

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

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES APRIL 17, 2024

ADAMHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT:

J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D.	Sadigoh C. Galloway, MSW, LSW, LICDC-CS
Ashwani Bhardwaj	Patricia James-Stewart, M.Ed., LSW
Gregory X. Boehm, M.D.	Katie Kern-Pilch, MA, ATR-BC, LPC-S
Erskine Cade, MBA	Harvey A. Snider, Esq.
James T. Dixon	

ABSENT: Bishara W. Addison, Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., Michelle R. Curry, MPA, Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Steve Killpack, MS

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, Sarah Adkins, Carole Ballard, Danielle Clark, Vince Crowe, Erin DiVincenzo, Felicia Harrison, Myra Henderson, Woo Jun, Linda Lamp, Clare Rosser, Jessica Saker, Starlette Sizemore, Maggie Tolbert, Nick Weaver, Joicelyn Weems, Leshia Yarbrough-Franklin

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., called the General Meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

2. AUDIENCE INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No audience input on agenda items was received.

3. WELCOME

Ms. Anita Bradley, MSW, LSW, LICDC-CS, President & Chief Executive Officer at Northern Ohio Recovery Association (NORA), extended a warm welcome to everyone in attendance. She expressed her gratitude for the presence of the Board Directors and emphasized the vital role they play in enabling NORA to carry out its mission to empower individuals, families and communities to support lifestyles of recovery. Ms. Bradley expressed that NORA's vision is to establish innovative care to support continued recovery of the communities they serve.

In 2004, Ms. Bradley founded NORA to help those addicted to alcohol, tobacco and other substances. She stated that she has been in recovery for over 32 years and understands the importance of blending personal and professional knowledge to promote the power and possibility of recovery. Ms. Bradley shared that she is a no-nonsense but compassionate executive that has extensive experience in planning, implementing and evaluating substance abuse treatment programs, and has provided technical assistance to a multitude of other agencies. Further, she continues to promote and ensure a continuum of recovery by sustaining a peer recovery model that is both paramount and essential to on-going sobriety.

Ms. Bradley is a tremendous voice and advocate for women and faithfully demonstrates that advocacy is the critical link between treatment, recovery, and the rest of the world. Similarly, she continues "Building Recovery Into Diverse Globally Effective Systems," or BRIDGES of HOPE, to offer culturally relevant consumer choices, presented with dignity and respect to youth, adults, and families in communities throughout Ohio.

Ms. Bradley elaborated further, stating that NORA enjoys proximity to multiple major roads and recovery residences, with ample opportunity to broaden its service offerings. She mentioned the recent launch of a new Mom's program for pregnant women and the successful initiation of a baby shower event. Ms. Bradley concluded by emphasizing the organization's commitment to providing inpatient and outpatient treatment programs, case management and annual continuing-education credits through its training institute. She reported that once the meeting concludes, Board Directors can tour NORA, which would be a great opportunity for participants to familiarize themselves with a recovery organization, and possibly gain insights into the institution's environment.

4. RECOGNITION OF CLIENT ARTWORK DISPLAY: APRIL 2024

The ADAMHS Board's monthly client art display program showcases client artwork, highlights our provider agencies, recognizes the benefits of art therapy and celebrates the recovery community. The monthly client art display program can be seen in-person and virtually on the Board's website.

Ms. Joiceyn Weems, External Affairs Officer, highlighted the contributions of 99Treasures Arts & Culture, who unfortunately could not attend. 99Treasures Arts and Culture specializes in art projects such as the curation of corporate office spaces, Arts4Peace Gallery Walls, and unique art for the home. Artwork is produced by youth and a professional artist. The Board will be presenting 99Treasures Arts & Culture with a Certificate of Participation in recognition of their exceptional artwork.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the March 27, 2024 General Meeting were approved as submitted.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

Dr. Fowler expressed gratitude to Ms. Bradley and conveyed his appreciation for hosting the Board's General Meeting.

Dr. Fowler also informed the Board that Mr. Christopher Alvarado, Director of Regional Collaboration at the Office of County Executive Chris Ronayne, has notified them of the potential candidacy of Molly Wimbiscus, M.D., for Board membership. Dr. Wimbiscus has pursued studies at prestigious institutions such as The University of Aberdeen in Aberdeen, Scotland, and the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in Memphis, Tennessee. Additionally, she has been affiliated with the Cleveland Clinic for several years and holds certifications from the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in Psychiatry since 2011, American Board of Psychiatry in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry since 2013, and the Medical Board of Ohio since 2013. The nomination of Dr. Wimbiscus will be presented to the Cuyahoga County Council for the first reading on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, and subsequently to the Cuyahoga County Human Resources, Appointments & Equity Committee on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, with a second reading and anticipated appointment on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. Consequently, Dr. Fowler emphasized that a new Board Director will soon join, expressing gratitude to Cuyahoga County for updating the Board regarding the status of Board Director candidates.

Dr. Fowler conveyed that Board staff had a meeting with provider organizations on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, during which they provided insight into the Board's strategy for consolidating the number of provider organizations.

7. PRESENTATION:

OHIO ETHICS LAW

Mr. Woo Jun, as Chief Operating Officer, presented an overview of Ohio Ethics Law. He emphasized that the law extends its scope to both Board Directors and staff members, regardless of their employment status. Emphasizing a commitment to serving public entities faithfully, individuals are obligated to prioritize the ADAMHS Board's welfare over personal concerns. Violations carry personal accountability for both the Board members and employees, rather than being solely institutional.

There are three main Ohio Ethics law: conflicts of interest, which includes gifts, public contracts, and revolving door or post-employment restrictions. Simply put, Ohio Ethics law can be broken down into personal relationships and financial interests. Conflict of Interest (R.C. 102.03(D)) & Gifts (R.C. 102.03(E)) prohibits acting in matters related to themselves, family, or business associates; and prohibits acceptance of anything of value that could have a substantial or improper influence. Public Contracts (R.C. 2921.42) prohibits using influence to secure public contracts for themselves, family, or business associates; and prohibits having an interest in a public contract. Revolving Door (R.C. 102.03(A)) prohibits representing any person on any matter in which you personally participated for a period of one-year after you leave public service

All provisions of the Ethics Law are criminal prohibitions. Most, including the conflict-of-interest prohibitions (Chapter 102), are first degree misdemeanors, punishable by a maximum fine of \$1000, a maximum prison term of six months, or both. Certain provisions of public contract prohibitions (Chapter 2921) are fourth degree felonies, punishable by a maximum fine of \$2500, a maximum prison term of 18 months, or both.

For the purposes of Ohio Ethics Law, it is important to get a definition of family members. Generally, family members are what you would consider immediate family members like a spouse, children, parents, including step-children and step-parents, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren. Additionally, family members can also include any other person related by blood or marriage if that person resides in the same household

Mr. Jun highlighted that both the Board Directors and employees are required to abstain from involvement in situations that could yield personal gains for themselves, their families, or their business connections, as per Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 102.03 (D). While

having a conflict of interest is not unlawful, individuals must recuse themselves if faced with such a situation. Furthermore, even when there isn't a direct conflict, it is essential to steer clear of actions that could suggest otherwise. Mr. Jun illustrated this point with an example of a conflict of interest scenario, prompting the Board Directors to engage and share their perspectives.

The Board Directors and staff are prohibited from accepting any form of compensation from individuals or entities engaged in or pursuing business dealings with the ADAMHS Board, in accordance with ORC 102.03 (E). Additionally, the De Minimis Rule applies, meaning external parties are barred from offering any form of remuneration to the Board Directors and employees if there is current or potential business involvement with the employee's public entity, as outlined in ORC 102.03 (F). Mr. Jun further illustrated this concept by presenting a hypothetical scenario involving gift-giving, encouraging the Board Directors to participate and offer their insights. Mr. Jun also illustrated this point with an example of a scenario regarding gifts, prompting the Board Directors to engage and share their perspectives.

The Board Directors and staff are forbidden from leveraging their influence to obtain a public contract for themselves, their relatives, or business associates, as stated in ORC 2921.42 (A)(1). Additionally, they are barred from holding any financial or fiduciary stake in a public contract, in accordance with ORC 2921.42 (A)(4). It is important to note that employment itself constitutes a public contract. Mr. Jun further exemplified this issue by presenting a scenario involving a conflict of interest related to public contracts, encouraging the Board Directors to provide their viewpoints.

Former Board Directors and employees are restricted from representing any individual in matters they were personally involved in during their tenure with the ADAMHS Board for a duration of one year following the conclusion of their service. This prohibition is specifically linked to their direct involvement and does not extend to new or unrelated matters or those in which the former employee had no participation. Also, ADAMHS Board employees are prohibited from disclosing or using any information appropriately designated by law as confidential. Examples include:

- Client information, such as protected health information or information related to substance abuse treatment.
- Request for Proposals (RFP), until the results of the RFP are released to the public.
- Personal information regarding employees.
- Proprietary Information Technology (IT) information.

Mr. Jun summarized the presentation with the following points:

- Cannot participate in matters when we have a conflict of interest – i.e., when something of value will result for self, family members, others.
- Cannot solicit or accept things of value.
- Cannot authorize a contract or use authority to secure authorization of a contract for self, family, business associates.
- Cannot represent parties on matters in which we were involved.
- Cannot disclose or use confidential information.
- WHEN IN DOUBT, contact Legal Counsel.

Mr. Jun responded to questions from the Board Directors. (The Ohio Ethics Law PowerPoint presentation is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

8. FAITH-BASED OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Patricia James-Stewart, M.Ed., LSW, Faith-based Outreach Committee Vice Chair, reported on the Faith-based Outreach Committee meeting held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 4:00 p.m. The Board Directors heard the following agenda items, despite the lack of quorum, due to the presence of the presenters.

Faith-Based Community Distribution Project

Ms. James-Stewart expressed that the Board, in collaboration with the faith-based community, has assembled 150 resource bags to aid faith leaders and 150 resource bags to aid their congregations in assisting individuals facing behavioral health crises. These bags contain various items, such as a clergy handbook and a mental health guide tailored for faith leaders, as well as supplies for harm reduction to mitigate overdoses. Additionally, they include information on the 988 crisis hotline and resources to support children and youth experiencing crises. She stated that the distribution encompasses all religious denominations or operate on a nonsectarian basis. Ms. James-Stewart noted that the resource bags were dispersed among

the faith community via various faith coalitions. Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., and the Board received praise for their volunteer contributions to this distribution initiative.

- **Faith-based Outreach Program 2023 Annual Report / Current Status Highlights**

Ms. Starlette Sizemore, Director of Special Projects, reported that the grand total of individuals served for all seven faith-based providers during 2023 was 1,109; and the expected annual total was 785. They reached 26 out of the expected 25 faith institutions and held 12 of the expected 12 community conversations around mental health. For 2024, all the providers are providing services as scheduled and are doing well in this process.

- **Program Provider Presentations**

- **Galilean Theological Center (GTC)**

Rev. Felix Muniz, Executive Director, reported on the Substance Use Disorders Educational & Training Program for Latinx Clergy and Church Leaders. GTC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission statement is to provide sound theological education, training, and workforce development in the Hispanic churches through a two-year accredited program. Their vision is to be the leading center for Hispanic Theological Education and developing leaders to advance God's mission of love, justice, and transformation in the world. GTC's goal is to provide ministerial training and sound theological education to Hispanic/Latino church leaders who generally do not have access to traditional theological institutions due to language barriers, socio-economic status and/or formal education. GTC has a partnership with Ashland Theological Seminary with the purpose to train men and women for bachelor exempt status for application to the master's program.

Rev. Muniz shared that their goal was to enroll, train and educate 40 pastors and church leaders in substance use disorders in 2023. 52 participants registered for the program and 43 completed Component I and moved on to Component II & III. All 43 participants successfully completed all three Components of the program. 20 were certified as Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant (CDCA) and 23 were certified as CDCA Preliminary. 25% of the participants are currently employed in treatment facilities. Rev. Muniz also highlighted that many found employment upon completion of the program; and shared that they are accepting applications for 2024. To date, they have 30 pastors, church leaders and social service providers registered; with the goal to reach 40 participants. The program is scheduled to launch on Saturday, April 27, 2024.

- **It's Not a Moment, It's a Movement**

Pastor Kyle B. Earley, President & Chief Executive Officer, reported that Mentally Mangled was founded in response to personal struggles and the observed need for mental health support in the community, particularly within the Black community. This was inspired by a journey towards mental wellness. Mentally Mangled serves as a sanctuary for spiritual leaders, providing tailored assistance and materials for overall well-being. Their programs aim to inspire and rejuvenate leaders, equipping them to carry on their work with fresh vigor and focus. He stated that their purpose is to help spiritual leaders and their community prioritize and safeguard their mental health through sharing and learning.

Pastor Earley shared that in 2023, over 200 individuals participated in the Mentally Mangled Mental Health Tour and over 400 community members attended a Mentally Mangled organized event in 2023. 13 partnerships were developed with behavioral health organizations. Over 90 participants attended the annual Mentally Mangled Mental Summit, and more than 20 participants were referred to mental health and support services. A Mentally Mangled Mental Summit is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, May 21 & 22, 2024 at Grace Community Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 26100 Euclid Avenue, Euclid, Ohio 44132

- **Follow-up**

Mr. Jun provided a follow-up regarding prevention rules for faith-based providers. He reiterated that the new prevention rule that states that prevention services provided by faith-based organizations must be certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) or the faith-based organization must be actively working with a provider that is certified under this rule. To date, all the faith-based providers are meeting the requirement of this new rule. The exception to this rule states that all of the following are not subject to this certification requirements in paragraph C although each may attain certification on a voluntary basis. As a result, a faith-based organization that is actively working with providers certified under this rule as verified in writing by that provider is acceptable as stated in the Ohio Administrative Code 5122-29 C and G3.

9. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. James T. Dixon, Nominating Committee Chair, reported on the Nominating Committee meeting held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, and outlined key points of discussion. Presently, there are four vacant seats on the ADAMHS Board of Directors. According to the shared information, it was noted that four Board of Director appointments will expire on Thursday, June 30, 2024. Among these, two appointments are from Cuyahoga County, Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., and Ms. Bishara W. Addison. Rev. Gohlstin will conclude his second term as a Cuyahoga County appointee. Despite completing his second term as a county appointee on June 30, 2024, Rev. Gohlstin remains eligible for reappointment since his initial term was only 21 months. Pursuant to ORC 340.02(D), he “may serve for three consecutive terms under the same appointing authority only if one of the terms is for less than two years.” Also, Bishara W. Addison will be completing her first term as a Cuyahoga County appointment.

Furthermore, two appointments that are made through the State, specifically by OhioMHAS, will be expiring on June 30, 2024, Mr. Steve Killpack, MS, and Mr. Ashwani Bhardwaj. Mr. Killpack and Mr. Bhardwaj will conclude their initial terms as State appointees. Historically, the ADAMHS Board has the authority to recommend Board Director candidates for reappointment to the respective appointing authorities; however, the decision to reappoint lies solely with the appointing authorities, and there is no assurance that these individuals will be reappointed.

Based upon information shared, Ms. Linda Lamp, Executive Assistant, has sent the relevant information to support all four Board Directors in their reappointment process. She mentioned that she will inquire whether additional assistance is required to ensure the Board Directors have submitted all required documents for reappointment through their respective appointing authorities.

Mr. Jun, provided an update on the two vacancies for Community Relations & Advocacy Community Members. Board staff revisited the list of potential candidates identified during the 2023 Board Director recruitment process. Upon review, it was decided to resend the three candidates previously recommended to Cuyahoga County for consideration as potential Board candidates in 2024. If these candidates are not selected, there will be consideration regarding inviting them to participate as Community Members on the Community Relations & Advocacy Committee.

The Nominating Committee also discussed the Nomination Slate of Board Officers for FY2025-FY2026. Historically the Nominating Committee has solicited input from Board Directors regarding their interest in serving as an ADAMHS Board Officer. As a result, the Letter of Intent, which included the Form of Intent questions, was forwarded to the Board Directors on Monday, April 1, 2024. The deadline of Friday, April 26, 2024 for completing and submitting a Form of Intent was reiterated. Presently, Linda Lamp has received one response.

According to ADAMHS Board Bylaws, the Nominating Committee’s charge is to announce the recommended Slate of Officers for a two-year term at the May General Meeting scheduled for May 22, 2024. This is the only opportunity, per the Bylaws, to receive nominations from the floor.

- 1) If a nomination is received from the floor, the candidate will be required to complete and submit the Form of Intent by the end of the business day on Tuesday, May 28, 2024.
- 2) If the required form is received by the deadline, the candidate, nominated from the floor, will be added to the ballot to be voted upon at the General Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, 2024.

The next Nominating Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Lamp shared that the Board has been notified that Mr. Killpack has been reappointed by OhioMHAS for the term of Friday, July 1, 2024, to Friday, June 30, 2028.

10. FINANCE & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Katie Kern-Pilch, MA, ATR-BC, LPC-S, Finance & Oversight Committee Vice Chair, reported on the Finance & Oversight Committee meeting held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, and highlighted a presentation regarding the B.E.S.T. Me program, an update on the Behavioral Health Crisis Center, the Expenditures and Vouchers processed for payment during February 2024, Contracts and Contract Amendments as listed below.

- **Behavioral Wellness. Education. Screening and Fitness Training (B.E.S.T. Me)**

Ms. Donna L. Butler, B.E.S.T. Me Case Manager/Education Facilitator, and Mr. Sam Dickerson, B.E.S.T. Me Fitness Facilitator, at Northeast Ohio Neighborhood Services, Inc. (NEON) presented on B.E.S.T. Me. Ms. Butler shared that B.E.S.T. Me is a children's mental health prevention program that combines education, screening, and fitness training as a means to improve emotional regulation and body confidence. The goal is to teach skills, facilitate self-awareness of emotions and confidence, promote new behaviors and demonstrate how to effectively deal with issues that life presents. Founded in 1967, NEON is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) network of community health centers dedicated to improving access to health care and reducing health disparities in Greater Cleveland. NEON's mission is to provide quality, personalized and family-oriented comprehensive health care services to Northeast Ohio residents at a reasonable cost, with professional, dedicated employees, while employing the most current health care practices that are responsive to community needs for prevention and treatment of disease.

Ms. Butler stated that her first statement with working with children is "if you want to find happiness, find gratitude!" By learning gratitude, this helps the children appreciate the little things in life and lead them away from negativity and stress. She shared that a lot of the children they work with have a lot of negativity and stress and are told that their "mind is like a parachute; it works best when it's open". Ms. Butler reported that their education piece is broken down into three cohorts, Cohort A: Ages 5-9, Cohort B: Ages 10-13 and Cohort C: Ages 14-17.

Mr. Harvey Snider praised the presenters for their outstanding program and expressed gratitude to the staff for their support in making this program possible.

- **Behavioral Health Crisis Center Update**

Mr. Jun provided an update on the capital status of the Behavioral Health Crisis Center, slated for The MetroHealth System's main campus on West 25th Street in Cleveland, Ohio. He mentioned ongoing discussions between Board staff and The MetroHealth System, emphasizing the importance of aligning the program with the new location adjacent to the main campus. Mr. Jun highlighted the diligent efforts via Zoom and telephone calls to ensure progress, mentioning The MetroHealth System's engagement of an architect and a design plan meeting held on Thursday, March 28, 2024. He also indicated the necessity of securing a contractor for construction by the end of August 2024, with plans to initially open the Psychiatric Emergency Department (PED) in Cleveland Heights.

Ms. Maggie Tolbert, Assistant Chief Clinical Officer, delivered a report on the services offered at the PED. She outlined that intake and crisis stabilization services will be housed there, all of which will be fully certified by OhioMHAS. Ms. Tolbert indicated that discussions have taken place with OhioMHAS representatives, who are fully informed about this process and endorse it. Ms. Tolbert conveyed that the PED in Cleveland Heights will continue to operate; however, the Board will discontinue funding for this location upon the opening of the Behavioral Health Crisis Center on West 25th Street in Cleveland, Ohio.

CONSENT AGENDA: Resolution Nos. 24-04-01 through 24-04-03

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-04-01**

ACCEPTING THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ON EXPENDITURES AND VOUCHERS PROCESSED FOR PAYMENT DURING FEBRUARY 2024

Ms. Kern-Pilch stated that the Administrative Budget approved for Calendar Year (CY) 2024 amounted to \$8,388,412. For February Actual Year to Date (YTD) 2024, administrative expenses totaled \$1,162,908.17, approximately 14% of the total Administrative Budget. She pointed out that the expenditures listed in the Board Voucher Report were routine expenses.

The Funding Source Budget to Actual YTD, February 2024, 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 \$72,706,483; and through the end of February 2024, the Board has received \$8,807,839.10. Ms. Kern-Pilch reported that through the end of February 2024, 12% of the budget has been received.

The Revenues By Source By Month report reflect that in February 2024, the Board received revenues of \$2,152,986.94.

The ADAMHS Board Budget vs. Actual Expenses 2024 YTD reflect that February YTD Actuals is \$14,129,065.82, that is roughly 16% of the Board's anticipated expenditures for the calendar year.

The Revenue and Expenditures All Accounting Units By Month reflect that the total expenditures in February 2024 is \$6,809,410.22; bringing the total expenditures through the end of February 2024 to \$14,129,065.82.

The Revenues and Expenditures Grants YTD, February 2024 YTD reflects the Grant Accounting Units that include the ADAMHS Department of Justice (DOJ) Grants, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Grant and State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant. The total revenue for grants YTD is \$624,757.37; and total expenditures for grants YTD is \$923,084.38. The variance observed is a result of timing discrepancies. Expenses incurred in February and posted in the same month are not requested for reimbursement until a later period.

The Diversion Center Revenues and Expenditures YTD February 2024 YTD reflects a total of \$19,394.97.

The Cash Flow Report February 2024 shows the 2022 Actual, 2023 Actual and YTD thru February 2024. This report shows a comparison of the available beginning balance, total available resources, expenditures and available ending balance. The available ending balance through February 2024 is \$34,052,120.83.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-04-02 – APPROVAL AND RATIFICATION OF CONTRACTS:**

1. OhioMHAS: Landlord Incentive Funding
 - Emerald Development and Economic Network (EDEN), Inc. - \$37,000

Ms. Kern-Pilch reported that in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024, OhioMHAS is making \$1 million available to Boards statewide for this landlord incentive program. Funds may only be expended with landlords who are not currently working with behavioral health agencies to serve clients. Unexpended funds may be carried over to SFY2025. Funds will be used to increase the number of landlords willing to rent to individuals with a criminal record, those who are being discharged from a hospital, or those who experience mental illness and/or substance use disorders. Participating boards will receive a lump sum allocation to provide upfront payments to eligible landlords. The maximum payment would be \$2,000 per new individual placement. The Board will contract with EDEN to identify landlords and clients and complete all programmatic reporting.

Funding will provide up to \$2,000 per client to landlords new to EDEN to: hold a unit until tenant is available (30-60 days maximum); additional security deposits; pet deposits; Housing Quality Standards (HQS) inspections, small repairs in rental units to comply with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development quality standards; rent reporting services to improve tenant credit scores; and additional insurance coverage for landlords. Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors accept funding from OhioMHAS and approve a contract with EDEN for \$37,000 for the term of April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024.

2. OhioMHAS: Recovery Housing Funding – \$517,300
 - Cleveland Treatment Center (CTC) - \$267,300
 - Stella Maris - \$250,000

The Ohio Department of Development partnered with OhioMHAS to offer rental subsidies for individuals in recovery from substance use disorders residing in Ohio Recovery Housing (ORH) certified recovery homes. OhioMHAS is partnering with ADAMH Boards to oversee the implementation of the rental assistance program. Funding originates from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Recovery Housing Program. Funding is expected to be carried over to SFY2025.

The Recovery Housing Network, (administered by CTC and Stella Maris) is a program of the ADAMHS Board to fund individuals in need of safe, sober housing through referral to a select network of ORH certified sober housing providers in Cuyahoga County. Funds are available for time-limited housing subsidies, not to exceed two years, to low-income individuals who reside in recovery housing residences that meet level I, II, or III in accordance with National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) standards. Funds will be allocated to CTC and Stella Maris to increase the length of stay in certified recovery residences, from 90 days to 180 days for residents in need of additional time in this service. Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors accept \$517,300 from OhioMHAS and approve contracts with CTC for \$267,300 and Stella Maris for \$250,000 for the term of April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-04-03 – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENTS:**

1. Amendment to Resolution No. 22-10-03, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-Based Program (COSSAP), Enhanced Data for Improved Substance Use Surveillance, Prevention, and Recovery on Reentry in Cuyahoga – \$1,568,760 (No new funding but reallocating \$97,500 from the ADAMHS Board to Erin Scott)
 - Case Western Reserve University - \$735,000
 - Thrive Behavioral Health Center, Inc. - \$451,599
 - Cuyahoga County Board of Health - \$108,450
 - Erin Mahon Scott - not to exceed \$97,500

Cuyahoga County has one of the highest overdose death rates in the country (per 100,000) with 675 overdose deaths in 2021. COSSAP provides resources to respond to illicit substance use and misuse; reduce overdose deaths; promote public safety; and support access to prevention, harm-reduction, treatment, and recovery services in the community and justice system. In 2018, the Board received funding from BJA for the Northern District of Ohio Opioid Data Sharing Action Plan, a Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-Based Program (COAP), in partnership with Case Western Reserve University (CWRU); and this grant funding will expand on COAP.

Instead of providing project management in house, the Board will contract with Ms. Erin Mahon Scott for the term of April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 to serve as the Project Manager of the COSSAP grant for \$50 per hour, up to 25 hours per week, in an amount not to exceed \$97,500. Ms. Scott is a part-time instructor with Cleveland State University and holds a master's degree in Applied Social Research. The Board was awarded a three-year grant totaling \$1,568,760 from the U.S. DOJ, BJA, as a part of its COSSAP. The Board is using this grant funding in partnership with the Begun Center at CWRU, Thrive Behavioral Health Center, and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) to:

- Expand comprehensive, regional information gathering, analysis, and dissemination to promote the use of real-time data collection for both comprehensive planning and response to overdose incidents and emerging drug trends through the Cuyahoga County Multijurisdictional (CCMJ) Overdose Surveillance Program and the United States Attorney's Office-Northern District of Ohio (USAO-NDOH) Data Subcommittee.
 - Expand the membership roster of the Data Subcommittee to include more culturally specific, faith-based, and citizen action organizations.
 - Pilot and evaluate a peer recovery support (PRS) program for criminal-justice involved non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic persons.

Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors amend Resolution No. 22-10-03 to reallocate \$97,500 from the Board to Ms. Scott and enter into a contract with Ms. Scott in the amount not to exceed \$97,500 for the term of April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.

Mr. Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, introduced Ms. Scott. He noted that Ms. Scott began her tenure with the Board as an independent contractor on Thursday, April 4, 2024. Mr. Osiecki also shared that she received her undergraduate degree in Anthropology from Ithaca College in New York; and obtained a Masters in Applied Social Research from Cleveland State University, where she is also an instructor.

2. Amendment to Resolution No. 23-04-02, Chief Clinical Officer Consultant
 - Leslie M. Koblentz, M.D., J.D., M.S. - \$154.35 per hour, not to exceed \$172,872 (\$12,438 new funding)

The Chief Clinical Officer function is required under the ORC for the mental health component of the funds rendered to the Board by OhioMHAS. The Board transformed the position of Chief Clinical Officer from a staff position to an independent contractor position in January 2009. 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 24 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.

Amendment to Resolution No. 23-04-2 is amending the contract with Dr. Koblentz to extend the term of the contract by one month through May 31, 2024 and adding new funding in the amount of \$12,438 for a total not to exceed \$172,872. Dr. Koblentz serves as the Chief Clinical Officer Consultant for the Board for up to twenty hours per week and represents the Board on administrative clinical issues, clinical services and inpatient care services. Board staff is recommending that the Board Directors amend Resolution No. 23-04-02 to extend the term of the contract with Dr. Koblentz by one month through May 31, 2024 and add funding in the amount of \$12,438 for a total not to exceed \$172,872.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda (Resolution Nos. 24-04-01 through 24-04-03). MOTION: S. Galloway / SECOND: H. Snider / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, H. Snider / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

11. FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN AND DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION (DEI) IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE QUARTERLY UPDATE

Mr. Osiecki stated that the 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 Board Directors on the goals achieved and progress made on the plan.

Mr. Osiecki provided a detailed review of each of the six goals outlined in the Board's Five-Year Strategic Plan by sharing a few of the activities and progress made on each of the identified goals, in addition to DEI achievements, during the last quarter, which includes Monday, January 1, 2024, through Monday, March 31, 2024. In total, 26 pages of accomplishments were made during the last quarter. (The Five-Year Strategic Plan and DEI in Behavioral Health Care Quarterly Update is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit and can be found on the Board's website.)

Dr. Fowler commended staff for their efforts with the Five-Year Strategic Plan and DEI In Behavioral Healthcare; and shared that this detailed document is thorough.

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

- **Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment Update:**
 - RAMA consulting will be wrapping-up the on-on-one interviews.
 - Online surveys for both providers and the community have been published on the Board's website. Board staff have actively promoted these surveys through diverse email distribution lists, social media platforms, and targeted advertisements. Additionally, the survey is accessible in Spanish, and efforts have been made to engage with the Latino community.
 - Board staff are preparing to host a summit on Thursday, June 6, 2024.
 - Board staff are also planning focus groups later this spring.
- **Care Response Pilot Project Update:**
 - Board staff have wrapped-up the six community outreach meetings for this part of the planning phase of the Care Response Pilot Program.
 - The meetings attracted over 170 individuals to gather community input about the Care Response Pilot Program.
 - Board staff will continue with the planning meetings, which include FrontLine Service, City of Cleveland Health Department and R Strategy Group.
 - The pilot program has received significant media attention from the Plain Dealer and Cleveland.com. This coverage included comprehensive reports starting on the front page and extending to nearly all of the second page. Additionally, the Editorial Board expressed support for the program through an editorial.

- FrontLine Service is in the process of hiring for the teams.
- **OneOhio Recovery Foundation Regional Board Member Meeting:**
 - Mr. Osiecki shared that he is a member of the OneOhio Recovery Foundation Region 3 Board.
 - The Foundation held an informational session for all regional board members about the RFP process and how to handle conflicts of interest in reviewing local responses and making recommendations to OneOhio.
- **Rollout of Sprint Task Force Recommendations for Behavioral Health Workforce Serving Youth:**
 - The ADAMHS Board is a member of the Youth Mental Health Workforce Development Sprint Task Force, which was convened through the Cleveland-Cuyahoga Workforce Development Board.
 - Over the last several months, Board Director, Ms. Bishara Addison, and staff member, Ms. Clare Rosser, Chief Strategy and Performance Officer, along with other Task Force members, helped create a set of recommendations for ways to build the mental health workforce serving children and adolescents in Cuyahoga County.
 - On Thursday, April 11, 2024, at a roundtable session at the Ohio Means Jobs office, the Task Force presented the recommendations to County Executive, Chris Ronayne, and Cleveland Mayor, Justin Bibb.
 - Some of the recommendations include an ongoing partnership between the ADAMHS Board and the Workforce Board in pursuing strategies to build the mental health workforce serving youth.
 - Board staff is working out details of that partnership and expect to bring some of those recommendations to the Board Directors this summer.
- **ORCA House Step-up/Step-down Center Opening:**
 - A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Friday, April 19, 2024, for the opening of Signature Health's ORCA House, which includes the Board's step-down/step-up facility.
 - Several Board Directors and staff will be in attendance. Mr. Osiecki will make a few remarks.
 - ORCA House will be open for admissions on Monday, April 29, 2024.
 - Mr. Osiecki expressed gratitude for Signature Health's initiative in expanding access to transitional residential treatment. This effort, a crucial component of the Board's safety net, will aid in addressing suicide prevention and reducing re-hospitalizations.
 - Mr. Osiecki also conveyed his appreciation to OhioMHAS for supplying the resources necessary to establish this step-down/step-up facility within our community. He shared that it is gratifying to witness one of the Board's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects, particularly as part of the NEO Collaborative, come to fruition.
- **All Provider Meeting:**
 - The Board's quarterly All Provider meeting transpired on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, with more than 100 participants.
 - Board staff updated the providers on the Community Needs Assessment, evaluation and quality improvement and the Orca House opening.
 - Board staff also discussed the process of developing a funding plan for CY2025 that will ensure essential services are funded and continue to be provided in the future.
 - The funding proposal, expected to be submitted to the Board by Sunday, June 30, 2024, will emphasize three primary objectives:
 - Certified Prevention Services
 - Crisis Services
 - Case Management for full service providers.
 - These core goals are aimed at averting the onset of mental illness and substance use disorders, bolstering a robust crisis system to stabilize individuals in crisis, and serving as the initial entry point to the Board's system. Additionally, case management is integral as it serves as the foundation of our system, facilitating the coordination of care and recovery supports for our clients.
 - Ms. Rosser will be issuing a survey specifically focused on case management, prevention, and credentials services for both the adult and children's systems.
 - As per the Board's contract with providers - the survey will be required for all providers to complete, with a deadline of 4:00 p.m. next Friday.
- **Staff Update:**

- Ms. Latoya Hunter Hayes is set to assume the role of Chief of External Affairs on Monday, April 29, 2024, as she joins the staff.
 - Ms. Hunter Hayes is an accomplished government communicator and comes to the Board from the City of Cleveland where she is currently serving as the Manager of Communications and was previously the Director of Communications & Media Relations and the Assistant Director of Media Relations & Digital Integration for the Mayor's Office.
 - Mr. Osiecki reported that Ms. Starlette Sizemore, Director of Special Projects, will report to Ms. Hunter Hayes, along with Ms. Joiceelyn Weems, External Affairs Officer, and Mr. Ian Jameson, External Affairs Officer.
- **OhioMHAS Audit:**
 - OhioMHAS has started its routine audit of the ADAMHS Board. They are focusing on SFY2022 and most of the audit centers on finance. Ms. Felicia Harrison, Chief Financial Officer, and Ms. Danielle Clark, Director of Finance and Business Operations, have been providing the requested information.
 - The official review dates are Tuesday, May 14, 2024, through Wednesday, May 22, 2024.
 - This is a routine audit that OhioMHAS conducts of all Boards. Its purpose is to:
 - Verify funds provided by OhioMHAS were used in accordance with applicable laws, rules, contract agreements, and regulations.
 - Verify funds provided by OhioMHAS were properly and separately identified, recorded, and reconciled.
 - Review the Board's business transactions via the Board minutes and evaluate any on-going concerns or issues affecting OhioMHAS programs.
 - Verify that the Board properly and effectively monitored subrecipients.
 - Address any outstanding findings from previous audits, reviews, or monitoring efforts.

13. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Osiecki reported that Stella Maris requested the Board to act as the presenting sponsor for the "Waves of Awareness" event, scheduled for Saturday, August 31, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Cleveland's Public Square, marking International Overdose Awareness Day. This sponsorship entails a cost of \$20,000. The funding stemmed from a grant focused on substance use awareness that the Board obtained from OhioMHAS. However, uncertainty exists regarding whether OhioMHAS will offer grants this year. As presenting sponsor, the Board would receive:

- Event branding: Waves of Awareness presented by the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County
- Name and logo recognition on website, banners, signage, press releases, social media platforms and print materials.
- Presence and speaking opportunities during interviews with press and media outlets leading up to and including day-of event.
- Remarks from the podium.
- VIP seating on stage.
- Prominent company table placement in Exhibitor Tent.
- Seat on the Waves of Awareness Steering Committee.

Mr. Osiecki shared that the formal request for this sponsorship will be presented in the near future.

14. FOLLOW-UP

No follow-up was received.

15. AUDIENCE INPUT

Mr. Larry Heller, a staff member at NORA, expressed gratitude to the Board for their efforts in establishing NORA's crisis team and for their support in organizing the upcoming Community Needs Assessment.

Mr. Osiecki mentioned a presentation he and Mr. Heller delivered on NORA's crisis van during the Cuyahoga County Social Work Conference. Furthermore, they are scheduled to present on the same topic at the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) conference on Monday and Tuesday, June 3 & 4, 2024, in Columbus, Ohio.

16. UPCOMING MAY AND JUNE BOARD MEETINGS:

- Community Relations & Advocacy Committee Meeting: May 1, 2024
- Annual Meeting Brunch, Awards Ceremony and Client Art Show: May 13, 2024

- Nominating Committee Meeting: May 15, 2024
- Finance & Oversight Committee Meeting: May 15, 2024
- General Meeting: May 22, 2024
- Faith-based Outreach Committee Meeting: June 5, 2024
- Nominating Committee Meeting: June 12, 2024
- Finance & Oversight Committee Meeting: June 12, 2024
- General Meeting: June 26, 2024

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Submitted by: Linda Lamp, Executive Assistant

Approved by: _____
J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Chairperson, ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County