

# HAMILTON COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES BOARD

## Minutes of the Board of Trustees

Thursday, February 16, 2023

### I. Call to Order:

- A. The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order (Gabelman) at 8:39 a.m.

### II. Attendance:

- A. Board Members Present: Thomas Gabelman (Chair); Matt Curoe; Gwen DiMeo; Sandra Driggins-Smith; Linda McKenzie; Gary Powell; Jonathan Steinberg, Ph.D.; Ashlee Young
- B. Board Members Absent: Traci Henry (Exc.); Gregory Hogg (Exc.); Mary Ellen Malas (Exc.); Christine Wilder, M.D. (Exc.)
- C. Staff Members Present: 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 January 19, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting.

**Motion Approved**

### IV. Education Report:

- A. Jonathan Steinberg, Ph.D., presented the topic of therapist empathy. This presentation summarized an article by T. B. Moyers and W. R. Miller entitled "Is Low Therapist Empathy Toxic?" The article reviewed literature linking therapist empathy to outcomes in treatment of alcohol use disorders and suggests the link is so robust that therapists should be prescreened for empathy when hired.

### V. President's Report:

#### A. State of the State

During the State of the State address on January 31, Governor DeWine announced the creation of a new cabinet-level agency called the "Department of Children and Youth," which will consolidate programs from six different state agencies. OhioMHAS Director Lori Criss followed the Governor's presentation with an overview of the State's behavioral health priorities for the SFY '24-'25 period. Director Criss also announced that the Department would be increasing state hospital capacity in Ohio by 75 beds with 56 of those located in Columbus.

#### B. Ohio Medicaid Enterprise System Update

After implementing its new Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) system on February 1, 2023, the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) has not been able to provide its partners with a Medicaid electronic remittance advice or an eligibility response file. This directly affects provider claim reimbursements as members' Medicaid spans will not be able to be updated, and the HCMHRBSB will be billed for spans when the member may have been eligible for Medicaid. HCMHRBSB continues to monitor the system and submit tickets to ODM until all issues are resolved.

### **C. Community Priorities**

HCMHR SB conducted a needs assessment last year and identified five priority needs in the community: Housing Services, Crisis Services, Workforce Support, Suicide Prevention, and Vocational Services. Staff have reviewed several proposals that could be implemented immediately through agencies, including: implementing intensive, evidenced-based models to engage and support individuals who are chronically homeless; addressing the needs of homeless transition-aged youth with housing supports; supporting follow up crisis services in the community; supporting crisis coordination for high risk populations; developing a full crisis continuum with receiving, crisis stabilization and urgent care models; supporting workforce efforts for agencies; and funding an individual to spearhead Suicide Prevention efforts county wide. Other projects will require ongoing discussion with agencies and stakeholders prior to implementation.

### **VI. Opportunity for Public Comments**

- A.** Gloria Walker, NAMI Urban Greater Cincinnati, mentioned Family-to-Family training is every Tuesday evening. Family-to-Family is a free 8-week course for family caregivers of individuals living with mental illness.
- B.** Neil Tillow, Talbert House, asked for an update on finding new space for Talbert since the sale of the ADAS Center. Gary Powell, chair of our Building Committee, will work on scheduling a building committee meeting and including Neil.
- C.** Laura Mitchell spoke briefly on how Beech Acres Parenting Center is taking a prevention approach by partnering with sports and youth organizations, as well as mentoring organizations.

### **VII. Finance Committee:**

#### **A. January 2023 Financial Statements**

Anna Dowell reviewed line items for the period.

Revenue: State General Revenue Funds increased by \$1.1M.

Expenses: Agency provider contract payments totaled \$2.9M during the month of January; \$175K (6%) were for CY 2023 services and \$2.7M (94%) were for CY 2022 services.

#### **B. Action Items**

##### **1. SFY 2023 Community Transition Program (CTP) Allocation Adjustments**

Claims for services provided during CY 2022, which includes the first half of SFY 2023, have been submitted by agencies and processed. Some agencies did not use all their available allocations for that period. Board of Trustees action is necessary to increase allocations to agencies exhibiting higher levels of service demand that will require additional funding to meet those needs.

The Finance Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase to the following agencies for funding covering the period through June 30, 2023.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Proposed Increase</b>
Central Clinic MHAP	\$17,220.95
Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health	52,879.22
Talbert House	5,152.88
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$75,253.05</b>

The funding source is unspent SFY 2023 OhioMHAS CTP funding.

**Motion Approved**

## **2. SFY 2023 Multisystem Adult (MSA) Allocation Adjustments**

Claims for services provided during CY 2022, which includes the first half of SFY 2023, have been submitted by agencies and processed. Some agencies did not use all their available allocations for that period. Board of Trustees action is necessary to increase allocations to agencies exhibiting higher levels of service demand that will require additional funding to meet those needs.

The Finance Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase of \$88,408.91 to Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health for funding covering the period through June 30, 2023.

The funding source is unspent SFY 2023 OhioMHAS MSA funding.

**Motion Approved**

## **3. Hospital Access Fund**

HCMHRBSB has received an additional \$33,600 from OhioMHAS for indigent patient care at local hospitals.

The Finance Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase of \$33,600 to Central Clinic MHAP to be used for the Hospital Access program beginning January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023.

100% of this allocation increase will be funded by OhioMHAS.

**Motion Approved**

## **VIII. Other:**

- A.** There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas Gabelman  
Chair

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Mary Ellen Malas  
Secretary