

## MINUTES

### Ashtabula County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board August 15, 2022

The Ashtabula County Mental Health and Recovery Services (MHRS) Board met in a rescheduled session on Monday, August 15, 2022, at 6:30 PM. This meeting was held in person with a Zoom option for the public.

Board Vice-President Rev. Werner called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and asked for a roll call of members and staff in attendance.

**Board Members in attendance:** Ms. Susan Deak, Board Secretary; Ms. Shonene McLaughlin; Mr. Jeff Wheeler; Ms. Deborah King; Rev. John Werner, Board Vice-President; Ms. Megan Brunarski; and Ms. Pat DuPuy.

**The following Board Members were not in attendance:** Mr. Matthew Crawford, Board President; Mr. Alan Block; and Mr. Joe Loftus.

**MHRS Board Staff in Attendance:** Ms. Miriam Walton, Director; Ms. Bridget Sherman; Ms. Kaitie Park; Ms. Lisa Battaglioli; Ms. Mary Ann Hill (Webmaster).

**Visitors:** Mr. Jamie Dials, Signature Health and Mr. Paul Bolino, Community Counseling Center; Mary Ann Hill, Webmaster.

**AMENDED AGENDA:** Ms. Walton pointed out that there was an amended agenda since she sent it out to the Board members and the public. Rev. Werner asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda. Ms. Deak moved to accept the amended agenda. Ms. King seconded the motion. Rev. Werner called for a vote.

Seven Yes; Zero No; No Abstentions. Motion passes.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The Minutes of the June 2022 MHRS Board meeting were reviewed. Ms. Walton mentioned some minor corrections made between the copy received and the copy in the Board materials. After some review, Ms. DuPuy moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion. Rev. Werner called for a vote.

Seven Yes; Zero No; No Abstentions. Motion passes.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

**FISCAL REPORTS—** Ms. Walton reviewed the June 2022 fiscal report. Ms. Walton pointed out that two deposits were found during her review that were incorrect (HRSA Grant and HEALING Grant). The changes were already made in QuickBooks, but we did not rerun for the Board meeting. Since the June report is still draft, the Board will see the final version with the corrects before the Board does the final approval. The July statement is small because we are just starting our state fiscal year. The HUD grant deposit consists of several months of business since we usually wait a few months for HUD to get everything completed and the funds placed in LOCSS System for drawdown.

### **Motion to Accept Financials:**

After some discussion, Ms. King moved that the July 2022 Board financial reports be approved as submitted and the June 2022 reports be tables until completed for Board review. Ms. McLaughlin seconded the motion. Rev. Werner called for a vote.

Seven Yes; Zero No; No Abstentions. Motion passes.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

1. Rev. Werner reported that Mr. Crawford is ill, which is why he is not at the Board meeting today. He had no other report.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

1. The Board had no specific questions regarding the Executive Director's written report.
2. Ms. Walton that the Board has COVID test kits for residential and other congregate living sites as well as some for Board staff.
3. Ms. Walton stated that the Providers are registering for the ASAM Level of Care trainings. So far 31 are registered for the 1<sup>st</sup> round and almost as many for the second session. The Provider for the training is Train for Change. Training was offered to all contract Providers first and then we will offer slots to non-contract Providers. We also received some funding to expand the licenses for Community Counseling Center clients for the Reset-O app that they have been using as part of a state pilot project.
4. Ms. Wagner completed a review of crisis services for the Board for SFY 2022. During that period, we had 267 crisis encounters. We are seeing an increase in encounters with law enforcement since expanding mobile crisis. We are also examining hospitalizations that resulted from a crisis encounter. We will have this information for Board review as we put together the new Community Plan.
5. Ms. Walton stated that she plans to pursue the Board Association's Culture of Quality. She plans to begin the process in January, and she hopes to see the Board achieve this certification sometime in the Spring or early summer. Since the Board used the Culture of Quality guidelines as well as the County Policies and the Auditor of State handbook, when updating policies and procedures recently, Ms. Walton stated that she feels this is doable. OhioMHAS recognizes the Culture of Quality as a tool to strive for excellence and Ms. Walton believes it is time for our Board to undergo the process.
6. Ms. DuPuy, when reviewing the materials asked about the change in staff names. Ms. Walton apologized and announced that Ms. Park had recently married and is now Kaitie Park Hart. Board members congratulated her.
7. Ms. Brunarski asked about the Mission Program and whether the program was open to anyone. Ms. Walton explained that the Program is for the Ashtabula County Common Pleas Court Mental Health Court, but that it could also admit members of the Drug Court if those individuals were struggling in the docket due to the mental health disorder. The Board is looking at implementing the program to the Conneaut Municipal Court's new specialized docket once it is approved, but right now the program is still in the pilot phase,

and we have not collected any outcomes data at this point. Ms. Park Hart mentioned that the Boards and OU/PIRE received a No Cost Extension on the current grant which will allow the group to continue to work on the initiatives around stigma reduction, workforce development,

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. GRANT SEARCHES**—Ms. Walton stated the rural counties and OU/PIRE were granted both the Stimulant Use grant and the System reform Grant. The system reform grant will allow us to look at discharge planning and hospital liaisons as well as advancing trauma informed care. The BH Systems grant is longer and more money than the Stimulant Use grant and would allow for some stimulant treatment work. We may have to choose as Ms. Walton stated that she is not sure the Boards have the capacity to do both well. Ms. Park Hart mentioned that the Boards and OU/PIRE received a No Cost Extension on the current grant which will allow the group to continue to work on the initiatives around stigma reduction, workforce development, naloxone, CLAS training, etc.

**B. QUARTERLY REPORTS**—Ms. Walton asked if there were any questions on the reports.

## **C. COALLITIONS**

1. **Suicide Prevention**—Ms. Sherman reported on the progress in planning the One Life Race. Race is scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup>. You can register on the Stasni website. The Art Show is in progress and the Coalition continues to work through the SSOSPC suicide prevention grant.
2. **Prevention Coalition**— Ms. Park Hart reviewed the Prevention/Community Engagement quarterly report , including the PAX updates, HEALing Communities updates, etc. Ms. Park Hart mentioned that the Coalition is in the end stages of the planning for the PART Conference in October. Ms. Park Hart listed the trainings scheduled thus far.
3. **Housing Continuum of Care**—Ms. Walton discussed the HUD grant. At this point the grant is down and only serving 54 individuals. Ms. Weaver is taking referrals from the treatment Providers.

**D. CRISIS EXPANSION WORK**— Ms. Walton stated that the expansion continues. Signature Health is now searching for staff to fill the positions so the next step of expansion can be realized.

**E. CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAMS**—Ms. Walton stated that the training is scheduled for the week of October 17<sup>th</sup>. The training will be held at the Jefferson Nazarene church. The church is donating the space. Ms. Walton stated that we will be able to train 20 officers at a time. Hoping to do at least one more training before the end of the state fiscal year but nothing planned yet.

**F. MULTI-SYSTEM ADULTS PROGRAM**—No additional report.

**G. QUICK RESPONSE TEAM**—Ms. Walton stated that the Board received the agreement last week. Once reviewed we will get it signed and returned. The Board is now running the program and so far, things have gone smoothly. Board staff will have regular meetings with the QRT, so trouble shoot and eliminate barriers.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. HELP NETWORK AND 988**—Ms. Walton stated that Help Network received a grant from OhioMHAS to help launch 988. The funding will cover most of the costs to run the organization for most of the state fiscal year. The funding will assist in upgrades and expansion of staffing but is not going money for the agency. For help Network to accept the funding, OhioMHAS is asking that the Boards that collaborate to fund the organization commit to continuing to fund Help Network as usual after the grant funding is depleted. We have been working with Help Network for over 24 years and we have been pleased with the services they provide Ashtabula County. Ms. Walton stated that she sees no reason for the Ashtabula Board to not continue to fund Help Network after the grant money is no longer available. After some discuss concerning the amount of annual allocation, we give Help Network and the role they play in our crisis intervention system the Board Vice-President asked for a motion.

Ms. Deak moved that the Ashtabula County MHRS Board is committed to the services it receives from Help Network of Northeast Ohio and will continue to provide funding for Help Network of Northeast Ohio after the depletion of the current OhioMHAS grant to sustain the 24/7 crisis hotline, warmline and referral services for Ashtabula County residents the organization provides. Ms. DuPuy seconded the motion.

Rev. Werner asked if there was any further discussion. See none, Rev. Werner asked for a vote.

Seven Yes; Zero No; No Abstentions. Motion passes.

**B. SAR REPORT** – Ms. Walton reviewed the SAR report sent to the Board by OhioMHAS. The Board did well with only three areas where OhioMHAS gave us recommendations. Ms. Walton reviewed the areas and explained that she sent in a corrective action plan addressing the areas. The Board was pleased with the Board staff's performance and the results of the review. Ms. Walton said it was stressful but overall, a good opportunity to see how we are doing with our oversight and fiscal processes.

### **C. OTHER NEW BUSINESS—**

1. Ms. Walton reminded Board members that she would be on vacation over the September Board meeting and wanted to know if the Board wanted to meet without her, cancel or reschedule. After some discussion the Board decided to change the meeting to September 12, 2022. Ms. Walton also reminded the Board that the Board Association would be coming to the October meeting to discuss planning for her retirement.
2. Ms. Walton updated the Board on the progress on finding a new office. Ms. Walton is working with the Commissioners. There has been some progress and it is hoped that we will have something identified for the Executive Committee and then the Board to view and approve before the final decision is made.

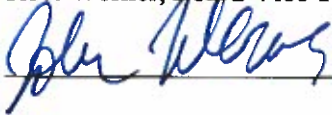
**COMMUNICATION: None**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Ms. McLaughlin moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. King seconded the motion. Rev. Werner called for a vote.

Seven Yes; Zero No; No Abstentions. Motion passes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is set for September 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Rev. Werner, Board Vice-President



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Minutes Prepared by Miriam Walton