

# Facing | Sharing Challenges | Solutions

2017 Annual Report



HAMILTON COUNTY

**Mental Health &  
Recovery Services Board**

In early 2017, HCMHR SB surveyed consumers, providers, and the informed community to assess perceived service needs in the Hamilton County public behavioral health system ...

- There was general agreement among all surveyed groups that a shortage of psychiatrists was an impediment to care
- Among eleven named supportive services, needs for housing services were deemed most critical
- A significant concern among addiction treatment providers was the shortage of physicians able to provide medication assisted treatment, while consumers expressed more concern with insurance coverage



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# Facing Challenges | Sharing Solutions

PROGRESS



**Thomas L. Gabelman**

Chair  
Board of Trustees

HCMHRBSB completed a new strategic planning process this year to assess and adjust its direction in response to local and state political developments, changing demographics and service needs, economic conditions and behavioral healthcare challenges at the local state and national levels. The strategic planning process revealed specific challenges facing the public behavioral health system in Hamilton County.



**Patrick Tribbe**

President/CEO

One of the most pressing challenges facing our community is the dramatic increase in heroin and opiate addiction, and the associated increase in the number of overdoses and deaths. The coroner's office recorded 100 more opiate-related overdose deaths in 2016 than 2015 and recorded 221 suspected drug overdoses in Hamilton County in the first four months of 2017. The Hamilton County Heroin Coalition (HCHC) provides leadership for how this county addresses the heroin "epidemic." With new leadership in 2017, the HCHC has focused on providing successful interventions and initiatives undertaken through the collaborative efforts of the multiple HCHC entities. Through these collaborative efforts, the HCHC continues to leverage resources, promote best practices, advocate legislative change, break down barriers, and coordinate public awareness. This past year, HCHC funds also targeted specific prevention efforts in the community including the purchase of lockboxes, implementation of a teen empowerment program, and public educational forums using best practice methods for increasing public awareness.

The opioid epidemic that Hamilton County is experiencing presents additional challenges for the Hamilton County behavioral health service system. Indeed, the number of individuals entering treatment as the result of their addiction to opioids has increased nearly 500% over the past ten years, exceeding the number of individuals receiving treatment for any other addicting substance, including alcohol. Among the significant challenges associated with this epidemic is simply getting those impacted engaged in treatment. However, for those who do enter treatment, great hope exists.

Data obtained through the HCMHRBSB's SHARES data system indicates that during 2016, two of every three opioid users in treatment reported an increased ability to abstain from continued use through their involvement in treatment. That same data indicates a strong relationship between that abstinence and significant improvements in both physical and mental health. In addition to obtaining necessary treatment for addiction, those experiencing the greatest success in achieving sobriety report a greater ability to manage cravings, a reduction in situations and interactions that pose a risk to their continued success, and maintaining involvement in self-help groups.

To further impact recovery, HCMHRBSB received a \$400,000 award for the Drug Court to provide services through the Addiction Treatment Program (ATP). The primary goals of the project include serving more people in Drug Court, providing addiction treatment, improving access to recovery supports, as well as Medication Assisted Treatment. Hamilton County is projecting to serve approximately 400 clients with these funds. HCMHRBSB was also awarded \$150,000 for the Hamilton County Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Linkage Project. The project provides mental health and/or substance abuse services to 70 individuals who are involved in the county's adult criminal justice system. Services include Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), intense case management, and linkage to ongoing treatment once released from community corrections facilities.

Another serious challenge facing our system is reduced psychiatric inpatient capacity for our mental health clients. MHRBSB has worked with local providers and hospitals in an attempt to address the needs of these clients despite fewer beds available overall. Among these efforts is a community-based restoration to competency program for Hamilton County misdemeanor defendants. This program is designed to decrease inpatient stays at Summit Behavioral Health Hospital thus increasing access to the hospital for Forensic and Civil patients. This project provides services (to low risk individuals who are found incompetent to stand trial)



**Judge John O'Connor**  
Vice Chair



**Mary Ellen Malas**  
Secretary



**S. Gregory Baker**



**Matthew Curoe**



**Mark Davis**



**Gwen DiMeo**



**Patrick Garry**

2016  
Board of Trustees

in the least restrictive setting - the community. This is a collaborative project with the local state hospital, mental health providers, and Hamilton County Pre-Trial Services.

In Hamilton County, the number of family and youth involved in the child welfare system is steadily increasing. MHRSB partners with Job and Family Services in the Family Access to Integrated Recovery (FAIR) program for assessment, connection to services, oversight, and ongoing care management for these families. The FAIR program has added new staff to meet the demand of the growing numbers requiring service, as well as new interventions for ensuring connection to services.

To date, JOURNEY to Successful Living (JOURNEY) has served over 900 transition-age youth and young adults, with serious emotional disturbance and multi-system involvement. Providing evidence-based treatment throughout the provider network, JOURNEY has focused its priorities during this year on achieving the goals of its Legacy Plan, including greater emphasis on youth and family engagement and more attention to targeted services such as vocational services and housing. This year a JOURNEY youth and original member of the program's Youth Action Council graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a degree in social work. This is a remarkable demonstration of the success of JOURNEY services and supports and the graduate's own strength and resilience that supported her success in achieving her goal.

HCMHRSB has always invested in critical supportive services that assist clients in leading productive and satisfactory lives. This past year, MHRSB invested in additional supported apartments for youth who are transitioning to a more independent living situation. Youth in the program are placed in individual apartments at a clustered site with a case manager office located on site. While in the Independent Living program, youth have access to case management services, including emergency after-hours response, therapy, medication management, and a Life Skills Coach for support, teaching, and consultation.

In addition, the HCMHRSB has supported consumer operated programs and businesses in Hamilton County for nearly a

half century. Established by IKRON, The Finding Place thrift shop has been operated and managed by consumers since 1968, and Mighty Vine Wellness Club is the second oldest consumer-operated business still in existence in Ohio. Other consumer operated services include the WARMLINE, a 24/7 phone peer support line established in 2004, and the Recovery Center of Hamilton County (RCHC) which was initially established in 2005 with the administrative support of IKRON and Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services. This year, the RCHC became a HCMHRSB contract agency continuing the strong presence of peer support and consumer operated services in the Hamilton County Community.

Agencies continue to illustrate the important impact that treatment has on the lives of those experiencing a mental illness through their participation in Hamilton County's mental health outcomes effort. This past year, eight agencies were honored with awards that recognize the agencies' ability to evidence meaningful improvements in the lives of those they serve. HCMHRSB continues to emphasize this critical initiative that serves to ensure that Hamilton County residents receive the most efficacious treatments available advancing their chances for achieving a recovery that will allow their resumption of significant, contributing roles within our community, when those roles had previously been compromised by their illness.

Through the strategic planning process, HCMHRSB has reaffirmed its commitment to developing and managing a continuum of mental health, addiction, and prevention services that have a positive impact on the community, are accessible, results oriented, and responsive to individual and family needs. Sharing Solutions with all stakeholders in the mental health and addictions system produces better client outcomes, more efficient practices, more innovative programs, and assists more individuals in leading productive, satisfactory lives characterized by hope, empowerment, and a meaningful role in society. None of this would be possible without the valued support from Board members, volunteers, employees, and citizens of Hamilton County.



Darlene Peek



Regina Moore



Jenny O'Donnell, PsyD



Mary Oden, PhD



Gary E. Powell



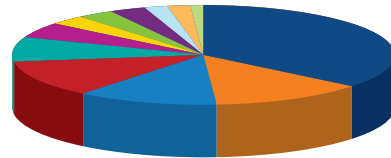
Jonathan L. Steinberg, PhD

## Total Revenue — \$59,540,199



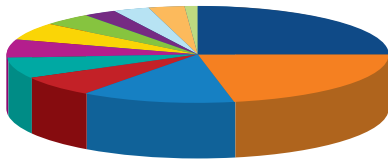
- Mental Health Levy — 58.0%
- All Other MH Revenue — 14.5%
- All Other AOD Revenue — 18.6%
- HHIC AOD Services Levy — 5.6%
- Family Services & Treatment AOD Services Levy — 3.3%

## AOD Services



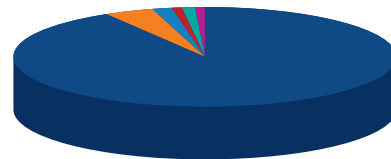
- Residential Treatment — 36%
- Other Services — 13%
- Counseling — 12%
- Prevention — 12%
- Detoxification — 8%
- Community Services — 5%
- Assessment — 3%
- Intensive Outpatient — 3%
- Medical/Somatic, Buprenorphine/Vivitrol — 3%
- Case Management — 2%
- Dip Screens/Lab Urinalysis — 2%
- Methadone Administration — 1%

## MH Services



- Residential Treatment & Housing — 25%
- Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment — 22%
- Other Mental Health — 13%
- Psychiatric Interview/Assessment/Evaluations — 7%
- Employment & Vocational — 7%
- Crisis Intervention — 6%
- Prevention & Education — 6%
- Care Coordination — 4%
- Pharmacological Management — 3%
- Counseling — 3%
- Consumer Operated & Peer Support — 3%
- Partial Hospitalization — 1%

## Total Expenditures — \$60,586,564



- Agency Provider Contracts — 91.4%
- Salaries, Benefits & Taxes — 4.3%
- Building Management SAMAD — 1.6%
- Operating Expenses — 1.0%
- Council of Gov'ts/SHARES — 0.9%
- Auditor & Treasurer Fees — 0.8%

# Provider Agencies

Addiction Services Council	Hamilton County Pre-Trial
Beech Acres Parenting Center	Hamilton County Sheriff's Dept.
Camelot Community Care	IKRON
Center for Addiction Treatment	Lighthouse Youth Services
Central Clinic Child Adult	Mental Health America
Central Clinic Court Clinic	Pressley Ridge
Central Clinic MHAP	Prevention FIRST!
Central Community Health Board	Prospect House
Children's Hospital Medical Center	Salvation Army
Cincinnati Union Bethel	Shelterhouse
Cornell Abraxas	St. Aloysius Orphanage
Excel Development Corp.	St. Joseph Orphanage
First Step Home	Sojourner Recovery Services
Foundations for Living	Talbert House
Free Store/Food Bank	Tender Mercies
Glad House	The Crossroads Center
Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services	UMADAOP
Hamilton County Adult Probation Court	Wyoming Youth Services
Hamilton County Juvenile Court - Youth Center	



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