

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

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 22, 2024

ADAMHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT:

J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D.
Bishara W. Addison
Ashwani Bhardwaj
Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D.
Gregory X. Boehm, M.D.
Erskine Cade, MBA
James T. Dixon

Sadigoh C. Galloway, MSW, LSW, LICDC-CS
Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr.
Patricia James-Stewart, M.Ed., LSW
Katie Kern-Pilch, MA, ATR-BC, LPC-S
Steve Killpack, MS
Harvey A. Snider, Esq.

ABSENT: None

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, Danielle Clark, Vince Crowe, Felicia Harrison, Myra Henderson, Latoya Hunter Hayes, Woo Jun, Leslie Koblentz, Linda Lamp, Jessica Saker, Allison Schaefer, Starlette Sizemore, Maggie Tolbert, Nick Weaver, Joicelyn Weems

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., called the General Meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. Ms. Katie Kern-Pilch read into the record the Board's Mission Statement: *"Enhance the quality of life for our community through a commitment to excellence in mental health and addiction prevention, treatment and recovery services coordinated through a person-centered network of community supports."*

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comment on agenda items was received.

3. RECOGNITION OF CLIENT ARTWORK DISPLAY: MAY 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. Joicelyn Weems, External Affairs Officer, highlighted the contributions of AHH! Art Helps and Heals Art Therapy Program at Far West Center and introduced Ms. Denise Ayers, Co-facilitator, of Far West Center's AHH! Art Helps and Heals Art Therapy Program. Ms. Ayers shared that the AHH! Art Helps and Heals Open Art Studio offers weekly opportunities for adults with severe mental illness to use a variety of art tools and materials to express thoughts, process emotions, and improve self-esteem. Their client-artists are given encouragement, guidance, and emotional support as they learn to develop their creativity. AHH! Open Art Studio provides an emotionally safe place for those in mental health recovery to try many artistic expressions including colored pencil drawing, painting, clay sculpture, and mixed media. One artist/program participant was present and shared her thoughts about the value of the program in her personal recovery. The Board presented Far West Center with a Certificate of Participation in recognition of the program and all of its participants.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the April 17, 2024 General Meeting were approved as submitted.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

Dr. Fowler shared that he recently received a resignation notice from Board Director/Cuyahoga County Council appointee, Michelle R. Curry, MPA. In her communication, Ms. Curry stated that "she has accepted a position with Providence House which receives funding from the ADAMHS Board." She also shared that "it has been a pleasure learning and serving on the Board of Directors. Thank you for your service to Cuyahoga County." On behalf of the ADAMHS Board, we sincerely want to thank Ms. Curry for her service on the ADAMHS Board since taking her Oath of Office in January of 2024; and extend to her our very best wishes.

Cuyahoga County Council has been actively working to appoint new directors to the ADAMHS Board, including:

- On Tuesday, May 14, 2024, Cuyahoga County Council approved Molly Wimbiscus, M.D., as a new Board Director. Dr. Wimbiscus is scheduled for an orientation session with Board staff on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, an hour prior to the General Meeting.
- On Tuesday, May 21, 2024, Ms. Kathryn Parks appeared before the Cuyahoga County Human Resources, Appointments & Equity Committee for approval. Final approval from Cuyahoga County Council is forthcoming.

Dr. Fowler expressed hope that Ms. Parks will attend the orientation session on June 26th. It is expected that the Oath of Office will be administered to both Dr. Wimbiscus and Ms. Parks at the General Meeting on the same date.

The Board's 2024 Annual Meeting Brunch, Awards Ceremony, and Client Art Show took place on Monday, May 13, 2024, at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South in Independence. During the event, Resolution No. 24-05-01, Accepting the Calendar Year 2023 Annual Report was approved. The event was well attended with nearly 600 participants, and the keynote speaker, Dr. Joy DeGruy, received a standing ovation.

6. PRESENTATION:

PAROLE ASSERTIVE COMMUNITY TREATMENT (PACT)

Ms. Allison Schaefer, Director of Adult Behavioral Health Programs, introduced Ms. Sue Greenland, MA, MDiv, PACT/FACT Supervisor at Recovery Resources. Ms. Greenland mentioned that Recovery Resources is affiliated with The MetroHealth System and shared that Recovery Resources' guiding mission is helping people triumph over mental illness, alcoholism, drugs and other addiction. Ms. Greenland highlighted that the goal of PACT is to help parolees reintegrate into society successfully while managing any underlying mental health or substance use issues that may have contributed to their criminal behavior. She reported that Recovery Resources receives up to \$275,000 from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (ODRC) yearly for programmatic needs/contract fulfillment for the PACT program.

The PACT program provides intensive comprehensive community treatment for persons being released from prison that are on Parole or Post Release Control (PRC). PACT maintains an active caseload for up to 50 individuals at any given time and provides wrap around services to those being released from prison who have been identified as having a severe and persistent mental illness. Services provided include:

- pharmacological services
- substance abuse counseling
- individual counseling
- community support services
- peer support services
- case management services
- employment services
- and assistance with housing and other supports

A designated officer from the Adult Parole Authority (APA) is assigned to the team in order to assist and support the team.

Individuals referred to the PACT program must be men or women over the age of 18 and under the supervision of the Cleveland APA-Mental Health Unit. They should have at least one year remaining on parole or post-release control and be diagnosed with one of the following conditions:

- Bipolar Spectrum
- Schizophrenia Spectrum
- Major Depressive Disorder with psychosis.

Ms. Greenland shared that within institutional utilization and other functional criteria, the recipient has one or more of the following:

- Two or more admissions to a psychiatric inpatient hospital setting within the past twelve months, or
- Two or more occasions of utilizing psychiatric emergency services within the past twelve months, or
- Significant difficulty meeting basic survival needs within the last twenty-four months, or

- History of criminal justice involvement within the past two years, including but not limited to arrest, incarceration, or probation, and

The recipient experiences one or more of the following:

- Persistent or recurrent severe psychiatric symptoms, or
- Coexisting substance use disorder of more than six months in duration, or
- Residing in an inpatient or supervised residence, but clinically assessed to be able to live in a more independent living situation if intensive services are provided, or
- At risk of psychiatric hospitalization, institutional or supervised residential placement if more intensive services are not available, or
- Has been unsuccessful in using traditional office-based outpatient services.

Individuals are referred from ODRC, the Cleveland APA Unit 6 – Mental Health Unit, or through intra-agency identification. Ms. Greenland also presented various charts illustrating the interdisciplinary team approach used to deliver wraparound services on a 24/7 basis, highlighting the roles and responsibilities within this team. Additionally, she provided key program statistics, explaining that PACT aims to reduce recidivism, improve mental health outcomes, and support the overall well-being of parolees, thereby enhancing public safety and promoting community health. She also answered questions from the Board Directors. (The PACT PowerPoint presentation is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

7. COMMUNITY RELATIONS & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Sadigoh C. Galloway, Community Relations & Advocacy (CR&A) Committee Chair, reported on the CR&A Committee meeting held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Board Directors heard the following agenda items as listed below.

- Mr. Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, introduced Ms. Latoya Hunter Hayes, who joined the Board as the new Chief of External Affairs on Monday, April 29, 2024. With over 15 years of extensive experience in managing traditional and digital media strategies across public, private, and non-profit sectors, Ms. Hunter Hayes brings a wealth of expertise to the Board. Previously, she held key leadership positions within the Cleveland Department of Public Utilities and the City of Cleveland Mayor's Office of Communications. In her role, Ms. Hunter Hayes oversees the Board's public relations, media relations, social media, community engagement, faith-based initiatives, and special projects. Additionally, she provides supervision to Ms. Weems, Mr. Ian Jameson, External Affairs Officer, along with Ms. Starlette Sizemore, Director of Special Projects.
- Next, Mr. Osiecki provided a Legislative Update that included information about school overdose reversal drugs, Social Work Licensure Compact and various other House bills that recently had hearings.
 - The School Overdose Reversal Drugs legislation, House Bill (HB) 506, introduced on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, and subsequently directed to the Primary and Secondary Education Committee on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, mandates schools opting to stock overdose reversal medications to implement a comprehensive policy governing their administration, storage and usage.
 - The Social Work Licensure Compact, Senate Bill (SB) 90, was approved by the House on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, following its passage in the Senate in June 2023. It is now awaiting the Governor's signature. The objective of this Compact is to address workforce shortages by:
 - Enhancing mobility by eliminating the need for licenses across multiple states and mutually recognizing licenses from other member states.
 - Expanding public access to Social Work Services.
 - Streamlining and reducing redundant requirements linked with holding multiple licenses.
 - Fostering the exchange of licensure and disciplinary information among member states.
 - Permitting the use of telehealth to enhance access to regulated Social Work Services.
- Various other House Bills recently had hearings including:
 - HB 344: This bill aims to abolish Replacement Property Tax Levies, thereby removing taxing authorities' ability to pursue such levies.

- HB 37: Introduces stricter penalties for Operating a Vehicle Impaired (OVI) and aggravated vehicular homicide.
- HB 249: Proposes amendments to Mental Health/Civil Commitment Requirements, including defining deterioration standards for individuals under court orders for mental illness and addressing gaps in the pink slip process for transferring or discharging individuals to general hospitals. Additionally, it seeks to authorize state highway patrol troopers to issue pink slips.
- HB 300: Requires the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) to establish a pilot program for remote treatment of opioid use disorder through licensed opioid treatment programs for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The program is to be funded at \$750,000, with up to ten licensed programs eligible to participate. Each selected program must engage a remote methadone treatment vendor from an OhioMHAS-approved list.
- HB 491: Introduced in the House on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, and referred to the House State & Local Government Committee on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, this bill mandates political subdivisions, including ADAMHS Boards, to furnish expenditure details to the Treasurer of State for inclusion in the Ohio State and Local Government Expenditure Database.
- Next, Ms. Sizemore requested \$50,000 for Fentanyl Test Strips and an additional \$2,461 for printing of instructions and inserts.
 - These resources will assist with reducing overdose deaths by working with harm reduction partners, grassroots organizations and community businesses to increase access to Fentanyl test strips.
 - If each person receives three test strips, more than 37,700 individuals will be reached.
 - There was a motion to recommend authorization for review and approval to the full Board. The motion passed.
- Ms. Hunter Hayes provided an update on the Annual Meeting. As of Monday April 29, there were 572 tickets sold and the final ticket count was 598 tickets sold.
 - Dr. Joy DeGruy's keynote at the time, was "Be the Healing." Dr. DeGruy explored the lasting impacts of slavery and systemic racism on contemporary society, particularly within the African American community.
 - Ms. Hunter Hayes shared that to assist with promoting the event and provide additional background on the speaker, the Board created a brief video that is currently being shared online that shows Dr. DeGruy speaking about this year's theme.
- Mr. Jameson provided the Media Tracking Reports for the reporting period of Wednesday, January 3, 2024 through Tuesday, April 30, 2024.
 - The Board had 36 media mentions of which 27 were positive and 9 were neutral. There were no negative media mentions.
 - Media highlights since the January CR&A Committee meeting included the Care Response pilot program and harm reduction. Also, several news publications, although not themed around the Board, mentioned harm reduction efforts, highlighting Narcan distribution and fentanyl test strips.
- Ms. Weems provided the Social Media and Website Tracking Reports for Thursday, January 4, 2024 through Sunday, March 31, 2024.
 - There were 705,190 impressions on social media, 3,007 social media engagements, and links shared were clicked on 1,030 times; and the Board gained 101 new followers.
 - 29,199 individuals visited the Board's website between January 4, 2024 and March 31, 2024, a total of 53,625 times.

- 95% of the individuals were new visitors to the Board's website; and 5% were returning visitors.
- There were 98,196 page views and 65% of users came to the site from google searches, 23% came to the site directly meaning they typed it in and the remainder (12%) from social media/referral from another page or email.

8. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. James T. Dixon, Nominating Committee Chair, reported on the Nominating Committee meeting held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. and shared that the discussion focused on the goals of:

- 1) The reappointment status for Cuyahoga County and the OhioMHAS appointments; and
- 2) Presenting a recommended Slate of Officers for a 2-year term (FY2025-FY2026)

Presently, there are five vacant seats on the ADAMHS Board of Directors. According to the information shared, it was noted that four Board Director appointments will expire on Thursday, June 30, 2024. Among these, two appointments are from Cuyahoga County, Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstein, Sr., and Bishara W. Addison. Rev. Gohlstein will conclude his second term as a Cuyahoga County appointee. Despite completing his second term as a county appointee on June 30, 2024, Rev. Gohlstein remains eligible for reappointment since his initial term was only 21 months. Also, Bishara W. Addison will be completing her first term as a Cuyahoga County appointment.

Furthermore, two appointments that were made through the State, specifically 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 term 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 forwarded the relevant information to support all four Board Directors in their reappointment process. She mentioned that she has assisted all four Board Directors with the reappointment process to ensure the Board Directors have submitted all required documents for reappointment through their respective appointing authorities.

On Thursday, April 11, 2024, the Board received notification from OhioMHAS that Mr. Killpack's application for board membership had been processed, resulting in his reappointment to the ADAMHS Board. His new term will begin on July 1, 2024, and will last until June 30, 2028. Additionally, on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, the Board was informed that Mr. Bhardwaj's application for board membership had also been processed, leading to his reappointment to the ADAMHS Board. Mr. Bhardwaj's term will likewise commence on July 1, 2024, and continue until June 30, 2028.

Ms. Lamp reported that she has not received any updates from Cuyahoga County regarding the reappointment status of Rev. Gohlstein and Ms. Addison. Additionally, the Board has not received any updates concerning the resubmission of the three candidates previously recommended to the county for consideration as ADAMHS Board Directors in 2024.

The Nominating Committee meeting resulted in the following Slate of Board Officers for FY2025-FY2026 that is subsequently being recommended to the full Board.

- Chairperson: J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D.
- Vice Chair: Patricia James-Stewart, M.Ed., LSW
- Second Vice Chair: James T. Dixon

The election of Board Officers is scheduled for the June General Meeting in compliance with the ADAMHS Board Bylaws.

Motion to approve the recommended Slate of Board Officers for FY2025-FY2026. MOTION: R. Blue / SECOND: S. Killpack / AYES: B. Addison, A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstein, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, S. Killpack, H. Snider / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

9. **FINANCE & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Bishara W. Addison, Finance & Oversight (F&O) Committee Chair, reported on the F&O Committee meeting held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. and highlighted a Behavioral Health Crisis Center update, a Care Response Pilot program update, the Expenditures and Vouchers processed for payment during March 2024, Contracts and Contract Amendments as listed below.

▪ **Behavioral Health Crisis Center Update**

Mr. Osiecki provided an update on the Behavioral Health Crisis Center, which is planned for The MetroHealth System's main campus on West 25th Street in Cleveland, Ohio. He mentioned that ongoing discussions between Board staff and The MetroHealth System are continuing regarding contract negotiations for both the Behavioral Health Crisis Center and the Psychiatric Emergency Department (PED). He shared that a meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2024, with OhioMHAS representatives to discuss funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). On Tuesday, May 21, 2024, Board staff will meet with representatives of the court system at the PED in Cleveland Heights to ensure clarity on the civil commitment process. Finally, Board staff will meet with representatives of The MetroHealth System to discuss these matters in detail. A more comprehensive update will be provided at the General Meeting.

▪ **Care Response Pilot Program Update**

Mr. Osiecki reported that the Care Response Pilot program is progressing well. He mentioned that FrontLine Service is in the process of hiring staff and has made some excellent selections. R Strategy is finalizing a report based on the community engagement meetings, and once it is received, Board staff will share it with the Board Directors. Board staff continue to meet weekly with FrontLine Service and R Strategy to ensure the program's advancement. The next steps include advertising the program in zip codes 44102 and 44105, with the goal of launching the Care Response Pilot program by the end of summer.

Board Directors inquired about the staffing progress for the Care Response Pilot program. Ms. Maggie Tolbert, Assistant Chief Clinical Officer, provided an update, stating that two Program Managers, who are clinicians, have been hired and began their roles the previous week. Notably, one of the Program Managers was promoted internally. She explained that there will be five teams, each comprising a clinical professional and a peer. FrontLine Service is finalizing some clinician positions and has scheduled interviews for five or six peers.

Ms. Tolbert mentioned that FrontLine Service staff expressed satisfaction with the quality of candidates, attributing it to the Board's assistance with salaries. They are on track to have two teams ready. The Program Managers are currently working on developing policies, procedures, communication protocols, and training. Ms. Carole Ballard, Director of Education and Training, has offered to assist with this training. Additionally, they have a list of trainings that all FrontLine Service staff receive, but these teams will undergo additional training based on community feedback. The two Program Managers will participate in interviews with the individuals they will be supervising.

CONSENT AGENDA: Resolution Nos. 24-05-02 through 24-05-04

• **RESOLUTION NO. 24-05-02**

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

Ms. Addison stated that the Administrative Budget approved for Calendar Year (CY) 2024 is \$8,388,412. For March Actual Year to Date (YTD) 2024, administrative expenses totaled \$1,836,621.31, approximately 22% 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, March 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 March 2024, the Board has received \$16,851,762.40. Ms. Addison reported that through the end of March 2024, 23% of the budget has been received.

The Revenues By Source By Month report reflects that in March 2024, the Board received revenues of \$8,043,923.30. This total includes the County Subsidy of \$6,833,333.32.

The ADAMHS Board Budget vs. Actual Expenses 2024 YTD reflect that March YTD Actuals is \$21,899,089.52, that is roughly 24% 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 March 2024 is \$7,770,023.70, bringing the total expenditures through the end of March 2024 to \$21,899,089.52.

The Revenues and Expenditures Grants YTD, March 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 \$823,499.52; and total expenditures for grants YTD is \$1,195,139.20. The variance observed is a result of timing discrepancies. Expenses incurred in March and posted in the same month are not requested for reimbursement until a later period.

The Diversion Center Revenues and Expenditures YTD March 2024 reflects a total of \$101,929.91, bringing the total revenue through the end of March 2024 to \$114,112.92 and total operating expenses through the end of March 2024 to \$121,324.88.

Ms. Addison explained that invoices for the Diversion Center undergo an internal accuracy review, are then sent to Ms. Brandy Carney, the Director of Public Safety & Justice Services, for further review, and subsequently paid.

The Cash Flow Report March 2024 shows the 2022 Actual, 2023 Actual and YTD thru March 2024. This report shows a comparison of the available beginning balance, total available resources, expenditures and available ending balance. The available ending balance through March 2024 is \$34,326,020.43.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-05-03 – APPROVAL AND RATIFICATION OF CONTRACTS:**

1. OhioMHAS: State Opioid and Stimulant Response (SOS) 3.0 Carryover Funding
 - Ohio Pharmacy Services - \$32,914

Ms. Addison reported that in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024, OhioMHAS is making the state's SOS carryover funds available to Boards to mitigate the opioid and stimulant crisis. Northern Ohio Recovery Association (NORA) operates a crisis center and hotline from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m., including a mobile outreach team which makes regular visits to all county neighborhoods. Peer supporters and outreach workers on the team provide referrals for essential needs including medical services, identification (ID) services, food, housing, clothing access, and distribute harm reduction supplies to adults 18 and older. This carryover funding will be used to purchase and provide 686 naloxone overdose reversal kits to the NORA crisis outreach team. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors accept funding from OhioMHAS and approve the purchase of naloxone overdose reversal kits for \$32,914 for the term of September 30, 2023 through September 29, 2024.

2. Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) FY2025 Membership Dues – \$19,000

Ms Addison reported that the membership dues are for OACBHA, which is the statewide organization that represents the interests of Ohio's ADAMHS Boards at the state level. Each member, including the ADAMHS Board, pays annual membership dues to OACBHA to support its operations, advocacy and educational efforts. OACBHA works to provide education, develop policies and seek support for initiatives that will expand and enhance mental health and substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery support services. OACBHA provides a forum to address statewide issues and provides Boards with a single voice to communicate with a variety of governmental bodies to promote a Recovery Oriented System of Care. The dues remain the same as the previous fiscal year.

OACBHA decisions and actions are guided by compassion and the needs and experiences of people living with mental illness and/or addictions, as well as the desire to improve their quality of life. They advocate for system funding to provide mental health and addiction treatment and recovery services to clients, influence legislation for the best interest of clients and provide educational opportunities for clients, providers and ADAMHS Board Directors and staff. OACBHA offers Culture of Quality Board certification to ensure best practices at the Board

level. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors approve the payment to OACBHA for annual membership dues for the term of FY2025 (July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025) in the amount of \$19,000.

3. Chief Clinical Officer Consultant
 - Leslie M. Koblentz, M.D., J.D., M.S. - \$180 per hour, not to exceed \$187,200

The Chief Clinical Officer function is required under the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) for the mental health component of the funds rendered to the Board by OhioMHAS. 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. Dr. Koblentz will provide up to 20 hours of service to the ADAMHS Board each week and will represent the Board on administrative clinical issues, clinical services and inpatient care services. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors approve a contract with Leslie M. Koblentz, M.D., J.D., M.S., to serve as Chief Clinical Officer Consultant of the ADAMHS Board for the term of June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025 at \$180 per hour, not to exceed \$187,200.

4. Fentanyl Test Strips – Harm Reduction – \$52,461
 - BTNX, Inc. (fentanyl test strips) - \$50,000
 - Brothers Printing – fentanyl test strips instructions/inserts - \$2,461

Ms. Addison reported that at least 447 victims have died from heroin/fentanyl/analog or in combination through November 2023. In 2023, when including cocaine, there were at least 592 fatalities. The driving factor of fatalities continues to be fentanyl mixed with other drugs. The rate of African American deaths involving fentanyl is 38.09% of all victims in December 2023 and over 35.03% for the year. As many as 22 cocaine related deaths occurred in December 2023 with as many as 12 with fentanyl, heroin, or both mixed in. A collaborative approach to supporting harm reduction efforts is needed to help save lives. It is also important that we share harm reduction information all year round. Harm reduction efforts such as education and fentanyl test strip distribution are some ways we hope to reduce the number of fatal overdoses. It is important to note that all our resources inform residents how to connect with care when they are ready for treatment.

Fentanyl test strips will assist with reducing overdose deaths by working with harm reduction partners, grassroots organizations and community businesses to increase access to fentanyl test strips. If each person receives three test strips, more than 37,700 individuals will be reached. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors authorize the purchase of harm reduction supplies not to exceed \$52,461 for the term of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-05-04 – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENTS:**

1. Amendment to Resolution No. 23-11-07, Recovery Housing Program
 - Community Assessment and Treatment Services (CATS) - \$75,000

The Board began funding CATS Recovery Housing program in 2022. The CATS Recovery Housing program started by providing 30 beds for men. They have since renovated a section of their building and have added an additional 24 beds. CATS now has a total of 54 Recovery Housing beds, to provide safe, substance-free housing. As a result of the additional beds and targeted outreach, their enrollment has significantly increased, and they have utilized their 2024 funding.

CATS Recovery Housing program provides a safe, sober space for clients to stay while engaged in Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Outpatient Treatment and practice learned recovery skills in the community. CATS Recovery Housing program allows more time for residents to seek employment and permanent housing while focusing on

their recovery. The house manager of the CATS Recovery Housing program provides monitoring, motivational enhancement, and coaching. The house manager also conducts weekly house meetings. In addition, residents also have access to peer support services and structured activities. An estimated 72 clients will be served. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors approve a funding increase of \$75,000 for the term of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, to allow more clients to utilize the CATS Recovery Housing program.

2. Amendment to Resolution No. 24-01-03, Care Response Communications and Community Engagement Consultant
 - R Strategy Group - \$154,189.99

Care response is a health-first approach that deploys teams of behavioral health professionals and peers with lived experience on mental health crisis calls. Over the past several years, R Strategy Group has worked with the ADAMHS Board, Magnolia Clubhouse, and experts and advocates in Cuyahoga County and across the state and country to move care response forward. Foundations are extremely interested in the work that R Strategy is doing and interested in continuing their financial support, but that support will not be available until early in the second quarter of 2024.

Adding funding in the amount of \$154,189.99 broken down into \$150,000 for consulting work for Care Response Communications and Community Engagement through the end of the year and \$4,189.99 to reimburse R Strategy Group for additional costs associated with Community Engagement Meetings such as facility rental fees, snacks and coffee, residents' cell phone data and robotexts to residents, and extending the contract through December 31, 2024. R Strategy Group anticipated that it would receive \$250,000 from foundations but was only able to secure \$100,000. R Strategy Group will serve as a consultant to assist the ADAMHS Board with communications and community engagement related to the Care Response Pilot in the City of Cleveland in addition to spearheading a Community Advisory Committee. R Strategy Group will work with the ADAMHS Board to: (1) present clear and consistent communications regarding care response; (2) increase the community's knowledge and awareness and get buy-in of care response; and (3) be responsive and adaptable to feedback and lessons learned during the pilot. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors approve a contract amendment for an increase in the amount of \$154,189.99 for a total of \$213,689.99 and extend the term of contract through December 31, 2024.

3. Amendment to Resolution No. 23-09-05, Outpatient Competency Restoration Education Allocation
 - Murtis Taylor Human Services System - \$52,000

Outpatient Competency Restoration is designed for people with a mental health disorder or co-occurring psychiatric and SUD who are found incompetent to stand trial and are court-ordered to participate in competency restoration treatment. Senate Bill 2, which was signed into law by Governor DeWine on April 27, 2021, aims to improve access to and increase the quality of mental healthcare in Ohio by making reforms to Ohio's competency restoration procedure to allow nonviolent offenders to receive competency restoration treatment in outpatient settings, rather than in the state psychiatric hospital. Allowing outpatient restoration treatment will help to ensure that state psychiatric hospital beds remain available for Ohioans suffering from serious mental illness.

Staff of the Murtis Taylor Human Services System will meet with individuals involved in nonviolent offenses found incompetent to stand trial by the court to provide legal education as part of the Outpatient Competency Restoration process. Staff will meet for one to two hours each week with the individuals for no more than two months to ensure that the clients understand the charges, legal representation and actions of the court. Based on the most recent available number of admissions to Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare, it is estimated that 35 individuals would be eligible for Outpatient Competency Restoration per year. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors accept additional funding from OhioMHAS for the Outpatient Competency Restoration program in the amount of \$52,000 for SFY24 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024) and to continue to contract with Murtis Taylor Human Services System to provide the educational component of the Outpatient Competency Restoration process.

4. Amendment to Resolution No. 23-11-07, Property Management for Consumer Operated Services
 - Emerald Development and Economic Network (EDEN), Inc. - \$106,420

These funds will increase funding for the Property Management for Consumer Operated Services program by \$106,420, bringing the total to \$175,222, thereby increasing EDEN's CY2024 allocation to \$4,091,590. The funding will be used at Future Directions, located at 2070 West 117th Street in Cleveland Ohio, for waterproofing the basement due to water leakage, which is causing electrical issues.

As part of the EDEN CY2024 Contract, EDEN provides property management for the property, allowing it to be used as a Consumer Operated Service site by Future Directions. EDEN completes any work orders necessary to maintain the property and carry out required repairs. EDEN issued a Request for Proposal to remediate the water leak into the basement and perform waterproofing, and the lowest responsive bid was \$106,420. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors approve a contract amendment for an increase in the amount of \$106,420 to the Property Management Consumer Operated Services program for a total of \$175,222, which makes the CY2024 Contract \$4,091,590, for the term of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

5. Amendment to Resolution No. 23-06-02, Community Needs Assessment – \$113,719.20
 - RAMA Consulting - \$108,457
 - Holiday Inn Cleveland South - \$5,262.20

The ADAMHS Board conducts a Community Needs Assessment every three to five years, to ensure the local public system for mental health, addiction and recovery services continues to adapt to ever-changing and high-intensity demands, and that constrained resources are allocated appropriately. The assessments assist the Board in identifying areas of greatest need for client services for planning, funding, evaluating, and advocacy purposes. OhioMHAS, as well as general evaluation standards, suggest that local Boards conduct a thorough Needs Assessment approximately every five years. The last ADAMHS Board Community Needs Assessment was completed on May 15, 2020, using data collected primarily from 2019. Board staff request a Needs Assessment based primarily on 2023 data, to provide the most up-to-date insights on emerging trends and continuing needs.

This funding will add \$512.20 to the Community Needs Assessment for the Stakeholder Summit to be held at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South in Independence on Thursday, June 6, 2024, and reallocating \$4,750 from RAMA Consulting to Holiday Inn Cleveland to allow the ADAMHS Board to pay Holiday Inn Cleveland South directly for the costs of the Stakeholder Summit to take advantage of the ADAMHS Board's tax-exempt status. RAMA Consulting will conduct a Community Needs Assessment to inform funding and program priorities for the ADAMHS Board. The Community Needs Assessment will include a review of existing and publicly available data to assess county demographic trends, service usage statistics, state and federal policy influences, benchmarking data, etc.; stakeholder interviews, surveys and focus groups; working groups; and a final report presented to the ADAMHS Board of Directors. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors amend Resolution No. 23-06-02 to add \$512.20 to the Community Needs Assessment for the Stakeholder Summit, transfer \$4,750 from RAMA Consulting to Holiday Inn Cleveland South, and approve a contract amendment with RAMA Consulting for \$108,457 and a contract with Holiday Inn Cleveland South for \$5,262.20 for the term of September 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda (Resolution Nos. 24-05-02 through 24-05-04). MOTION: B. Gohlstin / SECOND: R. Blue / AYES: B. Addison, A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, S. Killpack, H. Snider / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

10. CUYAHOGA COUNTY DIVERSION CENTER REPORT

Ms. Clare Rosser provided a Cuyahoga County Diversion Center overview. She reported in her overview that FrontLine Service handles the Call Center, Oriana House takes care of the operations of the Diversion Center and the ADAMHS Board is responsible for the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training.

FrontLine Service's Call Center operates 24/7/365, providing a hotline for law enforcement and others to screen for eligibility for the Diversion Center (216.623.6888). Of the 4,256 total calls received to date, 740 were from police and 3,516 were from community members, individuals, or other agencies. Since 2021, the number of calls from community members, individuals, and agencies has

continued to increase. The number of calls from police increased in 2021 and 2022, but there was a slight decrease of 67 police calls in 2023 compared to 2022.

Oriana House has completed 1,972 admissions/intakes, which means the clients arrived onsite either through police transport or other means and completed the admission process. This total includes repeat clients. 3,808 contacts have occurred to date. "Contacts" are instances when a potential client arrived at the Diversion Center. From those 3,808 contacts, the admissions process was completed 1,972 times. When an individual is eligible for admission, it is still the individual's choice to stay at the Diversion Center. During Quarter 1 2024 the admissions/intakes by month were as follows: 72 admissions/intakes in January, 64 admissions/intakes in February and 59 admissions/intakes in March. Out of all 1,972 admissions from inception, 276 had a client diagnosis of Serious Mental Illness (SMI), 366 had a client diagnosis of SUD and 1,330 had a client diagnosis of SMI-SUD. The average length of stay for all clients was 5.21 days. The average length of stay for SMI was 4.41 days, the average length of stay for SUD was 5.10 days and the average length of stay for SMI-SUD was 5.39 days.

From May 2021 through December 31, 2023, the Diversion Center made 840 referrals to 116 partner agencies. The top three agencies for referrals were Y-Haven with 66 referrals (8%), Signature Health with 63 referrals (7.5%), and FrontLine Service with 55 referrals (6.5%). The discharge reasons for all clients since the program's inception were as follows:

- 51% of clients successfully completed the program.
- 41% of clients left against staff advice (AMA).
- 6% of clients were transferred to another facility for health reasons.
- 2% were involuntarily discharged due to rule violations.

The ADAMHS Board has served as the CIT Coordinator for Cuyahoga County since 2004. The total number of personnel trained in quarter 1 of 2024 was 59. The total number of personnel trained includes 222 in 2023, 402 personnel in 2022 and 673 personnel in 2021, is 1,356. This number reflects trainings connected to the Diversion Center contract. In 2023, roll call outreach numbers shared included 498 attendees across 20 police departments. (The Cuyahoga County Diversion Center Overview handout is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

[Mr. Steve Killpack, MS, left.]

11. CARE RESPONSE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Mr. Osiecki reported that the Care Response Pilot program is progressing well. He shared that Phase 1, Community Engagement sessions recently wrapped up for the Care Response Pilot program. Six Community Engagement sessions were held in zip codes 44102 and 44105 in collaboration with the City of Cleveland, Department of Public Health and FrontLine Service. The Community Engagement sessions were organized by R Strategy and were facilitated by the Community Innovation Network at Case Western Reserve University. Each session included a presentation on the pilot program followed by a question and answer session, small group discussion and then a large group activity.

The objectives of the Care Response Pilot program included:

- Brief the community about the Care Response pilot
- Build trust and relationships with the community
- Better understand the landscape in 44102 and 44105 to align the program with the specific needs and preferences of the community
- Identify program opportunities and challenges
- Gather input and insight from impacted people and stakeholders
- Answer community questions

Mr. Osiecki reported that 75 individuals attended the six sessions. Among them were 46 mental or behavioral health service providers serving community members in one or both of the target zip codes. Additionally, 26 were current or former residents of either 44102 or 44105, and two participants were neither residents nor service providers. Overall, participants were very supportive of this pilot program model and its potential to improve the mental health outcomes for the people in their communities. The community's support comes with high expectations, including:

- Follow through with individuals using the program
- Highly skilled and empathetic care responders, and

- Continued relationship building and community involvement throughout the process

Mr. Osiecki shared that the commencement of each session, participants were asked about their community hopes and expectations for Care Response, which included:

- Effective response without law enforcement
- On-site referrals to appropriate continued care
- Follow up with individual to ensure connection with care
- Widespread use
- Care responders that are properly trained and compassionate, effective and affirming

Potential users of the Care Response program included:

- Organization representatives like social services agencies, churches, and businesses
- Family members or caregivers
- Neighbors
- People experiencing a crisis themselves
- The unhoused population
- Immigrants, particularly in 44102
- LGBTQ+ community
- Individuals who have a negative history with law enforcement

Meeting participants recommended multiple ways to ensure that the Care Response program will be widely utilized, which included:

- More community education about program availability
- Utilizing trusted community assets to promote the pilot
- Prioritizing relationship building with the community
- Reliability, capacity, and speed of response
- Follow up on referrals and continuing care
- Better understanding of 988
- Addressing fears about police

The Care Response program rollout responses included:

- Utilize trusted community partners (e.g., grassroots organizations, churches, clinics, schools)
- Face-to-face communications
- Social media
- Flyers
- Visibility in high traffic areas (e.g., stores, bus stops)
- Inclusive
- Transparent
- Accessible (e.g., multiple languages, gender inclusive language)

Through the six sessions, participants were asked to share their idea of Care Responder characteristics, which included:

- Training/experience - medical, crisis intervention, empathy
- Cultural humility
- Ability to respond in a way that is compassionate, effective and affirming
- Knowledgeable about the neighborhood and its resources
- Represent the demographics of the community
- Focus on retention
 - Continuing education
 - Competitive compensation
 - Support for trauma in the field

Feedback from the six sessions will be shared with all partners and incorporated into the program design wherever possible. Additional community engagement meetings are being planned in the target zip codes as the program launches and is implemented. Moreover, there will be a presence at existing community meetings and events, and a website connected to the Board's site with an online portal for individuals to provide further feedback about the program. (The Care Response Pilot, Phase 1, Community Engagement Findings, May 22, 2024, PowerPoint presentation and Care Response Pilot Community Engagement Report are attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit and can be found on the Board's website.)

[Gregory X. Boehm, M.D., left.]

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

- **Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment Update:**
 - RAMA Consulting engaged the community and the provider network with one-on-one interviews with key stakeholders, surveys and focus groups, reaching a total of 650 participants. 513 of the 650 participants, or 79%, represented the Cuyahoga County community, and the remainder were Board members, staff, and provider agencies.
 - There are over 75 people registered for the upcoming summit on June 6, 2024 at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South in Independence, which is the last of our community input sessions before RAMA will present the final Needs Assessment to the Board in July.
- **First Call Press Conference:**
 - Mr. Osiecki was honored to be part of a press conference on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at the Shaker Heights Fire Station No. 1 to announce the expansion of the Shaker Heights First CALL (Crisis Assistance and Local Linkage) to Cleveland Heights, University Heights, South Euclid and Richmond Heights.
 - First CALL will add three licensed mental health professionals and three peer support workers, who, along with the current Shaker Heights social worker, will cover all five communities.
 - The Board is the largest funder at \$523,131 over two years.
- **Staff Update:**
 - Ms. Hunter Hayes joined the Board as Chief of External Affairs on Monday, April 29, 2024.
 - She is an accomplished government communicator and comes to us from the City of Cleveland where she was 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 shared that Ms. Hunter Hayes hit the ground running.
 - Mr. Osiecki congratulated Ms. Ballard, who was recently honored with the CIT Champion of the Year award at the Ohio CIT Conference in Columbus.
 - Ms. Ballard received this award for going above and beyond in her dedication to CIT in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and across the nation.
 - An offer was made to a Clients Rights Officer, and Board staff is waiting for the background check and drug test to come back.
 - It is anticipated that the applicant would start the week of Monday, June 10, 2024.
- **OhioMHAS Audit:**
 - Ms. Felicia Harrison, Chief Financial Officer, and Ms Danielle Clark, Director of Finance and Business Operations, have been extremely busy working with OhioMHAS on a routine audit. They are focusing on SFY2022 and most of the audit centers on finance. As a result, Ms. Harrison and Ms. Clark have been providing the requested information.
- **Behavioral Health Crisis Center:**
 - Board staff met with leadership staff of The MetroHealth System on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 to discuss the Behavioral Health Crisis Center. As a result of this meeting, Mr. Osiecki reported that the PED will be located next to the Emergency Department on The MetroHealth System's main campus, in addition to the Living Room Model as well.

The 16 bed residential treatment facility, crisis stabilization unit, will be located at the original location in Old Brooklyn. Leadership of The MetroHealth System will be conversing with Cleveland City Council regarding this matter.

- Board staff have spoken with OhioMHAS regarding this change and were informed that there should not be any problems as long as transportation is arranged.
- Mr. Woo Jun, Chief Operating Officer, and The MetroHealth System's Legal Department have been working to finalize the contracts, which need to be completed by September 2024 to draw down the ARPA funds for this project.
- On Monday, July 1, 2024, the psychiatric emergency services at St. Vincent Charity will be transferred to the PED at the Cleveland Heights campus of The MetroHealth System on a temporary basis.

- **Orca House Step down/Step up Facility:**

- Orca House's Step down/Step up Facility is awaiting their OhioMHAS licensure. Although they have passed all inspections, they need to receive their final licensure before accepting individuals. Ms. Schaefer mentioned that Orca House has a waiting list for program acceptance.

- **Board Assistance Review:**

Ms. Harrison provided an update on the Board Assistance Review (BAR). She shared that OhioMHAS is examining the Board's financial documents to understand how the Board identifies OhioMHAS funding and tracks the expenditure of these funds.

13. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was received

14. FOLLOW-UP

Ms. Lamp reminded the full Board that the election of Board Officers, based on the recommended Slate of Board Officers for FY2025-FY2026, is scheduled for the June General Meeting in accordance with the ADAMHS Board Bylaws.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

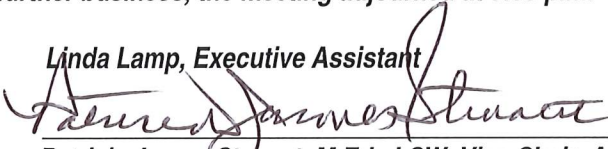
No public comment was received.

16. UPCOMING JUNE AND JULY BOARD MEETINGS:

- 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
- Committee of the Whole Meeting: July 17, 2024
- General Meeting: July 24, 2024 at Thrive Peer Recovery Services, 29201 Aurora Road, Suite 400, Solon, Ohio 44139

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

Submitted by: *Linda Lamp, Executive Assistant*

Approved by: 
Patricia James Stewart, M.Ed., LSW, Vice Chair, ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County