

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

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 25, 2024**

ADAMHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT:

J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D.	Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr.
Ashwani Bhardwaj	Patricia James-Stewart, M.Ed., LSW
Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D.	Linda D. Johaneck
Gregory X. Boehm, M.D.	Katie Kern-Pilch, MA, ATR-BC, LPC-S (R), LPAT
Erskine Cade, MBA	Kathryn Y. Parks, MBA, MA, LPC, LICDC
James T. Dixon	Harvey A. Snider, Esq.
Sadigoh C. Galloway, MSW, LSW, LICDC-CS	Molly Wimbiscus, M.D.

ABSENT: Bishara W. Addison, Steve Killpack, MA

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, Sarah Adkins, Carole Ballard, Danielle Clark, Erin DiVincenzo, Ben Goodwin, Felicia Harrison, Myra Henderson, Latoya Hunter Hayes, Ian Jameson, Linda Lamp, Nancy Mundy, Mark Onusko, Clare Rosser, Jessica Saker, Allison Schaefer, Starlette Sizemore, Michael Smith, Nick Weaver

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., called the General Meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comment on agenda items was received.

3. RECOGNITION OF CLIENT ARTWORK DISPLAY: SEPTEMBER 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. Latoya Hunter Hayes, Chief of External Affairs, highlighted the contributions of Melinda D., who unfortunately could not attend. The Board will be presenting her with a Certificate of Participation and a gift card in recognition of her exceptional artwork.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the July 31, 2024 Special Meeting and the July 31, 2024 General Meeting were approved as submitted.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

Dr. Fowler announced that the annual Board Directors Training Retreat will take place on the morning of Saturday, October 26, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Board's administrative office. Board Directors were advised to save this date and time on their calendars. A continental breakfast will be provided at 8:30 a.m.

6. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATIONS:

ENHANCED PEER RECOVERY SUPPORT & WARMLINE

Ms. Allison Schaefer, Director of Adult Behavioral Health Programs, introduced Mr. Brian Bailys, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of Thrive Peer Recovery Services (Thrive), who spoke about two Board-funded programs: Enhanced Peer Recovery Support and the Warmline. Mr. Bailys expressed his appreciation to the ADAMHS Board, noting that Thrive, which started about six years ago, would not have been possible without the Board's support. He also recognized the Board's role in several successful and innovative initiatives made possible by their initial funding. Mr. Bailys highlighted that this support was pivotal in helping Thrive establish a program at MetroHealth, which now serves thousands of individuals. Over the past year, Thrive has employed 150 staff members, most of whom are in recovery, and has provided services to 3,500 unique individuals.

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

Thrive Peer Recovery Services provides mental health and substance use peer recovery services to self-identifying individuals in Ohio. Thrive Behavioral Health Center operates as the entity behind Thrive Peer Support. Through various programs and initiatives, they support people on their journey to independence and long-term recovery. They aim to be the gold standard of evidence-based peer support recovery and comprehensive continuing care. Thrive's mission is to provide community, support long-term recovery, renew life, and restore hope. Their vision is to connect individuals struggling with mental health and substance use disorders to peer recovery support services that empower them throughout their journey, embracing all pathways to recovery that foster trusting relationships, community engagement, and personal growth. Thrive's value lies in its ability to drive improved outcomes while reducing the overall cost of care for at-risk populations. The organization fosters the creation of diverse, recovery-oriented systems of care and works to close gaps, ensuring smoother transitions of care.

Each person has skills, gifts and talents they can use to better their own life. Peer support focuses on what's strong, not what's wrong in another's life. Peer support complements, supplements and extends the work of healthcare professionals by providing practical, social and emotional support to individuals living with mental health and/or substance use disorders, building resiliency through empowering consumers to define their own path of recovery. Through sharing common experiences and feelings, people gain strength, support, clarity and hope.

The ThriveED program at University Hospitals is designed to provide immediate support to individuals living with a substance use disorder who present for care at the University Hospitals emergency departments in Cuyahoga County. Enhanced Peer Recovery Support offers several key benefits, including a reduction in emergency department (ED) utilization and providing treatment navigation support, which helps patients better understand and engage with their care. It fosters improved patient trust and relatability, leading to stronger relationships between patients and caregivers. Post-ED follow-up ensures continuity of care, contributing to long-term recovery. This holistic care approach helps reduce stigma associated with seeking care, while also easing the burden on ED staff. Together, these elements create a more supportive, effective and patient-centered healthcare experience. Since the program began in May 2020 and up until August 2024, Thrive has served 3,668 individuals in the Cuyahoga County emergency departments. They have effectively engaged with 78% of these individuals, successfully connecting over 2,800 people to ongoing treatment for their substance use disorders.

Thrive is proud to operate the Warmline in Cuyahoga County, thanks to the generous funding from the Board. The Warmline program offers a phone number for individuals to call for immediate, anonymous peer support available 24/7, facilitated by Thrive's Certified Peer Recovery Supporters. Their trained professionals provide a compassionate listening ear, referrals to community resources, assistance with self-advocacy and life skills and transfers to other crisis lines when needed. To reach the Cuyahoga County Mental Health Warmline, individuals can call 440.886.5950. Cuyahoga Warmline Caller Satisfaction indicates a high level of contentment, with 89.2% of callers reporting that they were highly satisfied with the resources and referrals provided by the Warmline. In 2023, 94% of callers did not request referrals, as they received the necessary support during their calls.

Thrive is also developing several new programs, including a youth peer support program, a program for older adults and a recently launched program for survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence. He shared that Thrive is incredibly proud and grateful for all the opportunities they have had to serve their community. Ms. Kathryn Parks praised Mr. Bailys for the essential services Thrive offers, particularly for older adults, and asked about Thrive's efforts to bridge gaps and support transitions of care. Mr. Bailys responded that they work to close the gap in accessing mental health and substance use services and facilitate the process of shortening this gap.

Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., then asked Mr. Bailys about the diversity of their services. Mr. Bailys noted that they serve a diverse population and are deeply committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. He mentioned that they have a dedicated committee focused on ensuring they reach and serve as many communities as possible. Ms. Katie Kern-Pilch acknowledged the impact of their efforts and praised their commitment to supporting the community through innovative and essential programs. Mr. Bailys shared that Thrive is incredibly proud and grateful for all the opportunities they have had to serve their community. Mr. Bailys and two representatives from the Enhanced Peer Recovery Support and Warmline programs responded to additional questions from the Board Directors. (The PowerPoint presentation is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

[Mr. Harvey A. Snider, Esq., arrived.]

OVERDOSE PREVENTION CENTERS (OPC)

Gregory X. Boehm, M.D., DFASAM, Board Director, provided an update on OPCs. He noted that when comparing heroin to fentanyl, a lethal dose of heroin ranges from 15 to 20 mg, whereas a lethal dose of fentanyl is only 2 mg. No matter what individuals think they are purchasing, the drugs are laced with fentanyl and a speck is enough to kill an individual. Fentanyl analogues, such as alpha-methylfentanyl and 3-methylfentanyl, are 100 to 5,000 times stronger than traditional fentanyl, necessitating extremely high doses of intravenous naloxone for reversal. Negotiations between China and the United States (U.S.) regarding fentanyl have stalled following a U.S. visit to Taiwan. Other potent substances like carfentanil and etorphine can be up to 15,000 times stronger than fentanyl. Additionally, "Wooden Chest Syndrome" may occur in severe cases, requiring intubation and ventilation for affected individuals.

Particular to fentanyl, the cause of death is not only impaired respiratory center, as in "stopped breathing in sleep," but also "Wooden Chest Syndrome" "Chest Wall Rigidity," whereby a patient cannot breathe because the thoracic and abdominal muscles are overstimulated and become rigid. At overdose prevention sites, staff would be able to provide intubation, which is a process where a healthcare provider inserts a tube through a person's mouth or nose, then down into their trachea (airway/windpipe). The tube keeps the trachea open so that air can get through. Staff would also provide a neuromuscular blockade to stop the effect of the chest wall rigidity. Esmeron is provided in those cases to reverse, but only if intubation is provided in the meantime to keep the individual breathing.

There are multiple analogues in the nitazene family, and new variants may continue to be developed. Some of the nitazenes found in illegal drug supplies include butonitazene and isotonitazene. The following list shows their relative potencies compared to heroin:

- Heroin: 1
- Fentanyl: 50
- Metonitazene: 50
- Protonitazene: 100
- Isotonitazene: 250
- Etonitazene: 500

There is a significant need for OPCs given that 30% of fatal overdoses involve homeless individuals, and over 50% of those who overdose live alone or lack someone to administer naloxone. OPCs have shown a reduction in fatal overdoses, with no reported deaths to date. Additionally, these centers contribute to a decrease in property crime, as 90% of such crimes are linked to drug abuse. The facilities also help reduce recidivism, with the cost of incarceration estimated at \$42,672 per year. Furthermore, there are projected savings from reduced hospitalizations and emergency medical services, alongside a 25-40% increase in admissions to treatment, as well as a rise in the use of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and mental health services.

[Mr. Ashwani Bhardwaj arrived.]

Dr. Boehm presented several photographs comparing real and counterfeit Oxycodone, Xanax, and Adderall tablets to illustrate how closely these drugs are reproduced and shared a brief history on the topic. He emphasized that OPCs offer a safe environment for injection, equipped with clean needles and clinical staff to oversee the process and reverse overdoses. OPCs also provide primary care services for issues such as HIV, Hepatitis C and abscesses. In addition to medical support, they offer amenities like sandwiches, soft drinks, clothing and showers, along with temporary housing and access to recovery programs that include employment, apprenticeships and educational opportunities. Dr. Boehm also showcased several photographs of an OPC called "OnPoint NYC." In these images, a Special Projects Coordinator from the City Health Department is seen testing drug samples with a Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy machine, which enables them to visualize the chemical composition of the substance on a computer screen.

Dr. Boehm shared that there has been a significant reduction in several areas, including 911 calls for overdoses, emergency ambulance runs and emergency room treatment for overdoses. Additionally, high-frequency conditions such as Hepatitis C, HIV, abscesses and infections have decreased, along with emergency room visits for chronic issues like pain, injuries, asthma, diabetes, hypertension, congestive heart failure and renal problems. Property crime has also diminished, with 80% of such offenses being drug-related.

The current utilization of emergency medical services (EMS) in Cleveland shows that there are approximately 328 calls each day, totaling around 120,000 calls annually, with an average response time of 12 minutes. The cost of an EMS call has increased from an average of \$300 to \$1,000. Unlike police and fire departments, EMS is not a mandatory service and is only required in 11 states. Furthermore, EMS is considered an endangered service, with one-third of paramedics leaving their positions within six months. For patients with Medicaid, EMS is reimbursed only \$98, and this payment is applicable only if the patient is transported to a hospital.

The cost of overdose treatment involves 647 facilities, with a rate of 40.9 emergency room visits per 10,000 for overdose care, resulting in approximately 100,480 patients treated. Of these, 0.3% died in the emergency room, while 3.6% died in the hospital, primarily due to organ failure or sepsis. The cost for treated and released patients is \$504, with 24% returning within 30 days compared to 17% of those with other diagnoses. If a patient is admitted to the hospital, the average cost is \$11,731, rising to \$20,508 if admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). Overall, the annual cost for overdose treatment is around \$1.84 billion, which, when factoring in all hospital emergency room visits, inpatient care, and ICU services, amounts to approximately \$11 billion annually.

OPCs are crucial as 30% of fatal overdoses involve homeless individuals who often lack someone to administer naloxone, even if it is effective. To date, there have been no reported fatalities in OPCs, highlighting their role in reducing the number of fatal overdoses. Additionally, OPCs contribute to a decrease in property crime, with 90% of such offenses linked to drug abuse. They also help reduce recidivism, as the cost of incarceration is approximately \$42,672 per year. Furthermore, OPCs lead to reduced hospitalizations and emergency medical services, resulting in estimated savings. They have also increased admissions to treatment, as well as the use of MAT and overall recovery efforts.

Dr. Boehm shared that a cost-benefit analysis of a proposed site in Baltimore, Maryland, projected annual savings of \$7.8 million against an operating cost of \$1.8 million. Similarly, another estimate for a supervised injection site in New York City indicated potential savings of \$800,000 to \$1.6 million in annual healthcare costs related to opioid overdoses. However, funding for the initiative currently relies solely on private foundations. There is also a workforce shortage of Certified Nurse Practitioners (CNP) and medical doctors (MDs). Additionally, determining suitable locations within the Cleveland area is crucial. Building strong community relations and addressing public perception are key factors, as is establishing partnerships with law enforcement.

There are currently 155 OPCs worldwide, including 47 in Canada and two in New York City. In Canada, Vancouver and Toronto have had legally sanctioned OPCs since 2003, with Vancouver being the first city to start such a center in 1995, following the "Cain Report" by the Coroner. Local businesses have provided support and funding for these initiatives. An unsanctioned site, serving approximately 100 clients per night and receiving patient referrals from the police, was shut down by law enforcement after operating for a year. In 2002, Larry Campbell, a Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer, was elected Mayor and committed to establishing supervised injection facilities (SIFs).

In Canada, supervised injection sites (SISs) are linked to a significant reduction in overdose mortality, with 88 fewer overdose deaths per 100,000 person-years. Additionally, there has been a 67% decrease in ambulance calls for overdose treatment. Overdose deaths dropped from 253 to 165 per 100,000 person-years, and the average monthly ambulance calls for naloxone treatment in suspected opioid overdose cases fell from 27 to 9, reflecting a relative risk reduction of 67%.

SISs are facilities where clinical staff offer sterile syringes and overdose prevention services. These sites provide a range of resources, including fentanyl testing strips and spectrometers, as well as intravenous naloxone for reversing overdoses. They also deliver primary care services, conduct HIV and Hepatitis C testing and offer treatment for skin abscesses and infections. Additionally, SISs help connect individuals to Medicaid, housing, ongoing medical care, MAT and behavioral and addiction treatment. They further facilitate access to comprehensive wrap-around services, encompassing harm reduction, social services, education and employment support.

On October 5, 2022, Scientific American published an article emphasizing that understanding moral perspectives is essential for accepting safe injection sites. Internationally, these sites have been shown to reduce the risk of overdose and death, minimize the spread of infectious diseases, enhance public safety and decrease the prevalence of public drug injection and related nuisances. They also connect individuals to medical care, streamline access to social services that assist with substance cessation and work to reduce the stigma associated with drug use, which often hinders people from seeking help. However, only 29% of U.S. citizens support OPCs. It is important to understand and acknowledge the reasons behind opposition to these sites. By demonstrating

awareness of both sides of the issue, advocates can build credibility. Although this may seem like a straightforward approach, it is often challenging to identify the underlying fears and true motivations of those who oppose such initiatives.

Funding for safe injection sites can be improved by understanding the moral perspectives that shape their perception, allowing individuals to identify both reservations and opportunities for consensus in support of this essential healthcare service. Despite its achievements, Onsite NYC relies solely on private philanthropy for its funding. Unfortunately, city, state and federal officials across the country have consistently refused to allocate funding for such programs. For instance, in August, California Governor Gavin Newsom vetoed legislation that would have permitted the establishment of opioid prevention centers in certain cities.

When federal funding is at stake, the moral principle of fairness frequently becomes a focal point. Opponents of safe injection sites contend that individuals with substance use disorders receive free services – such as clean needles, drug testing and medical supervision – at the expense of taxpayers, whom they claim would be subsidizing illicit drug use. However, safe injection sites ultimately prove to be more equitable for American taxpayers, as the costs of allowing injectable drug use to remain unaddressed and untreated are significantly higher. In fact, these sites are projected to save millions over time, with New York City estimating annual savings of \$7 million across four proposed locations.

The question of authority in managing substance use remains contentious, with no clear consensus on whether the primary responsibility lies with the criminal justice system, the healthcare system, religious institutions or the recovery community. Historically, the war on drugs has positioned the criminal justice system as the dominant authority over illicit drug use. However, this perspective is shifting. As we gain a deeper understanding of the biological and neurological foundations of addiction, recognize the high costs associated with incarceration, witness the alarming rise in opioid overdoses and acknowledge the disproportionate impact of strict drug laws on minority populations, the healthcare system is emerging as the most capable authority to effectively address the complex physical and mental health challenges faced by individuals who misuse injectable drugs.

Dr. Boehm responded to questions from the Board Directors and stated that further discussion would need to be had regarding all aspects stated above. (The PowerPoint presentation is attached to the original minutes stored in the Executive Unit.)

WORKING RIVER LEADERSHIP CONSULTING ADAMHS BOARD STAFF LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Fowler reported that the ADAMHS Board of Directors Executive Committee recommended that the ADAMHS Board management team receive a 360-evaluation to enhance the Board's organizational health, which includes communication, leadership, employee wellbeing, employee engagement, culture, accountability and recognition. The purpose of this initiative is to develop and retain staff as we all work toward our mission of enhancing the quality of life for the people of Cuyahoga County through mental health and addiction prevention, treatment and recovery supports. It is not meant to be punitive to any management team member.

One of the 2024 Chief Executive Officer's goals is: Continue internal succession planning that includes: aligning staff for advancement within the ADAMHS Board and documenting institutional knowledge to prevent loss during staff transitions and retirements and reviewing and updating job descriptions for all staff members, especially for the senior staff. The Cuyahoga County/City of Cleveland Youth Mental Health Workforce Sprint Task Force, which the ADAMHS Board is a member, made seven recommendations or ways to attract, retain and better support mental health professionals serving young people in Cuyahoga County. One of the recommendations requests that providers define clear career ladders, including training programs, competencies and skills, professional development, continuing education and opportunities for licensure and certification at all levels of education across all professional disciplines. Since we are asking this of providers, it only makes sense for the ADAMHS Board to require the same for its staff.

WORKING RIVER LEADERSHIP CONSULTING, was selected based on experience and a presentation made to the Board Directors during the June 2024 Board cycle. WORKING RIVER LEADERSHIP CONSULTING, a northeast Ohio training boutique, designs and delivers B2B and B2C learning products and services for working professionals, managers and organizational leaders. Their business is anchored in the principle of supporting the rise of people who would serve as highly effective leaders in their organizations: leaders who drive results with and through others; leaders who bring about positive change and lasting value; leaders who can serve as a strategic advantage at work. Their core offerings are Executive Coaching, Leadership Development and Leader-Craft, Management Training and Professional Career Development, Mastermind Groups, Live and Online Workshops and Strategic

Consultation. The funding was utilized to provide all 12 ADAMHS Board management team members with a 360-evaluation to enhance the Board's organizational health.

Dr. Fowler introduced Ms. Damaris Patterson Price, Principal, WORKING RIVER LEADERSHIP CONSULTING. Ms. Patterson Price presented a detailed report outlining the various phases of this initiative. She emphasized that the objective is to implement an assessment process that identifies the strengths and areas for improvement within the senior leadership team. This process is intended to yield insights into the current organizational culture and employee experience, ultimately guiding the development of recommendations that will enhance employee engagement, retention and overall organizational development. Following the completion of the 360 evaluation, the Leadership Team—comprising the Chief Executive Officer, Chiefs, and Directors—achieved an overall score of 80%. The top five competencies identified were inclusion, integrity, executive presence, adaptability and group facilitation. Additionally, the main areas for development included coaching and mentoring, conflict resolution, humility and self-awareness, empathy and emotional self-control.

During an in-depth discussion of the assessment findings, which encompassed strengths, opportunities and recommendations, Ms. Patterson Price remarked that she “observed a Board that is genuinely dedicated to supporting, restoring and optimizing this team. Despite the new – and potentially intimidating – nature of the process, nearly every employee offered sincere, substantial and meaningful feedback.” Ms. Patterson Price responded to questions from the Board Directors. Dr. Fowler praised Ms. Patterson Price for her contributions to the initiative, and the Board Directors acknowledged that Board staff consistently excel in their work. (The ADAMHS Board Staff Leadership Competency Report 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, September 4, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Board Directors heard the following agenda items listed below.

- Mr. Scott Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer, provided a Legislative Update that included information about Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Modernization, Ohio Recovery Friendly Workplace and City of Cleveland's Tanisha's Law legislation.
 - Senate Bill (SB) 105: Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 340 Modernization:
SB 105, also known as the ORC 340 Modernization, was introduced on April 5, 2023, and is currently pending in the Community Revitalization Committee. The Boards, along with the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA), continue to collaborate with the Ohio Council of Behavioral Health and Family Service Providers to reach an agreement on the bill's language. The primary unresolved issues concerning the Boards involve contracting and the Request for Proposal (RFP) provision. The groups are still working through differences in a few areas, with hopes of finalizing an agreement on the language that can be presented to members of the Senate.
 - Ohio Recovery Friendly Workplace:
On August 30, 2024, Governor Mike DeWine announced the launch of the Ohio Recovery Friendly Workplace program, led by the Governor's RecoveryOhio initiative. This new program is designed to create job opportunities for people recovering from substance use disorders or mental health conditions, combat stigma surrounding addiction and mental illness in the workplace and provide a boost to Ohio businesses. Companies that integrate recovery-friendly practices into their operations and core values will have the opportunity to earn the official designation as an Ohio Recovery Friendly Workplace.
 - City of Cleveland Tanisha's Law Legislation:
Cleveland City Councilwoman Stephanie Howes Jones and Councilman Charles Slife are planning to introduce legislation, drafted with assistance from the Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) law clinic, to codify the Care and Co-Response Programs in the City of Cleveland in memory of Ms. Tanisha Anderson.

The proposed legislation would establish a Division of Crisis Response, administered by a Commissioner of Crisis Response within the Department of Public Health. It defines the Care Response and Co-Response Programs, outlines partnerships with the ADAMHS Board and other agencies, and includes reporting requirements. Additionally, the legislation would codify the Consent Decree's Crisis Intervention Training Requirements.

- Ms. Hunter Hayes provided a Care Response Pilot Program Communications Update. She reported that 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.
- R Strategy Group is serving as a consultant to assist the Board in managing the advertising campaign in addition to their current work managing communications and community engagement related to the Care Response Pilot in Cleveland zip codes 44102 and 44105, as well as spearheading a Community Advisory Committee. R Strategy Group is working with the Board to present clear and consistent communications regarding care response, increase the community's knowledge and awareness to gain buy-in for the care response initiative, and remain responsive and adaptable to feedback and lessons learned during the pilot.
- The marketing campaign for the Care Response Pilot Program will feature online ads targeting approximately 60,000 residents in the 44102 and 44105 zip codes, running for seven to ten weeks following the program's launch in October 2024. A direct mail campaign will also be conducted in the target area, including a magnet (still to be designed) that will provide details about the Care Response Program. Additionally, advertisements will be placed on buses and at bus shelters across 10 locations for six months, and on 10 billboards for three months. Beyond this, virtual meetings will be held with providers and community organizations to inform them about the program and to encourage them to help spread the word. In addition to the marketing campaign, Ward Club meetings are being scheduled for late September in the targeted pilot area to inform the public and council members about the Care Response Pilot Program.
- The Community Advisory Committee (Care Committee) will include clients and family members from the targeted zip codes, as well as behavioral health providers and advocates. Comprising about 10 to 12 individuals, this committee will help the Board gain insight into how the community has experienced the Care Response program so far and highlight any concerns.
- Ms. Hunter Hayes shared that the Board applied for the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) State Opioid & Stimulant Response (SOS) 3.0 Grant and was approved for the full amount of \$20,000 on July 23, 2024. The Board is approved for \$20,000 from OhioMHAS for advertising and informational materials for an Overdose Awareness Day event called "Waves of Awareness." Stella Maris, Inc., served as the local coordinator for the Overdose Awareness Day event and contracted with a variety of vendors for promotional materials for the event. The Board entered into an agreement with Stella Maris, Inc., to serve as a title sponsor and to utilize the grant funds for approved purposes. "Waves of Awareness" was a day-long event that was scheduled for Saturday, August 31, 2024, in Cleveland's Public Square.
- Ms. Hunter Hayes shared that 2,500 individuals attended the event, a significant increase from the 1,700 attendees in 2023. The event began at 5:00 p.m. with a video slideshow on the main stage, accompanied by the ringing of the bells from the Old Stone Church. A short program followed, featuring public officials and community speakers. Members of the Ohio National Guard installed 5,000 purple flags on the lawn, symbolizing the nearly 5,000 Ohioans lost to accidental overdose last year. Up to 60 community providers, along with the MetroHealth Mobile RV for health screenings, were on site to offer resources and information. The day included food trucks, music, "Yoga in the Park," and messages of hope, with testimonies from the stage throughout the event. It concluded at dusk with a candlelit Walk of Remembrance and the "Light Up Cleveland" event, which illuminated Public Square, Terminal Tower, and Progressive Field in purple lights.
- Ms. Hunter Hayes reported that the Board participated in a statewide Provider Week of Appreciation to recognize the dedication of mental health and addiction services professionals. The Week of Appreciation took place from Sunday, September 15, 2024, through Saturday, September 21, 2024.
- The Board hosted a wellness-themed event on Thursday, September 19, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at its administrative office. Providers nominated several frontline staff members for recognition, with 13 organizations responding and 37 nominees. Lunch and light refreshments were provided, along with activities such as yoga, reiki, chair massages, and jewelry-making (art therapy). Participants also received additional tokens of appreciation.

- Ms. Hunter Hayes noted that on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, the Board hosted an informational and feedback session on emotional and psychological trauma for faith leaders. The session aimed to help Board staff explore the possibility of organizing a larger event to equip spiritual leaders with tools to recognize the impact of trauma within their congregations. Dr. Joan Duvall Flynn, Chair of the Trauma Informed Care Coalition based in Philadelphia, gave a presentation on trauma-informed care and how it can be integrated into congregational settings.
- Ms. Hunter Hayes shared that the feedback from attendees was positive, with many expressing interest in the Board organizing a larger event involving multiple faiths. She also mentioned that a representative from The MetroHealth System discussed the possibility of partnering with the Board for a future event.
- Mr. Doug Nichols, CIT Training Officer, announced that the Board's Roads to Recovery Conference is set for Monday, October 21, 2024, at the Holiday Inn Cleveland-S Independence. The keynote and plenary speakers have been confirmed, and 50 individuals have expressed interest in participating in the workshops. The number of workshop presenters has been narrowed to 35. The schedule and materials for the conference are finalized, and a facility walkthrough has been completed to ensure that space and IT needs are addressed.
- Ms. Hunter Hayes announced that the Board has secured 37 sponsors for the conference.
- Ms. Richanda Jackson-Birks, CIT Training Officer, provided an update on September as Suicide Prevention Month. She noted that September was first designated as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in 2008. Since then, it has been a time to recognize those affected by suicide, raise awareness, and connect individuals with suicidal ideation to treatment services. Numerous activities and events have been scheduled for community engagement.
- Ms. Jackson-Birks also shared that Sunday, September 8, 2024, is recognized as 988 Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. It is an opportunity to promote the importance of the lifeline, emphasize its role in providing immediate crisis support, and encourage more people to use and share the resource. It also serves as a platform to discuss ongoing improvements in crisis intervention and mental health services, as the system continues to evolve to meet the increasing demand for mental health support.
- Ms. Jackson-Birks reported that QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) is an evidence-based practice model that teaches three simple steps anyone can learn to help prevent suicide. QPR training sessions aim to increase awareness about suicide, dispel myths and misconceptions, and identify warning signs. The Board offered one-and-a-half-hour training sessions on suicide prevention to as many individuals as possible in Cuyahoga County.
- Mr. Ian Jameson, External Affairs Officer, provided a Media Tracking Report for the reporting period of Wednesday, May 1, 2024, through Tuesday, September 3, 2024.
 - The Board had a total of 50 media mentions of which 31 were positive and 19 were neutral. There were no negative media mentions. There was a total of 93 media mentions in 2024. Of these, 65 were positive and 28 were neutral. There were no negative mentions.
 - Key highlights during this period include the First CALL Program, a collaborative effort with Shaker Heights and neighboring suburbs; the expansion of the Hitchcock Center for Women; the closure of St. Vincent's psychiatric unit; and a mention by News 5 of the Board's Annual Meeting. Mr. Jameson also highlighted "The Truth About Lethal Means, Suicide Prevention, and Mental Health" panel held at the City Club, where Ms. Erin DiVincenzo, Director of Prevention and Children's Behavioral Health Programs, participated as a panelist.
- Ms. Joicelyn Weems, External Affairs Officer, provided the Social Media and Website Tracking Reports for Wednesday, May 1, 2024 through Saturday, August 31, 2024.

- The Board had 1,251,705 impressions on social media, 3,293 engagements (likes, comments, retweets, mentions, etc., which is a decrease of 16.9% from the last quarter), gained 167 new followers and 687 post link clicks (a decrease of 56.5% from last quarter).
- 40,238 individuals visited the Board's website a total of 69,010 times since Wednesday, May 1, 2024. The most viewed pages were the home page, RFP page, and the crisis page. Of the visitors, 96% were new and 4% were returning. The site received 127,910 page views, with the home page, RFP page, and the crisis page being the top three pages visited during this timeframe. 54% of users arrived via Google searches, 34% directly by typing in the URL, and the remaining 12% through social media, referrals from other sites, or email links.
- Ms. Kern-Pilch shared that art therapy is now officially recognized in Ohio with the passage of legislation included in House Bill (HB) 33. This law establishes a framework for licensing, regulation, and professional standards for art therapists, formalizing art therapy as a recognized mental health service in the state.

Rev. Gohlstein mentioned that he recently attended an event at Luke Easter Park, where two Cleveland police officers were in attendance and spoke highly of the Board's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training program.

8. FINANCE & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Katie Kern-Pilch, MA, ATR-BC, LPC-S (R), LPAT, Vice Chair of the Finance & Oversight (F&O) Committee, provided a report on the F&O Committee meeting held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. She highlighted a presentation on the Board's CY2025 Budget Process by Ms. Clare Rosser, Chief Strategy and Performance Officer, and a presentation on the Behavioral Health Crisis Center by Mr. Eric Morse, MSSA, LISW-S, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of The Centers, who offered updates and further details on the project. The report also covered expenditures and vouchers processed for payment in June and July 2024, as well as the contracts and contract amendments listed below.

• RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-01

APPROVAL OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS CENTER FUNDING AND AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION 24-02-02

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

The site of the Behavioral Health Crisis Center for adults 18 and over was originally planned for the St. Vincent Campus, then anticipated to be at the Outpatient Plaza building on the MetroHealth Main Campus. It is now confirmed to be located at The Centers' recently purchased building at 2322 East 22nd Street. OhioMHAS awarded funding in the amount of \$6,836,629 for one-time capital projects to support Ohio's Crisis Infrastructure for the development of a Behavioral Health Crisis Center in Cuyahoga County. The ADAMHS Board will provide \$2,500,000 for startup costs, including the costs for moveable equipment/furnishing, project manager, staff training, consulting and other fees. There will be two components to the Crisis Center, a 24/7 Crisis Intake/Receiving Center, and a 24/7 16-bed Crisis Stabilization Unit.

- 24/7 Crisis Intake/Receiving Center: 40 chairs for crisis intake, receiving, and crisis services, available 24/7 including de-escalation, triage, assessment, observation, treatment, coordination and linkage to services, psychiatric emergency services, additional stabilization, treatment, and coordination for disposition of individuals not requiring hospitalization, and community support services that address post-acute crisis needs, provided in a living room-like atmosphere staffed by behavioral health professionals and certified peer specialists.
- 24/7 Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU): 16 beds for stabilization, treatment, and coordination for disposition for individuals not requiring hospitalization, in a safe, residential setting providing needed additional care, support and placement. Potential to offer groups and/or supportive services, including counseling, medication management and disposition planning.

Mr. Osiecki mentioned that the Crisis Stabilization Unit could serve over 4,000 individuals, while the Crisis/Receiving Center is expected to assist more than 13,000 people. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors approve a contract with Circle Health

Services, dba The Centers, for \$9,336,629 for the term of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026. Mr. Morse was present to respond to questions from the Board Directors.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 24-09-01. MOTION: P. James-Stewart / SECOND: B. Gohlstin / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch, K. Parks, H. Snider, M. Wimbiscus / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: L. Johaneck, E. Cade / **Motion passed.**

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-02**

- **APPROVAL OF AIDS FUNDING COLLABORATIVE (AFC) RENEWAL FUNDING**

Since its inception in 1994, the AFC has leveraged and invested over \$13.5 million to support HIV/AIDS-related prevention efforts, care and services, training and evaluation activities in Greater Cleveland. The ADAMHS Board has been a funding partner of the AFC since 2006 - leveraging funds to amplify results related to strategic HIV prevention and care including services for mental health, addiction and harm reduction strategies related to intravenous drug use, in addition to transportation, housing, and employment support. The ADAMHS Board's presence and expertise as a collaborative partner promotes the critical need for HIV prevention and care services for and by individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The ADAMHS Board has two votes in decision-making, with both a Board member (Mr. Snider) and a staff member (Ms. Leshia Yarbrough-Franklin, Adult Behavioral Health Specialist II) sitting on the AFC Advisory Committee.

The mission of the AFC is to strengthen the community's response to HIV/AIDS, as a public/private partnership providing coordination, leadership, advocacy, and funding in Cuyahoga County. The AFC is a funding partnership that includes private philanthropic funders, government agencies, medical professionals, community organizations, and people living with HIV/AIDS. AFC funding partners include: ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County; Cuyahoga County; Cleveland Department of Public Health; The Cleveland Foundation; The George Gund Foundation; and The Mt. Sinai Health Foundation.

The AFC does not provide direct services to individuals. Instead, AFC funding partners work together to support grantees with an annual combined grantmaking budget of over \$425,000 for community HIV prevention and linkage-to-care programming and capacity building. Additionally, AFC convenes stakeholders and engages in community initiatives such as HIV prevention social impact campaigns and LGBTQ+ health needs assessment. In 2024, AFC funds supported programming at 13 different grantee organizations, including: The Centers/ Circle Health; I Care About My Life, I Care About Your Life; LGBT Center; Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center; Project LIFT Behavioral Health Services; Thrive for Change; and We Think 4 A Change. The AFC also convenes workshops and trainings for the HIV community, including events for World AIDS Day; reimbursement incentives for certifications in HIV Prevention and HIV Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Navigation; plus, webinars and conferences about innovations in HIV prevention and treatment. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors approve the allocation of funds to the Center for Community Solutions-AFC in the amount of \$150,000 for the term of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 24-09-02. MOTION: B. Gohlstin / SECOND: R. Blue / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, L. Johaneck, K. Kern-Pilch, K. Parks, M. Wimbiscus / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: H. Snider / **Motion passed.**

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-03**

- **APPROVAL OF ADDICTION TREATMENT PROGRAM (ATP) SFY2025 FUNDING ALLOCATON**

OhioMHAS has granted funding approval for SFY2025 for the ATP, with the ADAMHS Board serving as the fiscal agent responsible for accessing funds from the OhioMHAS grant system and disbursing them to contracted providers for services rendered.

ATP provides treatment and recovery support services to individuals eligible for MAT through Drug Court due to dependence on opioids, alcohol, or both. Clients will receive Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment and recovery support services as needed. Enrollment will be conducted by Drug Court staff, and services will be provided by agencies contracted with the ADAMHS Board that are certified by OhioMHAS. This funding will support 500 individuals. Board staff recommend that the Board Directors accept funding from OhioMHAS for the term of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 for the ATP in the amount of \$600,000 and to enter into contracts with the listed providers.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 24-09-03. MOTION: B. Gohlstin / SECOND: P. James-Stewart / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, L. Johaneck, K. Kern-Pilch, K. Parks, H. Snider, M. Wimbiscus / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-04**

APPROVAL OF STATE OPIOID & STIMULANT RESPONSE (SOS) GRANT, YEAR 2 CONTRACT AMENDMENTS

OhioMHAS received a biannual State Opioid Response award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the SOS grant. This funding ends on September 29, 2024. OhioMHAS has invited all non-profit behavioral health providers to apply directly to the state for SOS 4.0 funding. The Board partnered with the listed providers to expand access to MAT and recovery support services to persons in Cuyahoga County with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and stimulant use disorders with SOS 3.0 Year 2 funding. OhioMHAS SOS 3.0 funding to the Board ends on September 29, 2024. The Board will provide one quarter's worth of funding to providers, and extend contracts until December 31, 2024, to enable an orderly transition of these programs.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 24-09-04. MOTION: R. Blue / SECOND: E. Cade / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, L. Johaneck, K. Kern-Pilch, K. Parks, H. Snider, M. Wimbiscus / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: S. Galloway / **Motion passed.**

CONSENT AGENDA: *Resolution Nos. 24-09-05 through 24-09-07*

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-05**

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

Ms. Kern-Pilch stated that the Administrative Budget approved for Calendar Year (CY) 2024 is \$8,388,412. For June Actual Year to Date (YTD) 2024, administrative expenses totaled \$3,773,297.59, approximately 45% of the total Administrative Budget.

The Revenues By Source By Month report reflects that in June 2024, the Board received revenues of \$4,929,722.36. This total includes the County Subsidy of \$3,416,666.66.

The Revenue and Expenditures All Accounting Units By Month reflect that the total expenditures in June 2024 is \$7,555,004.10; bringing the total expenditures through the end of June 2024 to \$44,015,895.25.

Ms. Kern-Pilch reported that as of July 2024, actual year-to-date (YTD) administrative expenses totaled \$4,418,414.40, representing approximately 53% of the total administrative budget. She noted that this is below the expected 58.33% for 7 months of the year.

The Funding Source Budget to Actual YTD, July 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 July 2024, the Board has received \$42,571,339.43. Ms. Kern-Pilch reported that through the end of July 2024, 59% of the budget has been received.

The Revenues By Source By Month report reflects that in July 2024, the Board received revenues of \$8,628,548.96. This total includes the County Subsidy of \$6,833,333.32.

The ADAMHS Board Budget vs. Actual Expenses 2024 YTD reflect that July YTD Actuals is \$51,932,656.40, that is roughly 57% 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 July 2024 is \$7,916,761.15; bringing the total expenditures through the end of July 2024 to \$51,932,656.40.

The Revenues and Expenditures Grants YTD, July 2024 YTD reflects the Grant Accounting Units that include the ADAMHS Board's 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 \$2,250,474.40; and total expenditures for grants YTD is \$2,641,938.02.

The Diversion Center Revenues and Expenditures YTD July 2024 reflects the total revenue of \$898,125.37 and the total operating expenses of \$25,028.42, bringing the total revenue through the end of July 2024 to \$2,004,320.85 and total operating expenses through the end of July 2024 to \$2,024,070.64

The Cash Flow Report July 2024 shows the 2022 Actual, 2023 Actual and YTD thru July 2024. This report shows a comparison of the available beginning balance, total available resources, expenditures and available ending balance. The available ending balance through July 2024 is \$30,012,030.58.

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-06 – APPROVAL AND RATIFICATION OF CONTRACTS:**

1. Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (ODRC): Parole Assertive Community Treatment (PACT)
 - Recovery Resources - \$275,000
2. Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD), FFY2025 Case Services Contract – \$1,241,502.43
 - Recovery Resources - \$434,553.43
3. Acceptance of OhioMHAS Grant Funding for Behavioral Health Drug Reimbursement Program – \$171,515
 - Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department - \$85,972
 - Oriana House Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) - \$85,543
4. Northeast Ohio Collaborative: Withdrawal Management/Detoxification and Crisis Bed Expansion SFY2025 – \$1,250,000
 - Stella Maris - \$150,000
 - Geauga County MHARS Board - \$85,000
 - Lake County ADAMHS Board - \$191,050
 - Lorain County MHARS Board - \$70,000
 - Applewood (Cuyahoga County) - \$269,475
 - Applewood (Lorain County) - \$269,475
 - Ravenwood - \$150,000
 - Silver Maple Recovery Center - \$65,000
5. Youth-Led Prevention Funding for the Teen Institute Program
 - Recovery Resources - \$22,474

- **RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-07 – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENTS:**

1. Amendment to Resolution No. 24-04-02, Landlord Incentive Funding
 - Emerald Development and Economic Network (EDEN), Inc. - \$37,000 (SFY2024 Carryover)
2. Amendment to Resolution No. 24-06-03, Mental Health Court Program (MHCP)
 - Cleveland Municipal Court – \$7,500 (No New Funding – New Provider)
3. Amendment to Resolution No. 24-07-03, Specialized Docket Support – SFY2025 – \$535,000
 - Cleveland Municipal Court - \$200,000
 - Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court - \$255,000
 - Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court - \$80,000
4. Amendment to Resolution No. 23-11-07, Employment Program
 - Community Assessment and Treatment Services (CATS) - \$47,816
5. Amendment to Resolution No. 23-06-02, Allocation of OhioMHAS Pass-Through Funding for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Services – \$2,682,957.50
 - Catholic Charities Corporation for Hispanic Women's Treatment - \$59,701
 - Catholic Charities Corporation for Juvenile Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) - \$232,102
 - Cleveland UMADAOP for AKOMA Women's Treatment - \$115,556
 - Community Assessment & Treatment for Therapeutic Community - \$157,570
 - Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas for Drug Court - \$220,500
 - Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas for TASC - \$859,006
 - Hispanic UMADAOP for CASA Maria Women's Treatment - \$115,883.25
 - Hitchcock Center for Women for Women's Treatment - \$414,952.25
 - New Directions for Female Adolescent Treatment - \$124,201

- Recovery Resources for Women's Program - \$30,365
 - Recovery Resources for Gambling Treatment & Prevention - \$75,000
 - Signature Health, Inc for ORCA House Women's Treatment - \$157,500
 - Women's Recovery Center for Women's Treatment - \$120,621
6. Amendment to Resolution No. 23-04-02, Essential Behavioral Health Interventions and Criminogenic Needs Program
- Recovery Resources - \$392,493
7. Amendment to Resolution No. 24-07-02, Week of Appreciation Mini-grant from OACBHA
- To Be Determined - \$2,300

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda (Resolution Nos. 24-09-05 through 24-09-07). MOTION: B. Gohlstin / SECOND: R. Blue / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, L. Johaneck, K. Kern-Pilch, K. Parks, H. Snider, M. Wimbiscus / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dr. Fowler announced the need to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee.

- **Motion to ENTER into Executive Session.** MOTION: R. Blue / SECOND: P. James-Stewart / A roll call vote was taken. / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, L. Johaneck, K. Kern-Pilch, K. Parks, H. Snider, M. Wimbiscus / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**
- **Motion to EXIT the Executive Session and resume the business of the General Meeting Agenda.** MOTION: K. Kern-Pilch / SECOND: H. Snider / A roll call vote was taken. / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, L. Johaneck, K. Kern-Pilch, K. Parks, H. Snider, M. Wimbiscus / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

Motion that the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County continues its support of Chief Executive Officer Scott Osiecki with the provision and recommendation that he follow through upon the challenges, assessments, findings and conclusions set forth in the ADAMHS Board Staff Leadership Competency report as set forth therein. MOTION: H. Snider / SECOND: R. Blue / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, R. Fowler, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, L. Johaneck, K. Kern-Pilch, K. Parks, H. Snider, M. Wimbiscus / NAYS: None / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

Motion to approve Resolution No. 24-09-08. MOTION: B. Gohlstin / SECOND: K. Parks / AYES: A. Bhardwaj, G. Boehm, E. Cade, J. Dixon, S. Galloway, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, L. Johaneck, K. Kern-Pilch, K. Parks, H. Snider, M. Wimbiscus / NAYS: R. Blue / ABSTAIN: None / **Motion passed.**

Ms. Hunter Hayes introduced Melinda D., the featured artist for September 2024, who shared that her artwork reflects her inner child, emerging through her imagination as a means of self-expression.

10. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

- **OACBHA OhioMHAS Budget Meeting:**
 - On Wednesday, August 7, 2024, Mr. Osiecki participated in a Fiscal Recommendations Committee meeting in Columbus at OACBHA, along with a few other Board Directors, and representatives from OhioMHAS to discuss the upcoming biennial budget.
 - Participants discussed the General Revenue Fund lines and asked for more flexibility in funding, rather than being prescribed a use of the funds. That way, each Board area would be able to make decisions based on local needs.
 - Participants also asked for clear directions on how they would have to report on the use of funds.
 - OhioMHAS representatives also expressed the desire for some form of simplification but iterated that any changes to the existing line-item structure needed to occur within the current allocation totals.

- It was acknowledged in the discussion that changes to the line-item structure could result in changes to how the line-items are distributed.
- Changes in the structure could result in more local flexibility, result in the need for different (frequency and method) reporting requirements, and a more targeted utilization of funds in alignment with Boards' Community Plans.
- After an in-depth discussion, including any formula used to allocate funds, it was agreed that a factor that should be considered in any funding redistribution should be mitigation of harm.
- It was also agreed that OhioMHAS would develop a survey to issue to all Boards to gather feedback on potential inputs that could be considered in any funding redistribution.
- **OACBHA Culture of Quality:**
 - The Board completed our Culture of Quality certification on Monday and Tuesday, September 9 and 10, 2024, from OACBHA and shared that he was happy to report that the Board received our three-year certification.
 - The official certificate will be presented at the November OACBHA in-person member meeting.
 - Mr. Osiecki expressed his appreciation to Ms. Rosser for taking the lead and all the staff that contributed to the voluminous amount of information that was collected and reviewed, as well as participated in the survey meetings, including Ms. Felicia Harrison, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Danielle Clark, Director of Finance and Business Operations; Ms. Linda Lamp, Executive Assistant; Ms. Schaefer; Ms. DiVincenzo; Ms. Jess Saker, Director of I.T.; Ms. Hunter Hayes; Ms. Starlette Sizemore, Director of Special Projects; Ms. Vicki Roemer-Nishi, Administrative Specialist; Dr. Fowler from the Board; and Mr. Lovell Custard, President and Chief Executive Officer of Murtis Taylor Human Services System, who was representing the Board's providers.
- **SAMHSA / OhioMHAS Quality Assurance Review:**
 - SAMHSA was conducting a Quality Assurance Review of OhioMHAS, for FY2022, and the Board was selected to participate in the review as we are a recipient of the substance abuse block grant treatment funds and a provisioner of services on behalf of OhioMHAS.
 - On Tuesday, August 13, 2024, several staff and Mr. Osiecki met with representatives from SAMHSA.
 - Board staff provided various information and follow-up documents, such as the Board's Needs Assessment, sample of agenda process sheets, Annual Report, data and metrics reports – 6 & 12 month outcome reports, client rights report, and various trainings were provided to show what type of monitoring Board staff do – even as a pass through entity.
 - The final OhioMHAS report should be completed within the year.
- **Psychiatric Emergency Department (PED) Update:**
 - The MetroHealth System will be officially opening their Psychiatric Emergency Department (PED) in Cleveland Heights on Monday, October 7, 2024.
 - There will be an open house on Friday, October 4, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 - 13 beds and three beds for adolescents.
- **Care Response Update:**
 - On Tuesday, September 24, 2024, Ms. Hunter Hayes attended the ward club meeting in Ward 2 which represents the Mt. Pleasant, Union-Miles and Mill Creek Fall neighborhoods, which is located in the 44105 zip code.
 - There were an estimated 30 people attending, including Councilman Kevin Bishop.
 - The Board announced the pilot program and explained the use of 988; many of the residents in attendance said they heard about 988, which is always encouraging.
 - In addition to discussing the program with residents, Board staff also distributed information encouraging them to use 988.
- **National Co-Responder and Crisis Responder Week:**
 - On Monday, September 16, 2024, Ms. Rosser and Mr. Osiecki joined Mayor Justin Bibb and other leadership from the Cleveland Division of Police at City Hall to help celebrate National Co-Responder and Crisis Responder Week.
 - Board staff were there to both honor and be honored for the important work happening in our community to help meet the increased need for mental health and substance use services.

- **Sponsorships & Events:**
 - From Thursday, August 1, 2024, through Tuesday, September 24, 2024, The Board had a presence at 24 events, which included paid sponsorships of 14 events to help increase visibility on marketing materials and promotional items. Some of the more high-profile events during that time included:
 - Stella Maris Waves of Awareness – 2,500 attendees
 - Recovery Resources Run for Recovery – 600 attendees
 - The African American Men’s Wellness Walk – 1,000 attendees
 - National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Greater Cleveland NAMI Walks 5k/10k – 1,300 participants
 - During Hispanic Heritage Month in September, Mr. Osiecki was honored with the Sankofa Award on Saturday, September 21, 2024, from the Galilean Theological Center. The Sankofa Award is a recognition that emphasizes the importance of reflecting on the past to create a better future. The term “Sankofa” comes from the Akan people of Ghana and translates to “go back and fetch it,” symbolizing the idea of learning from history and heritage. The award is often given to individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions to their community, promoting cultural awareness, social justice, and positive change.

- **Staff Update:**
 - The Board received 36 resumes for the Assistant Chief Operating Officer position.
 - Three of the resumes meet the minimum qualifications, and Board staff will be scheduling the first round of interviews soon.
The Board's Chief Operating Officer resigned earlier this month, and Mr. Osiecki is currently reviewing the job description and is likely to make some adjustments to the organizational structure.

- **Staff Salary Compensation Survey:**
 - Mr. Osiecki announced that the Board will be negotiating a new union contract in 2025 and noted that it has been a long time since a staff salary compensation survey was conducted. Consequently, a request for such a survey will be made in the near future.

11. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Harvey Snider emphasized the need for a thorough discussion of sponsorships during the Board's committee meetings. In response, Mr. Osiecki noted that the former Chair of the CR&A Committee, in collaboration with the Board Chair, had decided that Board approval for sponsorships was not necessary. The Board Directors agreed that sponsorships should be clearly outlined on agenda process sheets moving forward.

Mr. Osiecki expressed his sincere appreciation to the Board for their continued support. He also announced that he will be taking time off starting Monday, September 30, 2024. During his absence, he will coordinate with staff, and his responsibilities will be distributed among the three Chiefs: Ms. Harrison, Ms. Hunter Hayes, and Ms. Rosser.

Ms. Kern-Pilch commended Ms. Hunter Hayes and her staff for organizing the Week of Appreciation event, which took place on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at the Board’s administrative office.

Dr. Fowler announced that he will be working with Mr. David S. Kessler, Esq., from Haynes Kessler Myers & Postalakis, Inc., to send a memorandum to the Board staff concerning the recently completed 360 Review, as well as the Board’s support for Mr. Osiecki.

12. FOLLOW-UP

No follow-up was received.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comment was received.

14. UPCOMING OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER BOARD MEETINGS:

- Faith-based Outreach Committee Meeting: October 9, 2024 (*Second Wednesday*)
- Committee of the Whole Meeting: October 16, 2024
- General Meeting: October 23, 2024 at National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Greater Cleveland, 4415 Euclid

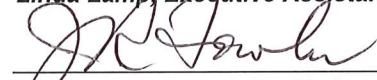
Avenue, 3rd Floor Conference Room, Cleveland, Ohio 44103

- Community Relations & Advocacy Committee Meeting: November 6, 2024
- Committee of the Whole Meeting: November 13, 2024
- General Meeting: November 20, 2024

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Submitted by: *Linda Lamp, Executive Assistant*

Approved by:



J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Chairperson, ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County