

HAMILTON COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of the Board of Trustees

Thursday, January 20, 2022

I. Call to Order:

- A. The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order (Malas) at 8:35 a.m.

II. Attendance:

- A. Board Members Present: Thomas Gabelman (Chair); Mary Ellen Malas (Secretary); Matthew Curoe; Mark Davis; Gwen DiMeo; Patrick Garry; Gary Powell; Jonathan Steinberg, Ph.D.; Christine Wilder, M.D.; Ashlee Young
- B. Board Members Absent: Judge John O'Connor (Vice-Chair) (Exc.); Linda McKenzie (Exc.); Mary Oden; Ph.D. (Exc.)
- C. Staff Members Present: Patrick Tribbe; Erik Stewart, Ph.D.; Anna Dowell; Linda Gallagher; Denise Garrett; LaNora Godfrey; Jenny Heizman; Ann Briccio

III. Approval of Minutes:

- A. A motion was made (Gabelman) to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting.

Motion Approved

IV. President's Report:

A. Mental Health Levy 2022

The review process has begun for the Mental Health Levy scheduled to go before the voters in November of this year. As in the past, the Hamilton County Tax Levy Review Committee will conduct a review of current levy expenditures for services provided with levy funding. The first hearing will be held on February 7, 2022. The review will last through June with the committee making a recommendation to the commissioner regarding the size of the upcoming levy.

B. Service Satisfaction Findings

All contract agencies are required to conduct their own satisfaction surveys annually and use that information for performance improvement purposes. HCMHRSB also monitors satisfaction measures embedded in the Ohio Scales instruments and the Brief Addiction Monitor tool designed for monitoring client outcomes. The past two years have presented some significant challenges for agencies as they adapt to accommodate individuals during the unusual circumstances created by the pandemic.

A review of items that inform us as to how successful agencies have been in their attempts to meet the needs of clients during this recent period illustrates considerable achievement with the vast majority of adults receiving mental health services reporting favorable treatment. Similarly high satisfaction reporting was shared by parents of youth receiving mental health services as were findings for adults receiving services for addiction. Most importantly, these findings have remained consistent over time. When we review pre-pandemic reporting on these measures (CY 2018) we find no significant changes in the perceptions of clients in how well they are treated while engaged in treatment.

C. Funding for MRSS

HCMHRSB has received notice of a future funding award to initiate planning and implementation for future Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS). MRSS is a home and community-based stabilization service that is designed to de-escalate crises for youth (under the age of 21) experiencing emotional symptoms, behaviors, or traumatic circumstances that have compromised their ability to function within their family, living situation, school, or community. MRSS is designed to respond within 60 minutes to a family-defined crisis and services may be offered for up to 6 weeks. The project is being funded based upon a proposal submitted in partnership with NewPath in 2021.

D. Pilot Planning Project for the AAEW and Jail-Based Services

The Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition African American Engagement Workgroup (AAEW) has proposed a program to provide community-based SUD team outreach, engagement, and retention services to high-risk individuals with OUD in ten faith-based/church communities in Hamilton County. The program will facilitate delivery of MAT services and overdose prevention through education, treatment referrals and warm hand-offs to treatment providers as well as recovery support services. Teams will also provide stigma reduction in communities to improve access to evidence-based treatment and recovery supports. Talbert House is the lead agency working with Crossroads, PreventionFIRST! and UMADAOP to provide the community services.

Additionally, the Healing Community Studies is funding a pilot project at the Hamilton County Justice Center identifying individuals who have an OUD, providing access to MAT and connecting them to ongoing treatment in the community. Addiction Services Council is providing services in the jail for this project. Both projects will be funded through June 2022.

V. Opportunity for Public Comments

- A. Gwen Jones, CEO of Central Community Health Board, announced her resignation effective February 18, 2022.
- B. John McLellan (Prospect House) announced that David Logan, CEO at Prospect House, will retire effective February 15, 2022.

VI. Finance Committee:

A. December 2021 Financial Statements

Anna Dowell reviewed line items for the period.

Revenue: Block Grant (BG) Funds increased by \$1.1M.

Expenses: Agency provider contract payments totaled \$10.6M in payments to agencies during the months of November and December; \$10M (94.04%) were for CY 2021 and \$634K (5.96%) were for CY 2020.

B. Action Items

1. Family Access to Integrated Recovery/CANS

Since 2010, the Hamilton County Department of Job and Family Services (JFS) and the Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (HCMHR SB) have been partners in the Family Access to Integrated Recovery (FAIR) project. Hamilton County Job and Family Services has requested a new position be added to the FAIR staff to address changes in Ohio's requirements for serving families and children involved with the child welfare system.

The Finance Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase of \$60,000 to Central Clinic/MHAP through December 2022.

The total increase of \$60,000 will be funded from the FAIR budget.

Motion Approved

2. FAIR Services and Supports Funding

Hamilton County Department of Job and Family Services (HCJFS) and the Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (HCMHR SB) developed the Family Access to Integrated Recovery (FAIR) program to provide integrated behavioral health access and care management for shared core customers in need of mental health and substance abuse services. Over the past several years, referrals to the FAIR project have exhibited increased clinical needs necessitating additional services and supports.

The Finance Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase of \$40,000 to Central Clinic/MHAP for the period through December, 2021.

100% of this project will be funded from the FAIR budget.

Motion Approved

3. Mobile Crisis Team Expansion

HCMHR SB needs to provide sustainability funding for CY 2022 for the Mobile Crisis Expansion that was initially funded through an OHMHAS Crisis Infrastructure grant.

The Finance Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase of \$186,856 to Central Clinic Outpatient Services to be used for the Mobile Crisis Team through December 2022.

This increase will be funded with Mental Health Levy funds.

Motion Approved

4. PATH Grant

HCMHR SB contracts with Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services (GCBHS) to implement the Projects for Assistance Through Transition from Homelessness (PATH) program. PATH serves homeless individuals and those at risk of becoming homeless, who have serious mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in Hamilton County. Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) funds this program and has allocated additional funding for Hamilton County from SFY 2021.

The Finance Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase of \$8,000 to GCBHS' PATH allocation through June 30, 2022.

An increase of \$6,000 will be funded by OhioMHAS and a match of \$2,000 will be funded by the Hamilton County Mental Health Levy.

Motion Approved

5. Special Docket Funds

HCMHR SB was awarded an additional \$75,000 in funding for SFY 2022 from Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) to assist Specialized Dockets certified by the Ohio Supreme Court to serve clients in the community through the provision of treatment and recovery support services.

The Finance Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase of \$75,000 in funding for Hamilton County Juvenile Court covering the period through June 30, 2022.

100% of this project will be funded by OhioMHAS.

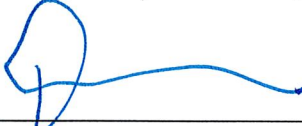
Motion Approved

VII. Other:

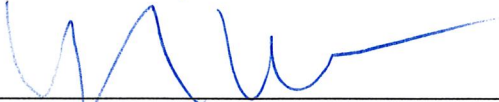
- A. Mr. Tribbe noted that Bennett Cooper, former president of the Central Community Health Board, passed away on January 16, 2022.

B. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Gabelman
Chair



Mary Ellen Malas
Secretary