

LAKE COUNTY ADAMHS BOARD

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, February 26, 2024

5:30 p.m.

Lake County ADAMHS Board, 9237 Mentor Ave, Unit B, Mentor

Ms. Torres Gonzalez called the meeting to order 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Acting Chair – Amber Torres Gonzalez

Dave Enzerra	Mike Hatton
Curtis Lau	Nicole Parker
Marty Phillips	Jeff Taylor
Matt Sabo	Beverly Schilero
William Wilson	

Members Excused:

Carl Dondorfer	Roberta Kalb
Stacy Kramer	Pam Kurt

Staff Present:

Kim Fraser, Executive Director
Jackie Bruner, Director of Business Operations
Dan Rowles, Director of Quality & Clinical Operations
Kelly Tuttle, Secretary & Receptionist
Milica Fiedler, Staff Accountant

MINUTES OF MEETING:

Mr. Phillips moved to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2024 regular Board meeting as mailed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sabo and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-056)

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ms. Fraser reported that correspondence was received from Dr. Browner about his positive experience working with the ADAMHS system. Lakeland Community College handled a student mental health situation this week that was complex and acute in nature. In the process of this he interacted with Danette from the Compass Line, Connie and Ty from the Crisis Hotline, Chelsea and Ariana from Mobile Crisis, Briana the Behavioral Health Liaison and Sandra from the ADAMHS Board. In handling this case everyone was helpful, responsive and communicative. He feels fortunate to work in Lake County where the ADAMHS Board and its agencies work closely and diligently with Lakeland to ensure the safety and well-being of their students.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Ms. Fiedler read the financial report of Board operations for the month of January, 2024 as follows:

Beginning Cash Balance	\$3,357,280.35
Plus: Cash Receipts for the Month	\$ 956,541.89
Total to Account For	\$4,313,822.24
Minus: Cash Disbursements for the Month	\$1,879,864.04
Ending Period Adjustments	\$ 0.00
Ending Cash Journal Balance	\$2,433,958.20

Mr. Sabo moved to accept the financial report for the month of January as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lau and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-057)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS & INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS:

Guests were welcomed and invited to comment on any agenda items.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Fraser stated that the Board retreat will be rescheduled on Monday, March 18th. The Board meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. and the retreat will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Fraser advised that the Request for Proposal (RFP) will be brought before the Board in March. If it is approved, it will be published by noon on March 19, 2024. The Board chair has expressed that we take recommendations before the Board in May instead of June so that it gives provider agencies time to know in advance what services the Board will be investing in.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Torres Gonzalez reported that the Executive Committee met prior to the Board meeting and the following agenda items were discussed:

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Ms. Parker moved that the full Board authorize the Executive Director to issue 120-day notice of contract non-renewal to all current non-Medicaid contract service providers by March 1, 2024. Providers include: Bridges, Catholic Charities, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, Crossroads Health, Extended Housing, Family Pride, Fine Arts Association, Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers, Lifeline, NAMI Lake County, Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare, Signature Health, Torchlight Youth Mentoring Services, University Hospitals/Lake Health, Windsor-Laurelwood, and WomenSafe. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lau and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-058)

Ms. Fraser noted under the Ohio Revised Code, a non-renewal notice must be sent out before the contract expires. This is a formality and the Board is required to do so each year.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mr. Sabo moved that the full Board approve the General & Professional Liability Insurance and the Directors and Officers Insurance as recommended by the Executive Director. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hatton and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-059)

Ms. Fraser stated Philadelphia Indemnity is recommending that we maintain the same coverage which is typical with all Boards across the state. We will receive a separate quote for cyber insurance; currently covered through another carrier through 10/24.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Ms. Parker moved that the full Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into a non-Medicaid contract with Amber Stiles-Bodnar Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$144,000 for the provision of Eye Movement Sensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) Training for Lake, Lorain, Geauga and Ashtabula Counties. Funding will cover training, consultation and supplies. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hatton and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-060)

Ms. Fraser stated that this is an intervention which is used for PTSD and survivors of trauma. We have a number of clinicians in the county that are certified but all of our agencies have waiting lists for EMDR which is an exceptional service. The Lake County ADAMHS Board submitted a proposal to OhioMHAS for the NE Collaborative to provide this training (except Cuyahoga and Summit which are large enough to do their own trainings.) This will allow us to train 100 clinicians in the region.

EVALUATION/QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:

Mr. Enzerra reported that the Evaluation/Quality Improvement Committee met on February 12th and the following agenda items were discussed:

Quality Improvement Review of NAMI Lake County Mr. Selker presented a power point on the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) which is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental health conditions.

NAMI's Education programs include: NAMI Basics, Family to Family, Homefront, Peer to Peer and Return to Hope. NAMI Support Groups include: NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group and a Family Support Group. They are both peer-led and confidential. NAMI also provides the presentation 'Ending the Silence' which is an engaging presentation that helps audience members learn about the warning signs of mental health conditions.

Mr. Selker reviewed NAMI Lake County's accomplishments which included: two new community funded events (Ending the Stigma charity car show and Cleveland Musicians fundraiser), community partnerships, and program growth (NAMI Connections 112% increase, NAMI Family Support 18% increase and Ending the Silence 36% increase).

Mr. Selker reviewed NAMI Lake County strengths which included a strong volunteer base and increased community engagement. Some weaknesses included competitive wage gap and an aging volunteer base.

Mr. Rowles reviewed the agency's QI plan. It is in compliance with their certification through OhioMHAS and it is his recommendation that we approve their plan.

On behalf of the Evaluation/Quality Improvement Committee, Mr. Enzerra moved that the full Board accept NAMI Lake County's Quality Improvement Plan. The motion was seconded by Ms. Parker and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-061)

Quality Improvement Review of Crossroads Health Ms. Thomas and Ms. Seifreit shared a power point on Crossroads Health reviewing the history of the agency, locations and services provided. Crossroads Health achieved notable milestones including recertification with the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services, licensure for North Coast House, re-accreditation with the Joint Commission and securing look-alike status for their Health Center.

Ms. Thomas highlighted intakes and walk-in assessments. Since SFY23 they have revised their intake call process to have 100% of calls answered by staff with the ability to transfer to intake for triage need. They raised the number of adults coming in for walk-in assessments being seen from 79% to 86% and expanded walk-in services for youth; raising the average being seen from 79% to 90%.

Ms. Thomas reviewed the Supported Employment program; noting that the program collaborates with individuals to understand their interests and identifies potential obstacles to enhance their preparedness for the employment journey. Crossroads Health received an Exemplary Fidelity score by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. There are currently 71 active clients in the program with 34 clients currently employed. The average years on the job for a client is 1.28 years.

Ms. Thomas gave an overview of Lake County Crisis Services which are available to all Lake County residents; just not Crossroads Health clients. The Lake County Crisis Hotline operates 24/7 and take calls from residents in a crisis. They offer short-term intervention, telephone crisis management, suicide prevention/intervention,

linkage to psychiatric/medical services, supportive listening and follow-up calls. The Lake County Mobile Crisis team provides preventative (community outreach), acute crisis (crisis assessment, intervention and planning) and post crisis follow-up (contacts, post crisis stabilization).

Mr. Rowles has reviewed the agency's QI plan. It is in compliance with their certification through OhioMHAS and it is his recommendation that we approve their plan.

On behalf of the Evaluation/Quality Improvement Committee, Mr. Enzerra moved that the full Board accept Crossroads Health's Quality Improvement Plan. Seconded by Ms. Schilero the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-062)

Board members thanked both agencies for their informative presentations.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, March 11, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Signature Health in Willoughby

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Parker reported that the Operations Committee met on February 13th and the following agenda items were discussed:

State Updates Ms. Fraser stated that the new director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services, LeeAnne Cornyn, has been holding meetings with the regional collaborative; discussing areas of where we are doing well and where extra support might be needed. She seems eager to learn and listen.

Ms. Fraser learned that the state is going to apply for the next round of State Opiate Stimulant Response (SOS) funding. OhioMHAS will submit an application at the federal level. Funding will begin in September 2024 after applications are submitted at the Board level. We have received \$1.074 million dollars and have become dependent on it. The state is asking our input on parameters and we hope that we can use the funding more broadly. As the opiate epidemic has evolved; we need less money for opiates and more for methamphetamine and polysubstance abuse.

Ms. Fraser reported the state is looking at the housing continuum. They have developed a toolkit and are implementing standardization of recovery housing. Lake County has a robust housing continuum. Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers operates five recovery houses that are all certified by the state. The state is mandating all recovery houses become certified. The Board has taken a stance to only contract for recovery houses that are attached to a community behavioral health provider agency so individuals have access to recovery services.

Ms. Fraser noted that HB 344 would eliminate the ability to place a replacement levy on the ballot. Legislators feel the language attached to replacement levies is misleading. It allows voters to believe there is no increase in their taxes.

Ms. Fraser advised that she is tracking Substitute Bill 105 that was introduced by Senator Johnson. Last spring prior to the biennium budget we were looking at new language around 340 that legislates how ADAMHS Boards function. Some changes were enacted in the biennium budget and some were not. Senator Johnson's bill would reintroduce some of those changes in terms of how we contract, the Boards ability to have a credit card, and a number of other things introduced previously.

Ms. Fraser stated the legislation regarding remote meetings is currently being held up by the Senate President. He wants to be sure that it would not violate any citizens ability to hear what is happening in terms of fiscal changes.

Ms. Fraser reported that she and Ms. Bruner spent two days in Columbus recently. They went through a training with the Ohio Ethics Commission that was exceptional. They are looking at potentially bringing the training to NE Ohio for the region. They also had a training with the Auditor of State staff. The Auditor of State partners with the Board Association to create a Behavioral Health Handbook every 10-years that includes rules and regulations that govern Board members and staff. She will send the handbook to Board members. State updates were informational and no committee action was required.

RFP Planning Process Ms. Fraser announced Request for Proposals (RFP) will be brought before the Board in March. Agencies have the opportunity to submit proposals in April/May and then Board staff goes through a thorough process and makes recommendations to the Board for contracts. A number of factors impact recommendations for the RFP's which include quarterly operations meetings with provider staff, the community plan and fiscal realities.

Ms. Fraser stated that 2nd Quarter Operations Meetings have been completed with all network providers. Ms. Bruner, Mr. Rowles and she met with provider staff looking at fiscal and clinical outcomes; where there are challenges, etc. She noted that nearly all of the agencies and programs have exceeded their outcomes expectations noting the following:

- Bridges is working on addressing no show rates which has been an issue since post-COVID.
- UH/Lake Health are tracking individuals who test positive for amphetamines and tracking the correlation between drug induced psychosis and admissions.
- WomenSafe's clients are made up of 30% Lake County residents. Of these clients; 30% are indigent.
- Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers outcomes tracking is exceptional.
- Windsor-Laurelwood is collaborating with community partners more aggressively. Medicaid is moving to a per diem rate so the hospital will realize more revenue than with the current DRG rate.
- NAMI will be sunsetting the Homefront Program for veterans which they were not able to get off the ground.
- Torchlight Youth Mentoring is looking at a potential partnership with Juvenile Court; expanding on the foster care program.
- Signature Health is looking at a more comprehensive screening for anyone coming in for an intake. If an individual comes in for behavioral health treatment they will go through the initial screening then will get a warm handoff to a physical health provider. They started this recently and it is being well received. They noted that 60% of individuals are not linked to physical health care. If someone does not want a health screen they do not have to receive it. They also started dental services today.
- After meeting with Crossroads Health, we have identified some potential reductions due to their increased Medicaid revenue. Going into the new RFP we will pay special attention to criminal justice and school-based programming, updating language and service specs so that they are more inline with representing the continuum of services.
- Extended Housing has begun to meet monthly with clinical agencies to identify challenges with individuals in their properties so they are aware of individuals who are decompensating.

Ms. Fraser reported that the community plan submitted to the state is used heavily as we look at what services and supports we need in the new fiscal year.

- Mandated populations include pregnant women with substance use disorders and parents with substance use disorders with dependent children.
- Local priorities include expansion of peer supporters and harm reductions (naloxone kits distribution).
- Data notes that stuck out were illicit drug use statistics have decreased significantly in some studies; likely due to legalization of non-medical marijuana and while there is no new data for adult depression rates it has probably increased as evidenced by increased suicide rates in Lake County.
- Top challenges for adults: illicit drug use, suicide deaths and drug overdose deaths.

- Top challenges for youth: alcohol use, illicit drug use, and children in out of place placement due to parental SUD.
- Disparity populations include: older adults, criminal just involved, veterans, uninsured and minority populations.
- Service Gaps include: crisis services, mental health workforce and SUD workforce.

Ms. Fraser reviewed fiscal realities as follows:

- The goal is to be on the ballot in November, 2024 with a renewal which is no increase in the actual collection cost.
- Indigent Hospital funds: currently the state hospital is over 95% forensic.
- Challenging funds: access to wellness, AUD (alcohol use disorder) and ATP (addiction treatment program).
- Single Line for ADAMHS Boards in the state budget which currently exists for DD Boards. We went from 26 funding streams in FY14 to 39 in FY24.

The RFP Planning process was informational and no committee action was required.

Other

Ms. Fraser noted that final line-item requests are due to the Board by April 3rd and will be taken through the April Board meeting.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, April 9, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at the Lake County ADAMHS Board

*As the **LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE** did not meet since the last full Board meeting, the Board moved on to the next agenda item*

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Lau asked about any updates on the levy. Ms. Fraser stated that the levy will be discussed at the Long-Range Planning Committee meeting on Wednesday and an update will be brought before the Board in March.

NEW BUSINESS:

Payment of Bills Mr. Lau moved that the Board approve the February bills totaling \$1,359,450.61 be paid as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Enzerra and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-063)

GOOD OF THE GROUP:

Board members that attended WomenSafe's fundraiser had a good time and complimented the event.

As there was no further business, Mr. Sabo moved for adjournment at 5:50 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (23-064)

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Torres Gonzalez
Acting Chair

Nicole Parker
Secretary