

**ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY
FINANCE & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 21, 2024**

PRESENT: Bishara W. Addison, Committee Chair, James T. Dixon, J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Patricia James-Stewart, M.Ed., LSW, Steve Killpack, MS, Harvey A. Snider, Esq. / Other Board Directors: Erskine Cade, MBA

ABSENT: Ashwani Bhardwaj, Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., Gregory X. Boehm, M.D., Rebekah L. Dorman, Ph.D., Sadigoh C. Galloway, MSW, LSW, LICDC-CS, Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstein, Sr., Katie Kern-Pilch, MA, ATR-BC, LPC-S

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, Carole Ballard, Danielle Clark, Vince Crowe, Ben Goodwin, Felicia Harrison, Myra Henderson, Ian Jameson, Woo Jun, Linda Lamp, Nancy Mundy, Mark Onusko, Clare Rosser, Jessica Saker, Allison Schaefer, Starlette Sizemore

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Bishara W. Addison, Finance & Oversight Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Ms. Patricia James-Stewart read into the record the Committee Mission Statement: *“To ensure the community behavioral health system in Cuyahoga County has effective allocation of resources, transparent financial practices, and well monitored delivery of high-quality mental health, addiction, prevention, treatment and recovery support services that are responsive to the diverse needs of clients, their families, and the community.”*

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comment on agenda items was received.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Finance & Oversight Committee minutes of January 17, 2024 were approved as submitted.

4. TREASURER

J. Robert Fowler, Board Chair, reiterated that about two years ago, during the Bylaws update, he proposed the establishment of the Treasurer's office to ensure a Board Officer oversees financial matters. Initially, the Board did not find the need for such a position. However, recent developments have prompted Dr. Fowler to urge the Board to reconsider. He mentioned that Cuyahoga County is now showing increased interest in scrutinizing funding and finances, requiring the Board to sign an annual Health and Human Services Levy Subsidy Agreement.

After discussions between Mr. Osiecki and Dr. Fowler, it was deemed advisable, given the current circumstances, to recommend once again adding a Treasurer as a Board Officer. This individual would primarily oversee the Board's finances, handle necessary reporting, and serve as a liaison with the County on financial issues when required. Dr. Fowler emphasized that a position description has been included in the Board's meeting packet and will be part of the proposed updates to the Board's Bylaws.

Dr. Fowler proposed that the Treasurer take on the role of Chair for the newly established Finance & Oversight Committee of the Board; and strongly recommended the nomination of Ms. Bishara Addison due to her outstanding contributions and experience in previously leading the Finance & Operations Committee.

Dr. Fowler emphasized that incorporating the Treasurer into the Board's structure does not diminish the commendable work carried out by our Finance department and Ms. Felicia Harrison, Chief Financial Officer, who has displayed exemplary performance as the Board's Chief Financial Officer. The role of the Treasurer will in no way encroach upon Ms. Harrison's daily responsibilities in her current capacity.

Dr. Fowler indicated that there was some disagreement during the January 2024 General Meeting. Subsequently, both Dr. Fowler and the Board staff have made extensive efforts to alleviate the concerns raised by Mr. Harvey Snider regarding liability. However, Mr. Snider has expressed additional concerns about establishing the Office of Treasurer and has requested that this motion be deferred until there is a thorough examination of the position and its responsibilities. Mr. Steve Killpack agreed with Mr. Snider but proposed that if the Board proceeds with establishing the Office of Treasurer, they should clearly delineate the responsibilities associated with this role.

Dr. Fowler conveyed his comprehension of the raised concerns, emphasizing that the primary requirement outlined in the Treasurer's job description is oversight, rather than audit. He expressed that his initial intention was simply to have a responsible Board Officer represent the Board when the need arises.

Motion to recommend approval of the Office of Treasurer as a Board of Directors position to the full Board. MOTION: R. Fowler / SECOND: J. Dixon / AYES: B. Addison, J. Dixon, R. Fowler / NAYS: S. Killpack, H. Snider / ABSTAIN: P. James-Stewart / **Motion passed.**

Notation: "For organizations where the chairman is also a member, Robert's Rules of Order makes it clear that the chair does not give up membership rights for simply being elected chair. "If the presiding officer is a member of the assembly or voting body, he has the same voting right as any other member....[H]owever...the chair protects his impartial position by exercising his voting right only when his vote would affect the outcome" (Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 12th ed., §4:56). This means that the Chair has the ability to vote, but should only exercise it as a last resort in order to maintain his or her impartiality while presiding over a meeting." Hence, during the voting process, a tie occurred on the motion to recommend approval of the Office of Treasurer as a Board of Directors position to the full Board. In accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, the Committee Chair exercised their right to vote, resulting in the motion passing.

5. **PRESENTATION**

▪ **Conditional Release Program**

Mr. Ben Goodwin, Adult Behavioral Health Specialist II (Criminal Justice), introduced Mr. Lovell Custard, Chief Executive Officer, Mr. David Brown, M.Ed., NCC, LPCC-S, Executive VP & Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Jessica Aponte, MA, LSW, Cuyahoga County Forensic Monitor, and Ms. Dorreta Boykin, MSSA, LISW-S, Clinical Supervisor, at Murtis Taylor Human Services System (MTHSS). Mr. Custard stated that although the Conditional Release Program is a recent addition to their forensic portfolio, MTHSS has been offering comprehensive forensic services for 75 years.

MTHSS is a county-wide United Way charitable organization that provides Behavioral Health, Addiction, Youth, Family, and Senior Services. MTHSS serves more than 10,000 children and adults annually at nine locations. Their mission statement is "Partnering with you to achieve a better quality of life and a healthier community through engagement, teamwork, and commitment".

The Conditional Release Unit (CRU) is designed for defendants who have been found Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI) and are under the jurisdiction of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas to provide quality intensive behavioral health treatment in a community setting, through a multi-disciplinary team approach that follows each individual conditional release plan and ensures by oversight of a forensic monitor, that the public is protected and those served successfully engage in their recovery process. Program goals were identified as the following:

- Provide community-based treatment utilizing an intensive case management model.
- Integrate clients assigned and found NGRI Under the Court Jurisdiction.
- Reduce recidivism.
- Protect the public through frequent case management contact, treatment connection, and forensic monitoring.

Daily client care meetings transpire, whereby staff discuss client care and collaborate on treatment strategies. Weekly caseload review meetings transpire; and are attended by the Psychiatrist, Clinic Coordinator, Forensic Monitor, Clinical Supervisor and the case managers to review their entire caseload for effective management. Also, staff work closely with the Forensic Monitor; and engage with the ADAMHS Board; and coordinate with courts as needed.

Extensive discussion took place regarding MTHSS's continued duties concerning the Conditional Release Program. This discussion involved analyzing multiple charts that outlined the forensic monitoring of individuals before their discharge from Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare (NBH) and those living in the community. Also, when non-compliance or decomposition occurs, MTHSS staff will do the following:

- Alert the court of any non-compliance with their conditional release.
- Work with the CRU team to determine recommendations to bring the client complaint.
- Help facilitate psychiatric appointments if needed sooner.

- Work with local hospitals to help stabilize the client if they cannot stabilize them in the community.

MTHSS staff, in addition to a representative of the court, responded to questions from the Board Directors. Mr. Snider commended Mr. Custard and his staff relative to their efforts with forensic services. Additional Board members concurred. Mr. Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, also commended Mr. Custard and the MTHSS staff for their efforts in assuming responsibility for operating the Conditional Release Program, as well as the Outpatient Competency Restoration Program. Dr. Fowler expressed gratitude to the presenters for their enlightening discussion and commended their dedication to the program. (The PowerPoint presentation is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

6. SUPPORT OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES (OHIOMHAS), AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) PART 2, CRISIS CAPITAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS CENTER (ARP-0006E)

Mr. Woo Jun, Chief Operating Officer, conveyed that on January 6, 2023, Governor Mike DeWine signed into law House Bill 45, which appropriated \$90 million in ARPA funds for OhioMHAS to support Ohio's Crisis Infrastructure. These funds will be used to help strengthen Ohio's statewide mental health and addiction services system, specifically pertaining to crisis services. For part 2 of the ARPA funding for \$45 million, OhioMHAS issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) in May of 2023 for Ohio's Crisis Continuum for infrastructure improvements, suitable for one-time capital funding for Behavioral Health Crisis Centers. OhioMHAS Assurance Statement requires the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County to assure the building will be used for the purpose described in the Application unless written authorization is obtained from OhioMHAS. OhioMHAS Assurance Statement also requires the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County to approve the Application with an assurance of an intent to support applicant's program consistent with the Application, and in addition, to annually monitor the program and operation of the facility. OhioMHAS requests a board resolution from the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County to reaffirm and provide support for the Behavioral Health Crisis Center Capital Project. The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County/The MetroHealth System Behavioral Health Crisis Center (ARP-0006E) incorporates the renovation of the Outpatient Plaza Building at MetroHealth Main Campus. The project will include a Crisis Intake/Receiving Center, Psychiatric Emergency Services/Department (PES/PED) and 16-bed Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU). The total project cost is \$10,500,000 with a \$6,836,629 request from OhioMHAS. Board staff is recommending the Board Directors approval of the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County's support of OhioMHAS, ARPA Part 2, Crisis Capital Assistance Application for the Behavioral Health Crisis Center in the amount of \$6,836,629 for the term of State Fiscal Years (SFY) 2024/2025.

Motion to recommend approval for support of OhioMHAS ARPA Part 2, Crisis Capital Assistance Application for the Behavioral Health Crisis Center (ARP-0006E) to the full Board. MOTION: P. James-Stewart / SECOND: H. Snider / AYES: J. Dixon, R. Fowler, P. James-Stewart, S. Killpack, H. Snider / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

7. FINANCE REPORTS

Ms. Harrison reported that the Administrative Budget that was approved for Calendar Year (CY) 2023 was \$8,080,414 and for December Actual Year to Date (YTD) 2023, the total administrative expenses were \$7,306,330.19; that is roughly 90% of the total Administrative Budget. Ms. Harrison emphasized that in comparison to the December 2023 Board Voucher Report, there were few notable expenses, primarily attributed to Cuyahoga County's early closure in that month.

The Funding Source Budget to Actual YTD, December 2023, displays the Board's total revenue budget for administrative operations and grants. The total revenue expected to be received from Federal, State and local levy funds is \$74,365,289; and through the end of December 2023, the Board has received \$75,891,360.93. Ms. Harrison reported that through the end of December 2023, 102% of the budget has been received. This surplus arises from a modification in the anticipated revenue received throughout 2023 due to a program change.

The Revenues By Source By Month report reflect that in December 2023, the Board received revenues of \$23,129,586.63; and includes the second half of the Board's levy subsidy of \$21,731,830, which brings the total revenue to \$75,891,360.93.

The ADAMHS Board Budget vs. Actual Expenses 2023 YTD reflect that December YTD Actuals is \$79,693,715.96, that is roughly 86% of the Board's anticipated expenditures for the calendar year. Ms. Harrison noted that the Diversion Center's expenditures are reflected on this report.

The Revenue and Expenditures All Accounting Units By Month reflect that the total expenditures in December 2023 is \$3,097,321.06; bringing the total expenditures through the end of December 2023 to \$79,693,715.96.

The Revenues and Expenditures Grants YTD, December 2023 YTD reflects the Grant Accounting Units that include the ADAMHS Department of Justice (DOJ) Grants, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Grant, and Other Grants. The total revenue for grants YTD is \$4,983,231.29; and total expenditures for grants YTD is \$4,955,172.72. The variance observed is a result of timing discrepancies. Expenses incurred in December and posted in the same month are not requested for reimbursement until a later period.

The Diversion Center Revenues and Expenditures YTD January through December 2023 reflects that the total revenue is \$4,673,604.57; and the total administrative expenses is \$4,682,290.64.

The Cash Flow Report December 2023 shows the 2021 Actual, 2022 Actual and YTD thru December 2023. This report shows a comparison of the available beginning balance, total available resources, expenditures and available ending balance. The available ending balance through December 2023 is \$39,373,347.55.

Motion to recommend approval of the Board Voucher and Expenditure Reports for December 2023 to the full Board.

MOTION: S. Killpack / SECOND: R. Fowler / AYES: J. Dixon, R. Fowler, P. James-Stewart, S. Killpack, H. Snider / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

8. CASH BALANCE ANALYSIS

Ms. Harrison provided an overview of the ADAMHS Board cash balance analysis to the Board Directors. She reported that as of December 31, 2023, the cash balance is \$39,156,774.99. The budgeted revenue for 2024 total \$66,931,215, encompassing federal, state, and local anticipated revenue. The budgeted expenses for 2024 total \$90,407,195, covering all anticipated expenses. This budget anticipates utilizing \$23,475,980 from the cash balance during 2024. The anticipated year-end cash balance for 2024 is \$15,680,794.99. Ms. Harrison responded to questions from the Board Directors.

9. CONTRACTS

ADAMHS Board staff highlighted agenda process sheets for agreements listed below, answered questions and provided clarification for Board Directors.

- a) Behavioral Health Crisis Center Capital and Startup Funding
 - The MetroHealth System - \$9,336,629

Mr. Jun reiterated that on January 6, 2023, Governor Mike DeWine signed into law House Bill 45, which appropriated \$90 million in ARPA funds for OhioMHAS to support Ohio's Crisis Infrastructure. These funds will be used to help strengthen Ohio's statewide mental health and addiction services system, specifically pertaining to crisis services. For part 2 of the ARPA funding for \$45 million, OhioMHAS issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) in May of 2023 for Ohio's Crisis Continuum for infrastructure improvements, suitable for one-time capital funding for Behavioral Health Crisis Centers.

The site of the Crisis Center will be moved from the St. Vincent Main Campus to the Outpatient Plaza building located at the MetroHealth Main Campus. With the move, the estimated capital and startup costs will be increased from \$6,836,629 to \$10,500,000.

- Construction/renovation – \$8,000,000
- Moveable equipment/furnishings – \$1,600,000
- Eligible Fees - \$900,000

The ADAMHS Board will provide \$2,500,000 for startup costs, including the costs for moveable equipment/furnishing and eligible fees. Additional ARPA Part 2 funding will be applied for regarding the remaining \$1,163,371 in construction/renovation costs. OhioMHAS awarded funding in the amount of \$6,836,629 for one-time capital projects to support Ohio's Crisis Infrastructure for a Behavioral Health Crisis Center. The Crisis Center will be located at the Outpatient Plaza Building located at the MetroHealth Main Campus. There will be three components to the Crisis Center

capital funding, a 24/7 Crisis Intake/Receiving Center, 24/7 PES/PED, and 24/7 16-bed CSU will be on the first floor of the Outpatient Plaza Building.

- Crisis Intake/Receiving Center: Crisis Intake/Receiving Center is located immediately to the left of the entrance of the Outpatient Plaza with approximately 3,500 square feet. This area will be renovated to house the crisis intake, receiving, triage, and urgent care services that will have a living room-like atmosphere.
- PES/PED: PES/PED is located immediately to the right of the entrance of the Outpatient Plaza with approximately 6,100 square feet and will be renovated to accommodate 10 locked beds for assessment, crisis stabilization, 23-hour observation, medication management, and linkages to hospitalization or further services.
- CSU: CSU is located down the hall from the entrance of the Outpatient Plaza with approximately 13,000 square feet and will be renovated to accommodate 16 beds for additional stabilization in a residential setting.

Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors approve a contract with The MetroHealth System for \$9,336,629 for the term of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.

b) Regional Mobile Crisis Response (RMCR) Program

- The City of Shaker Heights - \$523,131 (Year One - \$256,437, Year Two - \$266,694)

Ms. Allison Schaefer, Director of Adult Behavioral Health Programs, reported that the City of Shaker Heights identified the need for alternative police response and began the Mental Health Response Program (MHRP) Pilot in January of 2022 within Shaker Heights city limits. They were able to serve 645 individuals in crisis in the first year of the pilot program, decreasing incarceration and hospitalization and providing needed linkage and follow up. The City of Shaker Heights received a Department of Justice (DOJ) grant to assist with regional expansion of the program, however, still have staffing funding gaps. Shaker Heights has and will continue to partner with The MetroHealth System/Recovery Resources for contract staffing and expertise.

The City of Shaker Heights is seeking funding to expand its MHRP to include neighboring communities, including University Heights, Cleveland Heights, South Euclid, Richmond Heights and the regional joint dispatch center, Chagrin Valley Dispatch (CVD). The new expanded program will be called the RMCR Program. The RMCR Program will consist of three teams comprised of a licensed mental health professional and peer support specialist to respond to eligible crisis calls (received from CVD) and assess the person in crisis, determine appropriate next steps, and work with first responders on any safety concerns. The teams will also complete post-crisis follow-up to address barriers to care, linkage to services, and address any other needs. This funding would support the hiring of three additional staff including an independently licensed mental health professional, a peer support specialist and a program coordinator. This funding will also partially support the administrative supervisor. This model seeks to mitigate harm for people living with serious mental illness and substance use disorders, while reserving law enforcement interaction for limited circumstances when personal and public safety is at risk.

Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors approve entering into a two-year contract with the City of Shaker Heights totaling \$523,131 for staffing of the RMCR Program as follows:

- March 1, 2024 – February 28, 2025:\$256,437
- March 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026:\$266,694

Ms. Jeri E. Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer of the City of Shaker Heights, and Ms. Annette Amistadi, Clinician for the RMHR Program, attended the meeting to address questions from the Board Directors. Mr. Osiecki expressed that the RMHR Program aligns with the Board's Care Response Pilot Program, making it a valuable partnership to engage in. Mr. Snider expressed his endorsement for this program. Dr. Fowler commended Ms. Chaikin and Ms. Amistadi for their dedication and contributions to the RMHR Program and asked about the potential for its expansion countywide. Ms. Chaikin mentioned that while it is currently a pilot program, there is potential for it to encompass all of Cuyahoga County in the future.

Motion to recommend approval of the Contracts (as listed above) to the full Board. MOTION: H. Snider / SECOND: S. Killpack / AYES: R. Fowler, P. James-Stewart, S. Killpack, H. Snider / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: J. Dixon / **Motion passed.**

Notation: Mr. James Dixon proposed voting in favor of the RMCR Program with the City of Shaker Heights totaling \$523,131 and abstain from voting on the Behavioral Health Crisis Center Capital and Startup Funding with The MetroHealth System, amounting to \$9,336,629. However, the motion to recommend approval of the Contracts to the full Board is voted upon as a unified decision.

10. CONTRACT AMENDMENTS

- a) Amendment to Resolution No. 23-10-03, Naloxone Emergency Cabinets Administration
 - The MetroHealth System - \$67,725

Ms. Harrison reported that The MetroHealth System is the ADAMHS Board's administrator of the Naloxone Emergency Cabinets Administration Program and the Naloxone Cabinets and Vending Machine Program. The MetroHealth System will be responsible for ongoing planning for locations, administration, and maintenance for cabinets at various locations and a Naloxone vending machine located at 2500 MetroHealth Drive, Cleveland, Ohio 44109. The provider will track the use and expiration dates of the Naloxone in each cabinet and vending machine and replace supplies when necessary. The provider will market the vending machines and cabinets to generate public and client awareness and provide Naloxone to the community. The MetroHealth System will also facilitate Project DAWN training for any newly identified service entities. The funding requested is \$49,725 prorated plus \$18,000 to maintain current staff.

Program administration funding will pay for the tracking, filling, marketing, and reporting use of cabinets and vending machines, making lifesaving harm reduction resources available to Cuyahoga County residents. Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors amend Resolution No. 23-10-03 and enter into a contract addendum with The MetroHealth System in the amount of \$67,725 through December 31, 2024.

- b) Amendment to Resolution No. 23-11-07, PES
 - St. Vincent Charity Community Health Center – Not to exceed \$1,632,471

The ADAMHS Board only contracted with St. Vincent for the PES for the first quarter of 2024 as The MetroHealth System was to take over the operations of the PES by April 2024. Due to unforeseen circumstances, that plan has been delayed. The Amendment to Resolution No. 23-11-07 PES request includes amending the contract with St. Vincent Charity Community Health Center (St. Vincent) for PES to extend through July 31, 2024 and adding \$1,632,471. In order to keep staffing, the ADAMHS Board is allocating \$150,000 for retention bonuses. Services provided at St. Vincent's PES include crisis stabilization, as well as 23-hour observation, assessment and discharge planning. In this setting, patients have access to a psychiatrist or licensed practitioner around the clock, as well as nurses, mental health technicians, and security officers to ensure the safety of all. The ten-bed facility offers an environment that is conducive to harm reduction, including non-movable furniture and metal detectors. The PES offers 24/7 access, which is critical for the patient population being served. St. Vincent also partners with other providers, such as FrontLine Service to deliver appropriate levels of treatment. Through these partnerships, the team reduces unnecessary admissions to Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare (NBH).

Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors amend Resolution No. 23-11-07 and enter into a contract addendum with St. Vincent Charity Community Health Center in the amount not to exceed \$1,632,471 from April 1, 2024 through July 31, 2024.

Motion to recommend approval of Contract Amendments (as listed above) to the full Board. MOTION: H. Snider / SECOND: S. Killpack / AYES: R. Fowler, P. James-Stewart, S. Killpack, H. Snider / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: J. Dixon / **Motion passed.**

Notation: Mr. Dixon proposed voting in favor of the Amendment to Resolution No. 23-11-07, PES with St. Vincent Charity Community Health Center totaling an amount not to exceed \$1,632,471 and abstain from voting on the Amendment to Resolution No. 23-10-03, Naloxone Emergency Cabinets Administration with The MetroHealth System, amounting to \$67,725. However, the motion to recommend approval of the Contract Amendments to the full Board is voted upon as a unified decision.

11. IDENTIFY CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Addison recommended including the December Finance Reports, Contracts, and Contract Amendments into the Consent Agenda to be recommended for approval to the full Board. She highlighted that Mr. Dixon chose to abstain from voting on the contract concerning Behavioral Health Crisis Center Capital and Startup Funding with The MetroHealth System, totaling \$9,336,629, as well as the amendment to Resolution No. 23-10-03, involving Naloxone Emergency Cabinets Administration with The MetroHealth System, totaling \$67,725.

12. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS CENTER UPDATE

Mr. Osiecki provided an update on the Behavioral Health Crisis Center, indicating its placement in the Rehabilitation Pavilion on The MetroHealth System's main campus. Initially, The MetroHealth System planned to assume control of the psychiatric emergency services department, either with existing staff or the staff present, which would transition to become MetroHealth System's staff by the end of the first quarter of 2024. However, due to delays in opening the new location at the Rehabilitation Pavilion, it was decided to relocate the psychiatric emergency services department to the Cleveland Heights facility. Mr. Osiecki highlighted that maintaining the psychiatric emergency services department at St. Vincent's throughout the year or possibly into 2025 or 2026 would result in additional expenses for the Board. Consequently, starting July 1, 2024, The MetroHealth System will offer these services at their Cleveland Heights location, ensuring continuity even after the Behavioral Health Crisis Center opens on the main campus. However, the Board's funding would solely cover the Behavioral Health Crisis Center.

Mr. Osiecki highlighted that discussions are underway between The MetroHealth System and Cuyahoga County representatives to secure detoxification beds at the main campus location, potentially on the second floor. Moreover, diversion services may also be offered at this site. Mr. Osiecki responded to questions from the Board Directors.

13. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Osiecki informed the Board Directors that there are two agenda items listed under new business. These items are outlined as follows:

- a) Cleveland Division of Police Co-Responder Program – \$4,465,232.65
 - FrontLine Service – \$2,392,149
 - Murtis Taylor Human Services System (MTHSS) – \$2,073,083.65

Ms. Carole Ballard, Director of Education and Training, reported that the Cleveland Police Co-Responder Teams respond to crisis calls received via Cleveland Division of Police Dispatch for mental health related crisis in the community. A Crisis Specialist is paired with a Specialized Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Officer in order to respond to the calls. The Crisis Specialist, in collaboration with the Specialized CIT Officer, engage and respond to the individual's needs, provide assessment and triage to the least restrictive options in the community. The Co-Responder Team provides follow-up on crisis calls from other officers within their assigned police district as well as engage high utilizers of service in order to decrease the need for public safety assistance. FrontLine Service is assigned to Districts 1, 2 & 3 and MTHSS is assigned to Districts 4 & 5.

The City of Cleveland is continuing and expanding its Co-Responder Teams with the Cleveland Division Police (CDP). Through subcontracts with FrontLine Service and MTHSS, the ADAMHS Board will expand the current Co-Responder Team from five to ten teams, covering two shifts. Key tasks to be accomplished in expanding this project will include: retention of highly qualified existing staff/recruitment of new staff; expanding the current Co-Responder workgroup to include other partners; ongoing training/CIT training; enhancement of current operational policies and procedures in collaboration with CDP; and continued data collection, analysis, and reporting. The three-year agreement may be renewed by the City of Cleveland for two one-year options.

The Co-Responder Program will reduce the use of emergency rooms and jails and link individuals to services, increase collaboration and problem solving, and reduce the number of calls for service to public safety. Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors accept funding from the City of Cleveland for the Co-Responder Program in the amount of \$4,465,232.65 for the term of March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2027 and contract with FrontLine Service in the amount of \$2,392,149 and MTHSS in the amount of \$2,073,083.65 for the same term. Sergeant Maggie Crespo, who oversees the CIT course for the CDP, was present, along with Ms. Susan Neth, Executive Director, and Mr. Rick

Oliver, Director of Crisis & Trauma Services, of FrontLine Service and Mr. Custard to respond to questions from the Board Directors.

Motion to recommend accepting funding from the City of Cleveland for the Co-Responder Program in the amount of \$4,465,232.65 from the term of March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2027 and contract with FrontLine Service in the amount of \$2,392,149 and MTHSS in the amount of \$2,073,083.65 for the same term to the full Board. MOTION: S. Killpack / SECOND: H. Snider / AYES: J. Dixon, R. Fowler, P. James-Stewart, S. Killpack, H. Snider / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

- b) Amendment to Resolution Number 23-11-01, CY2024 Agreements for ADAMHS Board Class 2 Residential Facilities (Adult Care Facilities/ACF)
- Adult Care Parma III – No Additional Funding

The ADAMHS Board utilizes its Residential Assistance Program (RAP) funds to provide up to \$1,600 per month per client to the operators of Class 2 Residential Facilities. The Board also provides \$200 per RAP client (not receiving SSI/SSDI) for personal living expenses. RAP is intended to provide financial rental assistance to indigent/low-income adult clients (18 and over) receiving Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) and/or Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment (CPST) services from a contract agency of the ADAMHS Board so that the client can live in a Class 2 Residential Facility in the community. RAP is targeted for indigent/low-income adult clients that are discharge ready from an institutional environment such as a hospital, nursing home, jail, Class 1 Residential Facility (RCF), Cuyahoga County Diversion Center or CSU. Once the RAP recipient starts receiving SSI/SSDI, they are required to apply for the OhioMHAS Residential State Supplement (RSS) program, which requires the client to have Social Security and Medicaid. Once approved, the client transitions from the RAP program, and onto the OhioMHAS funded RSS program.

The ADAMHS Board has developed a list of 61 Class 2 Residential Facilities for CY2024 (Adult Care Facilities/Group Homes) to provide safe, decent and affordable housing for individuals living with mental illness. The ADAMHS Board Directors approved \$2,500,000 for RAP for CY2024. Current Class 2 Residential Facility Operator (Adult Care Parma II), Mr. Ruben Robinette, recently obtained a license on Thursday, February 1, 2024, from OhioMHAS to operate a new facility, Adult Care Parma III. Due to Adult Care Parma II's positive history with clients, Adult Care Parma III's location in an underserved area and ability to serve specialized populations, Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors approve entering into an agreement with Adult Care Parma III to serve RAP clients for the term of March 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. Mr. Ruben Robinette, Owner/Operator, was present to respond to questions from the Board Directors.

Motion to recommend approval to enter into an agreement with Adult Care Parma III to serve RAP clients for the term of March 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 to the full Board. MOTION: P. James-Stewart / SECOND: R. Fowler / AYES: J. Dixon, R. Fowler, P. James-Stewart, S. Killpack, H. Snider / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

Ms. Addison updated the recommendation for the Consent Agenda to incorporate the December Finance Reports and Contracts. This encompasses the contract with the City of Cleveland for the Co-Responder Program totaling \$4,465,232.65, valid from March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2027. Additionally, it includes contracts with FrontLine Service amounting to \$2,392,149 and MTHSS totaling \$2,073,083.65 for the same duration. Furthermore, Contract Amendments, including the Amendment to Resolution Number 23-11-01, CY2024 Agreements for ADAMHS Board Class 2 Residential Facilities (Adult Care Facilities/ACF) with Adult Care Parma III, are included in the Consent Agenda for recommendation to the full Board for approval.

14. FOLLOW-UP

No follow-up was received.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comment was received.

16. UPCOMING FEBRUARY AND MARCH BOARD MEETINGS:

- General Meeting: February 28, 2024
- Nominating Committee Meeting: March 20, 2024

- Finance & Oversight Committee Meeting: March 20, 2024
- General Meeting: March 27, 2024

Due to the lack of agenda items, a decision was made to cancel the Wednesday, March 6, 2024, Community Relations & Advocacy Committee Meeting. The next Community Relations & Advocacy Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Submitted by: Linda Lamp, Executive Assistant

Approved by: Bishara W. Addison, Finance & Oversight Committee Chair