



## Mental Health Response Advisory Committee

Monday, September 13, 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 (not present)

**Participants:** *Hassan Aden*, Consent Decree Monitor; *Brian Bailys*, Thrive Peer Support; *Carole Ballard*, ADAMHS Board; *Marsha Blanks*, SAVE: Society Advocating Vital Engagements LLC; *Gabriella Celeste*, Schubert Center for Child Studies, Case Western Reserve University; *David Brown*, Murtis Taylor Human Services System; *Christie Bunch*, Oriana House, Inc.; *Dr. Richard Cirillo*, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities; *Rosemary Creeden*, FrontLine Service; *Sgt. Brigitte Dorr-Guiser*, Cleveland Division of Police CIT; *Ronnie Dunn*, City of Cleveland Monitoring Committee; *Randolph Dupont*, City of Cleveland Monitoring Committee; *Joan Englund*, MHAC; *Mike Evanovich*, Department of Justice; *Sarah Fritz*, The Village Network; *Jonas Geissler*, Department of Justice; *Gesicki*, NAMI Greater Cleveland; *Bridget Gibbons*, Cuyahoga County; *Rev. Benjamin Gohlstin*, ADAMHS Board Chair; *Yolanda Y. Gordon*, Cleveland Municipal Court; *Madison Greenspan*, ADAMHS Board; *Bill Hebble*, ADAMHS Board; *Larry Heller*, N.O.R.A.; *Vincent Holland*, Cuyahoga Community College; *Samantha Holmes*, Recovery Resources; *Kyle Jarus*, CDP; *Christina Kalnicki*, CareSource; *Liz Lattner*, Legal Aid; *David Lima*, Showing Up for Racial Justice; *Dr. Paul Manning*, MetroHealth; *Maria Nemec*, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court; *Susan Neth*, FrontLine Service; *Rick Oliver*, FrontLine Service; *Rosie Palfy*, Community Advocate; *Dawn Pullin*, Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition; *Michael Randle*, Oriana House, Inc.; *Megan Rochford*, NAMI Greater Cleveland; *Ashley Rosenberg*, Oriana House, Inc.; *Clare Rosser*, ADAMHS Board; *Elaine Schleiffer*, Community Advocate; *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; *Mike Thomas*, R Strategy Group; *Rodney Thomas*, CWRU; *Donna Weinberger*, Greater Cleveland Congregations; *Jay Youngless*, Begun Center, CWRU; *Beth Zietlow-DeJesus*, ADAMHS Board

### Goals of this meeting:

- Review and approve Letter of Recommendations submitted by the Diversion Subcommittee
- Review recent subcommittee progress

## MEETING SUMMARY

### Welcome – Osiecki

Dr. Ronnie Dunn introduced himself as a new member of the Monitoring Team. He received a Ph.D. in Urban Studies at Cleveland State University in 2004. His research and teaching interests include racial and social justice, crime and the criminal justice system, policing, diversity and issues affecting minorities and the urban poor.

Dr. Randolph Dupont gave an update on the Consent Decree:

- Progress is good and moving in the right direction, which leads to a change where the monitoring team will move into an evaluating role and become less active in technical assistance.
- This committee has done well getting policies and trainings established with a great deal of community engagement.

- Complimented that the ADAMHS Board has facilitated and “provided the backbone” for the committee and organization, without any compensation.
- He noted that he has been involved in five consent decrees and the role of this MHRAC has been healthy, vigorous and exceeded all others.
- As the Consent Decree progresses and evaluative pieces are completed to the satisfaction of the monitoring team and related parties, it will move to a place where the Cleveland Division of Police, advised by the MHRAC, evaluates themselves and continues the work.
- The intention is that the evaluation and collaboration will continue after the Consent Decree ends.
- Rosie Palfy asked about data, including what is or is not reported in the MHRAC annual report. Dupont noted that data analysis is being refined and the arrest rate data looks encouraging. He also asked Rodney Thomas from Case Western Reserve University to provide input, and he noted that he would like to see the annual report items line up with the Consent Decree requirements, and have time to address everyone’s reporting concerns.
- Scott Osiecki noted his thanks, on behalf of the ADAMHS Board, for the help and guidance over the last 5 years.

### **Review/Acceptance of July Meeting Summary – Osiecki**

- Group majority accepted the meeting summary (majority ayes, 1 no).

### **Diversion Subcommittee Action Item: Letter of Recommendations – Osiecki/Heller**

- Clare Rosser read the motion from the Diversion Subcommittee:
  - *The MHRAC Diversion Subcommittee will put recommendations in writing to the Cleveland Division of Police concerning Diversion Center usage by the CDP and prosecutor involvement.*
- Osiecki noted that the Full MHRAC received a copy to review ahead of today’s meeting.
- Heller provided history on the Diversion Center and other diversion efforts. He noted low usage of the Center by the Cleveland Division of Police, and the requirement for prosecutor involvement.
- Heller co-chairs the Diversion Subcommittee, which decided to issue this letter of recommendations. He asked for the Full MHRAC to approve and authorize sending the letter.
- Rosser read the three recommendations aloud and asked for revisions or suggestions. The group made minor changes and finalized the letter.
- Motion by Rev. Benjamin Gohlstin that the letter be accepted and sent with the recommended updates. Donna Weinberger seconds. Captain Jim McPike called for a vote. (majority ayes, 1 no)
- Osiecki asked that anyone who does not want their name on the letter should email Rosser by 5 pm today.

### **Update on Cuyahoga County Diversion Center – Osiecki**

- Osiecki noted that as of August 27, 66 calls from police officers from 17 departments, 50 people brought to Center, 7 left before admission. 577 officers trained from 45 police departments.
- Heller noted his informal interactions with people who have gone to the Diversion Center and they talk about a higher quality of life and additional resources.
- Mike Randle noted that the Diversion Board agreed to set up an ad hoc committee to explore community referrals to the Diversion Center.
- Palfy asked about staffing at Oriana House. Osiecki noted the need to have full staff and a phone assessment “triage” through FrontLine.

## Sub-committee Reports:

- **Community Engagement – Englund/ DeJesus**
  - At later meeting, plan to discuss and finalize recommendations to full MHRAC
  - October 5 Coffee with a Cop event
  - Social media outreach
- **Diversion – Heller**
  - Thanked long-time and current members of the MHRAC and welcomed Dr. Ronnie Dunn
- **Training – McPike/Ballard**
  - Status of 2022 Homeless In Service Training – PPT created, progressing
  - Status of 2021 E Learning Training – last month, sent out an e-learning course on data; working on creating automatic emails if reports are not completed
  - Status of CIT Specialized 40 Hour Training – 36 officers applied and are being interviewed; goal is to have 20 officers for Oct. 18 session, and 40 by the end of the year
  - Status of CIT Specialized Dispatch Training – 3 in-person trainings, completing by the end of September
- **Quality Improvement Committee - McPike**
  - Upcoming annual report work – creating a template for data that aligns with the Consent Decree and builds a more robust narrative component
- **Ad hoc committees - McPike**
  - Policy: completed CIT program policy, 2 more underway
  - By-laws: met once, no updates at this time

## Public Comment – McPike

- Palfy asked how many officers have been trained in the 40-hour CIT and how many are on patrol. McPike said 38 are currently trained and on the job, with approximately 15 on patrol. Expectation is 40 patrol officers trained by the end of the year.
- See noted being on the scene with CIT officers and that they did an excellent job and had obviously been trained. McPike notes that many officers have the “heart and head” for CIT.

**Next meeting: 11/08/2021, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM**

## 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.