

# HAMILTON COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES BOARD

## Minutes of the Board of Trustees

Thursday, February 15, 2024

### I. Call to Order

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

### II. Attendance

- A. Board Members Present: Thomas Gabelman (Chair); Gwen DiMeo; Sandra Driggins-Smith; Gregory Hogg; Linda McKenzie; Jonathan Steinberg, Ph.D.; Christine Wilder, M.D.
- B. Board Members Absent: Gary Powell (Vice-Chair) (Exc.); Ashlee Young (Secretary) (Exc.); Matt Curoe (Exc.); Traci Henry (Exc.)
- C. Staff Members Present: LaNora Godfrey; Linda Gallagher; Jenny Heizman; Steve Rokich; Denise Garrett; Ann Briccio

### III. Approval of Minutes

- A. A motion was made (Gabelman) to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting.

**Motion Approved**

### IV. President's Report

#### 1. Family Services and Treatment Levy

The renewal of the Family Services and Treatment (FS&T) Levy is currently under review for inclusion on the November 2024 ballot. This levy serves to fund various initiatives including prison re-entry programs, jail-based treatment services, neighborhood-based prevention programs aimed at curbing teenage substance abuse, as well as supporting the local Drug Court and Recovery Court by providing alternatives to incarceration through treatment options.

#### 2. Hamilton County Crisis Center

ARPA funding has been procured for the renovation and design of a Behavioral Health Crisis Center located at 510 Oak Street. It will be a collaborative effort with law enforcement, Talbert House, and GCB, with a shared pharmacy and a primary care clinic.

This Crisis Center will allow for streamlined intervention to better meet the needs of individuals in crisis, provide coordination of care with system partners, and improve communication to address multi-system high utilizers.

#### 3. The African American Engagement Workgroup Promotes Access to Treatment

The AAEW has developed a campaign that educates barbershop and beauty salon owners as a means of promoting resources for access to substance use disorder treatment. The Trimming the Stigma kick-off date was February 14, 2024 with 33 salons participating. February was chosen because it is Black History Month, an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history.

**V. Opportunity for Public Comments**

A. None

**VI. Mental Health and Addiction Services Committee**

**A. Action Items**

**1. Jail Based Treatment FS&T Funding**

Family Service Treatment Levy funds have been allocated for the Jail-Based Treatment program, a treatment program for men and women who are either convicted of a drug and/or alcohol related offense by either the Hamilton County Municipal or Common Pleas Courts or are pre-sentenced detainees who agree to participate in consideration of future pretrial release.

The MHAS Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase to the Talbert House CY 2024 contract in the amount of \$950,000.

100% of this project will be funded by FS&T Levy funds.

**Motion Approved**

**2. BH School Wellness Coordinator**

HCMHRSB was awarded funding from OhioMHAS to build capacity in school staff who can assist in improving access and availability of evidenced-based behavioral health promotion, prevention and early intervention practices as well as coordinate efforts to plan for, implement and sustain a student assistance program and staff wellness framework.

The MHAS Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase of \$27,500 to PreventionFIRST! and \$27,500 to Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services covering the period through June 30, 2024.

100% of this project will be funded by OhioMHAS.

**Motion Approved**

**3. Special Docket Funds**

HCMHRSB was awarded \$45,000 in funding for SFY 2024 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 MHAS Committee recommends the Board of Trustees approve an increase of \$15,000 to Central Clinic and \$30,000 to Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health in funding, covering the period through June 30, 2024.

100% of this project will be funded by OhioMHAS.

**Motion Approved**

**VII. Finance Committee**

**A. January 2024 Financial Statements**

Steve Rokich reviewed line items for the period.

State General Revenue Funds increased by \$670K. Block Grant Funds increased by \$1.3M. Inter-County Revenue increased by \$217K.

Expenses: Agency provider contract payments totaled \$4.2M during the month of January; \$371K (9%) were for CY 2024 and \$3.8M (91%) were for CY 2023.

**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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Ashlee Young  
Secretary