MINUTES
Ashtabula County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board
August 19, 2019

The Ashtabula County Mental Health and Recovery Services (MHRS) Board met in a regular scheduled session on Monday, August 19, 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 6:30 PM and asked for a roll call of those in attendance.

Board Members in attendance: Mr. Larrie Puraty, Board President; Mr. Mathew Crawford, Board Vice-President; Ms. Lisa Summers; Mr. Chris Raab; Ms. Pat DuPuy; Ms. Susan Deak; Rev. John Werner, Board Secretary; Ms. Shonene McLaughlin and Ms. Megan Brunarski

The following Board Members were not in attendance: NONE

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

Visitors: Ms. Mihaela Burtea-Pascu, Signature Health; Mr. Paul Bolino, Community Counseling Center; Mr. Kevin Ellis, Lake Area Recovery Center; and Ms. Kathryn Whittington, County Commissioners.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the June 2019 MHRS Board Meeting were reviewed. Ms. Summers requested that her name been taken from the list of Board members in attendance as she was not present. Ms. Walton apologized for the error. Mr. Raab moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. Ms. Deak seconded the motion. Mr. Puraty called for a vote. The motion to accept the minutes passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

A. FISCAL REPORTS—Ms. Walton reviewed the June and July financial reports. Ms. Walton stated that the June reports are up to date based on the billings that have been submitted thus far by the agencies. We will continue to push SFY 2019 expenses into 2019 for at least the next few months. The July 2019 reports were not completed but Ms. Walton reviewed the expenditures and revenues for July, 2019. Ms. Walton requested that the Board consider approval of the June reports but hold off on the July reports until they are complete. Mr. Raab moved that the June 2019 financial reports be approved as submitted. Ms. McLaughlin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

A. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Website—Mr. Puraty stated that the new Facebook page has had 573 likes already in the first 20 days. The website is coming together nicely. Levy Committee--Mr. Puraty stated that the video work for the levy my take a bit more funding than anticipated. After discussion by the Board on the work being done and the campaign, Rev. Werner moved that the Board allocate an additional
$5,000 paid into the Levy Fund. Ms. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. DIRECTOR:

1. New Board Director’s Written Report—Ms. Walton presented this month’s Director’s Report. There were no questions.
2. Local Updates—Ms. Walton reported on the following:
   a. Dr. Campbell Training—Over 100 people attended the training and we received rave reviews. Rev. Werner stated that it was an excellent training and other Board members that attended agreed. WVIZ was at the training and did several interviews. The reporter will let us know when it is on the website and Ms. Walton will send the link to Board members.
   b. Board Training—The Board training is next month. The Board discussed the timing of the training. It was agreed that the evening would start at 5:30 with dinner and a short meeting so we could begin the training portion no later than 6-6:15.
   c. Ms. Walton reviewed the SFY 2018 Annual Report with the Board. The report will be submitted to the Commissioners and the public after Board review. A shorter version of the report is being worked on by Ms. Walton and Mr. Puraty for broader mailing to the public. The report will also be placed on the Board website.
   d. Sherrod Brown Aide—Ms. Walton and the Board staff met with Senator Sherrod Brown’s aide to discuss Ashtabula County. We reviewed several areas but asked for flexible funding around substance use disorder allocations specifically since this is before the Congress at this time.
   e. Ms. Walton discussed the issues around the Glenbeigh SFY 2019 allocation. The Board recently approved an additional $50,000 for Glenbeigh for SFY 2019. Since that action Glenbeigh has billed an additional $75,000. Ms. Walton requested approval from the Board to pay all or some of these additional bills for services. The Board discussed the ongoing need for the service and how the Board staff have set up further monitoring of the allocation during SFY 2020. Ms. Walton stated that she met with Glenbeigh Director, Pat Weston-Hall to discuss procedures for SFY 2020. Ms. Weston-Hall stated that they have put further measure in place to monitor admissions and will coordinate this process with Ms. Sherman. After additional discussion Ms. Summers moved that that Ms. Walton continue reconcile SFY 2019 and use any unspent funds to compensate Glenbeigh for the additional services delivered outside their contract. Ms. DuPuy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Walton agreed and told the Board she would report back to them the results of the process.
   f. Ms. Walton walked the Board through the Lake Area Recovery Center proposal for child care services for women with children in Turning Point. The service would be used for the women while
they are in treatment groups. With the move to the new building in November Lake Area recovery Center would like to increase the number of children they take in the facility and expand the ages of the children from 18 months to 5 years. The Board discussed the proposal and felt it was a good recovery support but wanted a bit more detail on how it would be run and if 1 staff person would actually meet the need. Ms. Walton stated that she would let the Director know.

g. Ms. Walton stated that she has been in communication with the OHMHAS capital planning department and spoke at length to Mr. Wills about the transfer of the Bridges to Discovery project to Lake Area Recovery Center. In order to transfer the project, the Department will need the Board to pass a resolution agreeing to the transfer and affirming that Lake Area Recovery Center has the ability to run the program and the Board will continue its agreed upon obligation to monitor its usage for the Department. Office and proceed based on his information. After some discussion of the ongoing issues around the project Mr. Raab moved that the Board approve the move of the capital plan recovery housing project be moved from Bridges to Discovery to Lake Area Recovery Center. Ms. McLaughlin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. State Update—Ms. Walton reported on a variety of areas of interest:
   a. Ms. Walton informed the Board that the newly passed budget included funding for Schools Prevention and Wellness. These dollars are going directly to the schools and we have no idea how they plan to use the funding but we are trying to do what we can to keep from having any duplication of services and will keep the Board updated as we learn anything.
   b. Ms. Walton stated that the Boards will be getting additional flexible crisis funds but we will not know what the state expectations are around the funding until the state crisis summit the end of October.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. GRANT SEARCHES—
   1. Drug Free Communities Grant—Ms. Walton informed the Board that we may not know about the new grant until the end of October. This could mean that we may have a one-month gap in funding if we are awarded the grant.

B. GRANT AND PROGRAM UPDATES
   1. Outcomes Reports—None this month.
   2. Adult Drug Court—Quarterly report shows that the court program is meeting or exceeding all of the grant goals.
   3. Residential Substance Abuse Jail Treatment—The grant will be ending this September but we are still exploring how we can continue to serve the inmate population in the current difficult conditions.
   4. Connection Center—Currently has completed 84 recovery assessments, actively serving 41. 44% of those being served have an opioid use disorder.
5. Recovery Housing (SOR)—Working with state to retain funding for the program for year 2. Local issues still delaying the opening.
   a. Recovery Housing Quality Standards—Ms. Sherman reported that the local Recovery Housing operators have been attending the monthly meetings and attended a training on August 14th presented by ORH and OhioMHAS.

6. HRSA Grant—Ms. Walton state that consortium has received the implementation grant. This will bring in around $250,000 for implementation of the plans developed during the planning grant over a three-year period. This is work we are doing through the SALT.

C. COALITION REPORTS—
1. SUBSTANCE ABUSE LEADERSHIP TEAM—HRSA work as above. The SALT Facebook page is growing in number as well.

2. PREVENTION COALITION—Overdose awareness day is August 31st. There are no Coalition activities planned but Rev. Werner has an event in Austinburg during Country Days. Rev. Werner said proceeds are going to Community Counseling Center. PAX training and PAX Partner training continue over the next few weeks. Up to over 400 teachers trained.

3. SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION—Ms. Sherman reported that the One Life Race for Suicide Prevention is fast approaching on Sept. 7th. Final preparations are being made by the coalition. The Hope in Artistry Art Show is scheduled for November, and the Call for Artists will be distributed. International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day is November 23rd, and the Visual Arts Coordinator at the Arts Center has suggested some ideas for a program sometime during November to coincide with the art show. She had suggested yoga or guided meditation, but Ms. Sherman will be discussing it further with her.

4. HOUSING COALITION—The HUD for the Shelter Plus Care program is currently serving 72 individuals.

D. STATE FISCAL YEAR 2020 COMMUNITY PLAN—Ms. Walton reviewed the needs assessment document and presented the worksheet grid included in the Board materials and previously sent. Ms. Walton walked the Board through the areas of interest and answered any questions. Board members asked about time frames. Ms. Walton stated that we received an extension until August 23rd. After additional discussion Ms. Deak moved that the Board approve the SFY 2019-2020 Community Plan for submission to OHMHAS. Ms. McLaughlin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATION:
A. NONE

NEXT SCHEDULED MHRS BOARD MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Ashtabula County MHRS Board is scheduled for September 16, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the MHRS Board office.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Summers moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Raab seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Mr. Larrie Puraty, Board President
Minutes Prepared by Miriam Walton