sometimes serve in a “coach” capacity. The CIT training was approved by the court about two years ago.
- Schleiffer asked about the availability to CIT officers. Osiecki explained that CIT has been conducted for 20 years, so many officers are already trained. However, the CDP has increased the number of officers receiving this training.
- Palfy noted that the current workplan is not the same template as the past, and the new document focuses more on what is required to meet goals in the Monitor’s Report and less on the activities of each subcommittee. She noted that she feels it is not inclusive enough. McPike noted that there is not a rule on the formatting of the plan. Osiecki noted that each subcommittee may want to create their own action plan based on the overall goals, and that this approach was followed due to our reviewing/rethinking of MHRAC as an ongoing group. He also noted that this process should begin earlier for 2022.
- Gaston asked about including in the bylaws the possibility for a committee to explore the possibility of building a mental health hospital. He wanted to know if the bylaws or guidelines would tie directly to the consent decree or be more expansive. Osiecki noted that the MHRAC is an advisory committee to the CDP, and there are other projects that may be underway or connected that may be outside of the scope of the MHRAC. Neth noted that bylaws are reviewed and updated, so they can be changed as the group evolves.

Update on Cuyahoga County Diversion Center – Osiecki

- Osiecki shared a preview of a metrics report that will be given to the Diversion Board, which is convened by Cuyahoga County.
- McPike noted that the CDP has not yet released the Divisional Notice to allow more extensive utilization of the center.
- FrontLine helps find the best resource for a person, which may be the Diversion Center or may be another crisis service depending on need.

- Palfy noted that she recently spoke with Brandy Carney, Cuyahoga County's Chief of Public Safety and Justice, regarding the prosecutor's role in the Diversion Center, low utilization, outreach, and the Diversion Board.
- Osiecki noted that the rescheduled Diversion Board meeting will be on July 22 at 4 pm.
- Osiecki noted Arizona diversion center models that have higher volume with fewer beds/chairs.
- There was a brief discussion on warrants and prosecutor availability.
- Osiecki noted that educating is happening directly with law enforcement, because as of now, referrals can only come from officers. Quarles asked about specific training and education. Osiecki noted that 400 officers and dispatchers have been trained in CIT since January, and there is a video, printed materials, and law enforcement meetings. He also noted NAMI Greater Cleveland and other organizations help families navigate to care. Oliver noted that people need to be ready for services, accept services and maintain their choice, as well as have the least restrictive environment possible.
- Osiecki emphasized that the same crisis resources that have always been available to the public are still available, including the 216-623-6888 hotline.
- Goldsby asked about what happens when a family has exhausted existing resources. Osiecki noted some various options throughout the system, including psychiatric ER, family support of medication, etc.
- See asked about criteria for determining a low level offense. Osiecki noted it is officer discretion, like other situations, and then FrontLine is available for screening the individual.
- Palfy noted that the current Diversion Board does not include people with lived experience, and that there was not an option to apply for positions on the Board.
- Englund said that she wants to make gathering public input a priority of the Diversion Board.

Sub-committee Reports:

- **Community Engagement – Englund**
 - New co-chair: Joan Englund, MHAC
 - The committee was set to meet immediately after Full MHRAC.
 - Rosser noted that the same projects are underway.
 - Palfy noted that she expected the chairperson position would go through a selection process. Englund noted that if that is a process that needs to be defined, that might be a good discussion for the bylaws ad-hoc committee.
- **Diversion – Heller/McPike**
 - Report from July 8 meeting: initial conversations about who should be involved/stakeholders, an updated charge for the subcommittee.
 - Heller will send information about sequential intercept mapping to the group.
 - McPike noted the priority of non-police response to crisis. The group would like to plan presentations from other areas/experts, like CAHOOTS and PAD in Atlanta.
- **Training – McPike**
 - Status of 2021 Autism In Service Training – almost complete. McPike thanked the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities.
 - Status of 2022 Homeless In Service Training – in process
 - Status of 2021 E Learning Training
 - Status of CIT Specialized 40 Hour Training
 - Status of CIT Specialized Dispatch Training
- **Quality Improvement Committee- McPike**

- Status of Discussion regarding what data elements are to be collected and reviewed

Open Discussion on Current Agenda Items – *McPike*

- Osiecki noted that the Cuyahoga County Diversion Center Board Meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 22 in the County Administration Building in Conference Room 5-006.
- Goldsby asked if MHRAC looks into rapes at the County jail, and the victimizing of inmates with mental health issues.

Next meeting: 09/13/2021, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM