FACING CHALLENGES



The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the behavioral health system leading to an unprecedented need for mental health and addiction services.

Our partnering agencies have been thrust into a period that requires them to be nimble and enormously creative to continue to meet the recovery needs of neighbors, friends, and family.

FACING CHALLENGES



FACING CHALLENGES | SHARING SOLUTIONS



Thomas L. Gabelman Chair Board of Trustees



Patrick Tribbe President/CEO

The need for crisis services has surged during the pandemic as individuals and families attempt to cope with social isolation, anxiety, and depression. In response, HCMHRSB allocated an additional \$94,522 in funding to assist the 281-CARE hotline in hiring additional staff to respond to the significant increase in crisis calls to strengthen our system of care's crisis response capacity. In addition HCMHRSB received funding from various sources to augment crisis response services. OhioMHAS provided \$234.706 to fund Crisis Infrastructure enhancements. This funding was allocated to the Mobile Crisis Team to improve efficiencies in delivery of service, add additional personnel, and increase training material used in strengthening community partnerships and associations with law enforcement. HCMHRSB was awarded \$546,420 in Regular Services Program (RSP) disaster relief funding from OhioMHAS. Four agencies received funds to enhance and expand crisis services to individuals who have been directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Services include individual crisis counseling, group counseling, public education, educational and supportive contacts, as well as marketing (billboards, bus benches, and material distribution) to increase awareness of access to services. A Supplemental SAMHSA Emergency COVID-19 grant provided \$126,485 in additional funds to the original 2020 grant. Funding was allocated to the Crisis Stabilization Center to provide on-going 24-hour crisis intervention to individuals with mental illness, substance abuse, or dual diagnoses. and frontline healthcare professionals.

As 2021 brought intense scrutiny to bear on policing nationwide, HCMHRSB built upon an existing partner-ship between the Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) and the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD). In April, the City

of Cincinnati provided HCMHRSB \$403,904 to expand Mobile Crisis Services. The CPD will be the first law enforcement department in Ohio to utilize telehealth to address mental health runs involving law enforcement. In addition to partnerships with local law enforcement, HCMHRSB has had long standing supportive partnerships with the Hamilton County Court system. OhioMHAS awarded HCMHRSB an additional \$140,000 to assist certified Specialized Dockets in providing treatment and recovery support services to increase clients' success within the community. HCMHRSB partners with four contract agencies to provide the necessary supports for two Municipal Mental Health Courts, three Felony Mental Health Courts and two Veterans Courts.

Because of limited bed availability at the local state hospital, HCMHRSB received \$50,000 from OHMHAS for Indigent Patient Care at local hospitals. The funding provides reimbursement for indigent civil patients to be served at local hospitals that have inpatient psychiatric bed availability. This funding is from the COVID-19 Relief Fund as part of the CARES ACT. Funding was allocated to the Mental Health Access Point (MHAP) to manage this program, provide oversight and data collection, and work collaboratively with local hospitals.

Although there remained social distancing and face masking requirements, engagement continued to be a strong focus for our providers working with youth and families. On August 6, 2021, HCMHRSB's program, JOURNEY to Successful Living, along with Talbert House and Youth at the Center hosted the 7th annual #askmewhoiam: Conference on Youth Culture at Xavier University. The 2021 Conference theme was "Supporting Young People as We Emerge from a Pandemic."



Judge John O'Connor

Vice Chair

Mary Ellen Malas Secretary



Curoe

Mark Davis



Gwen DiMeo



Patrick Garry



Linda McKenzie

Approximately 150 attendees participated including youth, young adults, youth serving professionals, family members and caregivers. This year saw new organizations join such as the City of Cincinnati Health Department, Cincinnati Recreation Center, Hamilton County Juvenile Court, community council members, Hamilton County Cincinnati Public Library and YouthMove Ohio.

2021 again brought unprecedented overdose rates in Hamilton County. With the continuation of SOR 2.0 (State Opiate Response) and NCE (No Cost Extension) Community Projects funding, totaling \$7,556,587.71, HCMHRSB was able to expand and enhance services for individuals and families suffering with addiction. The continuation of this funding ensured program expansion and sustainability for 11 partnering agencies and 23 programs aiming to provide critical intervention, medication assisted treatment, peer support, recovery housing, outreach, and prevention, SOR 2.0 and NCE funding also allowed several agencies to implement new projects such as outreach, education, recovery support, and Naloxone training to families and caregivers. Additional endeavors included a "day program". targeted at providing integrated behavioral health care services and supports for the impoverished and homeless population in an underserved community, and additional prevention efforts to focus on educating healthcare professionals, caregivers, and various child welfare staff on providing evidence-based prevention, education, and targeted awareness messaging for communities.

HCMHRSB continued to provide leadership at the Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition by

funding treatment and outreach services connected to Quick Response Teams (QRT), Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD), and the African American Engagement Workgroup. Distribution of the lifesaving drug Naloxone for overdose victims remained a significant focus for the HCMHRSB, providers and the community with over 5,000 kits distributed.

Because the long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on behavioral health may not be known for some time, the critical need for a robust system for monitoring the impact of services upon clients is heightened. With nearly twenty years of experience in monitoring client outcomes utilizing the same methods and measures across all providers, no other area in the state was better able to meet this statutory mandate than Hamilton County. A review of the outcomes achieved during this period, relative to the period prior to the pandemic, evidences the impact of those heroic efforts and reflects the continuous meaningful gains of those engaged in our service system regardless of age, race, gender, or condition.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges for the public behavioral health system. However, sharing solutions among all stakeholders in the public behavioral health 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.



Regina Moore



Mary Oden, PhD



Gary E. Powell



Jonathan L. Steinberg, PhD

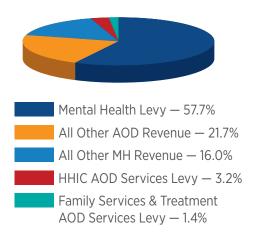


Christine Wilder, MD

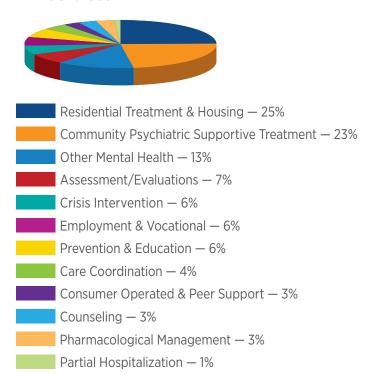


Ashlee Young

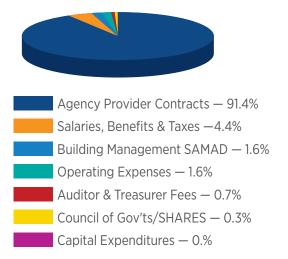
Total Revenue — \$ 61,940,958



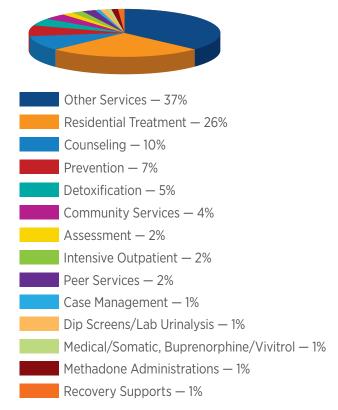
MH Services



Total Expenditures — \$63,703,677



AOD Services



Provider Agencies

Addiction Services Council HER Cincinnati

Beech Acres Parenting Center IKRON Corporation

Camelot Community Care Foundations for Living

Center for Addiction Treatment Lighthouse Youth Services

Central Clinic - MHAP Mental Health America of

Northern Kentucky & Southwest Ohio

New Path Child and Family Solutions

Pressley Ridge

Children's Home of Cincinnati

Prevention First!

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Prospect House

Central Clinic - Outpatient Services

Central Community Health Board

Cornell Abraxas Group

Recovery Center of Hamilton County Excel Development Corp.

Salvation Army First Step Home

Shelterhouse Volunteer Group

Free Store/Food Bank
St. Aloysius Orphanage

Glad House
Sojourner Recovery Services

Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services

Talbert House Hamilton County Adult Probation

Tender Mercies

Hamilton County Department of
Pre-Trial & Community Transitions Services The Crossroads Center

Hamilton County Juvenile Court UMADAOP

Hamilton County Sheriff's Department

