MINUTES
Ashtabula County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board
February 11, 2019

The Ashtabula County Mental Health and Recovery Services (MHRS) Board met in a regular scheduled session on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 6:30 PM at 4817 State Road, Suite 203, Ashtabula, Ohio.

MHRS Board President Mr. Larrie Puraty called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM and asked for a roll call of those in attendance.

**Board Members in attendance:** Mr. Larrie Puraty, Board President; Rev. John Werner, Board Secretary; Mr. Richard Dana; Ms. Hattie Eisweirth; Mr. Mathew Crawford, Board Vice-President; Ms. Shonene McLaughlin and Ms. Pat DuPuy.

The following Board Members were not in attendance: Ms. Lisa Summers; Ms. Susan Deak and Ms. Megan Brunarski

**MHRS Board Staff in Attendance:** Ms. Miriam Walton, Director and Ms. Bridget Sherman, Program Director.

**Visitors:** Ms. Mihaela Burtea, Signature Health; Mr. Paul Bolino, Community Counseling Center; Kevin Ellis, Lake Area Recovery Center; Jesse Wodrig, Lake Area Recovery Center and Suzette Miller, Generations Behavioral Health.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Minutes of the January 2019 MHRS Board Meeting were reviewed. Mr. Dana moved that the minutes be approved with suggested changes. Mr. Crawford seconded the motion. Mr. Puraty called for a vote. The motion to accept the minutes passed unanimously with Ms. McLaughlin and Rev. Werner abstaining.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

**A. FISCAL REPORTS**—Ms. Walton reviewed the January 2019 fiscal reports. After review and discussion, Mr. Dana moved that the financial reports for January 2019 be approved as submitted. Ms. Eisweirth seconded the motion. The financial reports were approved unanimously with Ms. McLaughlin and Rev. Werner abstaining.

**REPORTS:**

**A. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Levy Campaign—Mr. Puraty discussed the need to begin planning for the levy campaign. The levy can go on the ballot for the first time in November 2019. Mr. Puraty suggested that the Board form a levy committee and begin meeting next month. Ms. Walton stated that the levy committee in 2014 consisted of Board staff, a few Board members and some staff from a few of the agencies. Mr. Puraty asked for volunteers to work on the levy committee. Mr. Puraty will chair the committee. Other volunteers are Rev. Werner, Mr. Crawford, Ms. Deak, Ms. Summers, Ms. DuPuy and possibly Ms. Brunarski. Agency representatives attending the Board meeting also volunteered to join the committee.
Mr. Puraty asked the Board for a discussion on an initial budget for the campaign. Ms. Walton explained the statute that allows Boards like ours to allocate Board funds for the purpose of running a levy campaign. After some discussion Mr. Dana moved that the Board allocate $5,000 to be moved into the levy campaign fund. Rev. Werner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Executive Committee Report—Mr. Puraty reported that the Executive Committee met prior to the Board meeting and finalized the process for the Board Director evaluation. The final document has been approved and Ms. Walton will email the document out to the Board members tomorrow. Board members will be asked to return the document back to Mr. Puraty by March 4th. Mr. Puraty will pull the evaluations together and email them to Ms. Wagner. Ms. Wagner, the Board evaluator, will compile the data and return the report back to Mr. Puraty. Ms. Wagner has agreed that she should be able to get the information back to Mr. Puraty by the 11th. The Board also discussed how members should handle areas that they may feel that they do not have enough experience with the Board to respond. It was agreed that and unknown would not reflect negatively on the member or on the Director.

B. DIRECTOR:

1. Enterprise System Updates—None.
2. Technology Updates—Ms. Walton discussed the information she has gathered in regards to the copy machine. We have almost reached a final decision but the staff is going to go on a field trip to take a look at the machines. The biggest issue will be getting rid of the 2 older machines as it is difficult to dispose of them. After some discussion the Board is still set on purchasing a machine. Ms. Walton initiated the discussion around upgrading the website. Mr. Puraty stated that this would be essential not just for getting our message out during the levy campaign but in improving our communication with the community overall. The current website no longer meets the needs of the Board and the community. Ms. Walton walked the Board through the agreement for the website development and the costs. There was some discussion on the ongoing costs once the page is developed. Ms. Walton will clarify that with Ms. Hill. Mr. Dana moved that the Board approved the agreement to develop the website as long as the ongoing maintenance costs questions are answered. Ms. McLaughlin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Medicaid Redesign and Managed Care Updates- None
4. Additional State and Local Update—Ms. Walton reported on a variety of areas of interest:
   a. The state has allocated the Boards some additional Community Block Grant funds that must be used on multi-system youth. The Ashtabula allocation is a little over $46,000. Ms. Walton stated that she is looking at appropriate ways to expend the funds on services for those youth based on the guidance from the state.
   b. Ms. Walton reported that the Community Plan still has not been rolled out but staff are preparing for the completion of the document.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. GRANT SEARCHES—
1. Ohio University did receive the federal Human Resource Services Administration Grant. Ashtabula is part of that grant program. The grant will allow the Board to work with our community leadership partners to develop a more comprehensive treatment needs assessment and a workforce gaps analysis so we can develop some implementation plans.
2. The Board has applied for a small Resiliency Grant to do some collaborative leadership building with high school youth in foster care. If the Board receives the grant we would be working with the Prevention Coalition, Ashtabula Leadership and the Ashtabula Y.
3. The Board received a Collective Impact Implementation Grant to provide three PAX Tools trainings in the community. Two trainings on February 28th in Ashtabula at the Ashtabula Library and one in Conneaut in April.

B. GRANT REPORTS-
Due to continued constraints at the jail we will be revising the programming to better meet the needs of the jail. We have submitted the revision to the Office of Criminal Justice Services and are waiting for their approval. The jail has agreed to have the program push in with more re-entry and additional substance abuse case manager to do an evidence-based re-entry planning program.
1. The Criminal Justice Behavioral Health program in the jail is doing well. During the first six months of this state fiscal year the re-entry case manager served 97 inmates and transitioned 23. All 23 were linked to services and only 1 no showed for their first treatment appointment. 87% of those in the program had no new charges thus far. 73% of participants over the past year have had no new charges within 6 months of release.

C. PROGRAM UPDATES—
1. Heartbeat reports an average of six attendees at each support group meeting.
2. The walk-in clinic service at Community Counseling Center reports 326 individuals served. 245 (75%) of those who were served through the walk-in service attended at least 1 appointment past their assessment.
3. The High-Fidelity Wraparound service at Community Counseling Center served 10 youth and their families thus far during SFY 2019.

D. COALITION REPORTS— Housing Coalition: Ms. Walton mentioned that since the federal government re-opened and the HUD funding was able to be assessed the Board did not have to use the contingency plan that was approved at the January Board meeting. Suicide Prevention Coalition: Ms. Sherman reported that we were awarded the OSPF Gatekeeper Mini-grant, allowing for Ms. Sherman to schedule at least one, and likely more Mental Health First Aid trainings before the end of May. Ms. Sherman reported that the Coalition is deciding what to purchase in addition to more cards, with the Crisis Text Line mini-grant. Prevention Coalition: Ms. Walton stated that we are still waiting for the DFC Grant to be announced for applications. Ms. Walton will also be appearing on television in Conneaut to discuss PAX and Prevention. Board members discussed messaging around the television appearance.

E. SUBSTANCE ABUSE LEADERSHIP TEAM—Ms. Walton reported that the team created a grid that outlines the CCIM4C goals, and a copy of the grid will be provided to the Board soon.
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F. 21st CENTURY CURES ACT FUNDING—Ms. Walton updated the Board on the progress of the ambulatory detoxification program: Transitions to Recovery. 104 are currently in the program with an additional 41 being seen by the navigator at the jail. Ms. Walton reminded the Board that this grant ends in April and we will need to discuss continuation of the program with Community Counseling Center.

G. UPDATE ON CAPITAL PLAN FOR RECOVERY HOUSING—Ms. Walton mentioned that it was her understanding that Bridges to Discovery were doing some fund raising

H. CONNECTION (Day Report) CENTER and STATE OPIATE RESPONSE (SOR) FUNDING—The Board has submitted the application for the State Opiate Response funding to develop the treatment and recovery support component of the Adult Probation day report center known as the Connection Center. The application is based on the number of individuals we estimated that are on probation who have an opiate use disorder (74%). The application is asking for $175,000 from the state and a local commitment of $61,487 from the Board to cover those individuals who do not have an opiate use disorder but have a substance use disorder and/or a mental health disorder. The Board has previously approved funding for a program to provide intensive treatment to the probation population and, unless there are any objections from the Board, Ms. Walton stated that she will use those funds to cover the Connection Center services as that program. After some discussion the Board is in agreement to use the funds already allocated to this population for the services at the Center. Access Manager has been hired, and Probation Department is having individuals report to them at the facility already.

I. UPDATE ON CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER—Ms. Walton distributed Dr. Patricia Goetz’s vitae. All Board members were in agreement that she is qualified.

NEW BUSINESS:
NONE

COMMUNICATION:
A. NONE

NEXT SCHEDULED MHRS BOARD MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Ashtabula County MHRS Board is scheduled for March 18, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the MHRS Board office.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. DuPuy moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Dana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Mr. Larry Purdy, Board President
Minutes Prepared by Miriam Walton