

**LAKE COUNTY ADAMHS BOARD**

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 22, 2024

6:00 p.m.

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

Ms. Kalb called the meeting to order 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members Present: Chair – Roberta Kalb

Dave Enzerra	Stacy Kramer
Pam Kurt	Curtis Lau
Marty Phillips	Jeff Taylor
Matt Sabo	Beverly Schilero
Amber Torres Gonzalez	William Wilson

Members Excused:

Carl Dondorfer	Nicole Parker
Mike Hatton	

Staff Present:

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

Guests:

Carol Casey	Bridges	Melanie Blasko	Lake-Geauga
Damir Pavicic	Bridges	Joanna Mannon	NAMI
Michelle Bertman	Catholic Charities	Megan Zielinski	Signature Health
Shayna Jackson	Crossroads Health	Tia Lawrence	Torchlight
Angi Daugherty	Family Pride	Michelle Giancola	Windsor-Laurelwood
Ann Radcliffe	Fine Arts Association	Andrea Gutka	WomenSafe
Charles Tong	Lake-Geauga		

**MINUTES OF MEETING:**

Mr. Phillips moved to accept the minutes of the December 18, 2023 regular Board meeting as mailed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sabo and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-044)

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

There was no correspondence to report.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Ms. Fiedler read the financial report of Board operations for the month of December, 2023 as follows:

Beginning Cash Balance .....	\$4,496,427.65
Plus: Cash Receipts for the Month .....	\$ 118,672.86
Total to Account For .....	\$4,615,100.51
Minus: Cash Disbursements for the Month .....	\$1,257,820.16
Ending Period Adjustments	\$ 0.00
Ending Cash Journal Balance .....	\$3,357,280.35

Mr. Sabo moved to accept the financial report for the month of December as read. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kurt and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-045)

### **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 reported that effective at the end of the month Lake ADAMHS will have a new landlord. There is a solid 10-year lease in place that has been approved by the Prosecutor's office.

Ms. Fraser reported that the Board recently sponsored Torchlight's Festival of Trees Event and Catholic Charities Family of Promise's Holiday Party event at the Central YMCA. There is a list of events coming up in your Board packets if you are interested in attending.

Ms. Fraser stated the Board raised awareness through a binge drinking and suicide prevention that was data driven. Another campaign is scheduled for the spring. Lake County's heavy drinking rate is 8.1%. Ohio's average is 6.5%. In terms of binge drinking, Lake County's rate is 19.5% compared to the state's 16% average. The national average is 19%. In teens; Lake County's rate was 12.9% compared to the state's 12.6% average. The national average is 10.5%. Lake County trends higher than the state and nationally in binge and heavy drinking. For this comprehensive campaign the Board purchased 5,000 coasters to distribute to 25 restaurants locally. The coaster had two sides; one side had binge drinking information and the other had suicide prevention information. Ms. Fraser gave a shout out to Mr. Schick for this comprehensive campaign. There were over 2.7 million impressions in December.

Mr. Lau asked who was surveyed on binge drinking. Ms. Fraser stated that there is a wide demographic by which the information is received.

Mr. Sabo asked what the reception was at restaurants for the coaster campaign? Mr. Schick shared that they targeted non-chain establishments knowing that they would have a more personal connection. There was follow-up on how it was going and the coasters were cycled through quickly due to the busy holiday season. The goal is to continue the distribution of coaster by doing another campaign in the spring.

Ms. Fraser gave mid-year updates as follows:

- New-Funding/New Resources
  - State Opiate and Stimulant Response (1.07 million) for the continuation/expansion of services including inpatient, jail based and community based. This was awarded to five provider agencies and 100% of funds go directly to the provider.
  - ARPA – American Rescue Plan Act (3.5 million) for the Everett Center (16-bed residential treatment) and North Coast House (relocation/expansion of 16-bed residential facility). Two providers were directly impacted to provide residential treatment which is a value to the community.
  - Medicaid Rate Increase – On January 1<sup>st</sup> there was a 12.75% increase in the Medicaid rate for outpatient clinical services. This will increase the Lake ADAMHS annual non-Medicaid investment by \$510,000. We match the Medicaid rate in non-Medicaid services. Eight provider agencies will be directly impacted and when contracting in SFY25 it is something Board staff will take into consideration.
- New/Expanded Partnerships

- Cleveland Clinic (Mentor) – Since they do not have a 24/7 psychiatric crisis specialist the board has set up a crisis service protocol in the emergency department so that referrals to board funded services are appropriately directed to UH. In the future, there may be a need for a potential behavioral health liaison in the emergency department. Currently the Cleveland Clinic in Mentor has a couple of individuals each week seeking help that are in crisis.
- University Hospitals Geriatric Psych Unit in Concord – The facility is currently half rehab and half geriatric beds. There are currently discussions that the 20-bed facility be opened up to a full adult inpatient psychiatric care unit. This would be another potential for board funded beds in the future to use as an alternative to Windsor-Laurelwood or the state hospital.
- Partnership with Lake County Public Schools – Ms. Fraser has met individually with all superintendents to assess current services and to identify opportunities moving forward.

Mr. Lau asked why the Board is paying for crisis services in University Hospital? Ms. Fraser stated that the board has a statutory requirement to provide crisis intervention services to anyone who is in an acute behavioral crisis. It is not the hospitals responsibility. If we did not have psychiatric social services in the emergency departments the hospitals would revert to telehealth. Having a face to face assessment to help identify the appropriate disposition is always going to be the superior level of care. The hospital is also bringing dollars to this service; the program is just under the board's ownership.

Ms. Kramer noted that as a provider in Lake County she has utilized these crisis services. It is a gift to be able to refer to a specific location where she knows they are going to get an in person crisis intervention instead of telehealth which leads to recidivism.

- Task Forces/Coalition
  - Opiate Task Force – Preliminary data received was that there were 40 confirmed overdose deaths in 2023. That is about a 50 percent reduction from 2022. There was an increase in African Americans and females who overdosed. 90% of the overdose deaths involved fentanyl. There has been a significant increase in methamphetamine in Lake County. This is not just in Lake County; we are hearing these trends state wide. This is cartel meth; not kitchen lab meth. There has been an increase of those presenting to the ED with psychosis that is drug induced. Board staff will be working with providers to come up with strategies to treat these individuals.
    - There is an Opiate Task Force newsletter included in board packets.
  - Impact of Legalized non-Medical Cannabis – We are in a state of limbo in terms of the rules and when they will be enacted for legalized cannabis. We do know that the medical marijuana control program will continue and that the initiated statute includes a 10% excise tax and will include revenue for the behavioral health system. There are no rules in place yet. Employers can continue to require drug free work place. The ADAMHS handbook includes a completely drug free work place.
  - Suicide Prevention Coalition – In Lake County there were 39 confirmed suicides in 2023. In 2022 there were 25 and in 2021 there were 48. 92% were males and the average age was 48. 97% were Caucasian and the majority of deaths were self-inflicted gunshot wounds or by hanging. Ms. Tenkku is exploring best practices with regional coalitions.
  - Veterans Collaborative – Lake ADAMHS was the initial convener of this group. Going forward Sub-Zero Mission has agreed to serve as the leader of this group. Their focus has broadened to not only provide material support but also connect veterans with vital services and resources. We are still an active member of this group.

- Diversity/Equity and Inclusion Workgroup – Lake ADAMHS has headed this the last couple of years. We decided it made sense to change leadership on an annual basis and have asked provider agencies who want to step up to lead this group to do so bringing new perspectives.
- Looking Ahead...
  - SFY2025 Request for Proposal – The RFP will be brought before the Board for their approval at the March 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The Board has been deficit financing which is intentional and planful. Board staff will be asking provider agencies to invest less dollars for programs that are underproduced. They can also come back and request additional dollars later if the program starts to produce more units. Board staff will be recommending to eliminate the vacant position of Program Manager from our table of organization to be part of the solution getting as much money out to services as possible.
  - SFY2025 Contract – The Board Association has developed a template to use as a standard contract across all Ohio counties. This is an opportunity for Boards to get more standardized and will also help provider's who contract with multiple counties. The prosecutor is currently reviewing the document.
  - Board Retreat – The Board Retreat will be held on Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. The Board meeting will begin at 5:30 and the retreat will follow immediately after from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Ms. DeMitro from United Way Lake County will facilitate.
  - Levy Planning – The ballot will be crowded in 2024 but the only cost associated would be the campaign. If the Board were to go on the ballot in the spring of 2025, the cost would be approximately \$360,000 to open precincts plus the cost of the campaign. In the fall of 2025, there might be one or two other issues and the cost would be approximately \$133,000 to open precincts plus the cost of the campaign. This information is from the Board of Elections. The fall of 2024 would make the most sense not using taxpayer funds and running a grassroots campaign. After March 19<sup>th</sup> we will approach the commissioners about being on the ballot. Jack DeSario was our levy consultant on the last three campaigns and has been used by other social service agencies.
  - FOLA - Celebrity Art Auction – The auction is scheduled on Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at St. Noel's in Willoughby Hills. If Board members are interested in being an artist, please contact Ms. Fraser.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Ms. Torres Gonzalez moved that the full Board enter into a SFY2024 Non-Medicaid contract with Torchlight Youth Mentoring for an amount not to exceed \$7,199.80 for capital. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kurt and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-047)

Ms. Fraser noted that the request includes five personal computers, support for five computers, a laptop, printer and scanner. They are currently sharing computers which are out of date.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mr. Sabo moved that the full Board approve the Fatality Review Committee Policies and Procedures as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-048)

Ms. Fraser noted the policies and procedures have been reviewed by the Opiate Task Force committee. It will be an overdose and suicide fatality combined review board.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Ms. Kurt moved that the full Board to enter into a SFY2024 Non-Medicaid contract with Crossroads Health for an amount not to exceed \$38,094 for the Juvenile Court Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lau and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-049)

Ms. Fraser stated that local funding will be used for the program. Mr. Lau noted that he spoke with Judge DeLeone who is impressed with the Board and Ms. Fraser and the work that they do.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Ms. Torres Gonzalez moved that the full Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into contract with Petra Business Solutions on behalf of the Lake-Geauga-Ashtabula Regional Crisis Center Team, for Senior Project Manager services, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Enzerra and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-050)

Ms. Fraser noted the motion is pending a written agreement with Lake Health Foundation to provide full allocation of funding for the regional crisis stabilization center.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mr. Sabo moved that the full Board enter into a SFY2024 Non-Medicaid grant type contract with Extended Housing for an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for match funding for the ODOB Supportive Housing Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lau and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-051)

Ms. Fraser stated that is OhioMHAS pass-thru funding through the Ohio Department of Development.

#### **EVALUATION/QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Mr. Enzerra reported that the Evaluation/Quality Improvement Committee met on January 8th and the following agenda items were discussed:

Quality Improvement Review of Extended Housing Ms. McLeod shared Extended Housing's mission which is to prevent and end homelessness for individuals in Lake County with serious mental illness. She also shared the vision and values statement. Extended Housing offers housing services for the mentally ill which include: property acquisition, maintenance & management; housing subsidies; housing loans; projects for assistance in transition from homelessness (PATH); continuum of care; emergency housing vouchers; permanent supportive housing and housing support works.

Ms. McLeod noted that Extended Housing strengths lie with their services, culture and our coachability. They are working on their weaknesses; developing relationships with behavioral health partners, incorporating new software tools and building resource development and their community engagement department. Threats include shortage of affordable housing in Lake County and the ability to develop more housing units because of NIMBY – Not in my backyard. They hope to market their vision and continue to educate our community members one by one.

In FY23 Extended Housing's vacancy rate for owned units was 3%. Ms. McLeod reviewed each programs number of projected clients, clients served and the goals of each program. Goals were at 100% or just below for each program except a goal in the housing support program which was not attained. Many different reasons can be attributed to this; clients not following through, needed support services not in place or clients just not interested in applying for benefits.

Ms. McLeod reviewed agency highlights which included partnering with the Perry HS Service Learning Center and Leadership Lake County Community Leadership Program, the Ruby Anniversary Gala and accessing an intern from Youngstown State University.

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 Extended Housing's Quality Improvement Plan. Seconded by Mr. Lau the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-052)

Quality Improvement Review of Bridges Bridges is a non-clinical consumer operated agency that provides a variety of educational and social activities for severely mentally disabled adults through the activity center and peer outreach. Bridges is guided and directed by an active and responsive volunteer governing body. The Board is comprised of members living with a mental health challenge.

Mr. Pavicic explained Bridges service model which is orientation, socialization, topic groups, in house curriculum (personal development, wellness & me, food management program and aging) and community events. Bridges provides a positive environment and helps expand their clients comfort zone.

Mr. Pavicic shared some stats from the peer support program, activity center and recovery and wellness groups stating that peer support and the groups have seen an increase in numbers since the pandemic. The activity center numbers still have not rebounded completely.

Bridges has many community partners who provide activities for clients and speakers to reinforce the positives such as Auburn Career Center, Ohio State Ext. office, UH/Lake Health, Lake Farm Parks, Atlas Cinema, Flavors Restaurant, Wickliffe Bowling Lanes, and Mentor-on-the-Lake Putt-Putt.

Board members thanked Mr. Pavicic for his presentation which was well informed. They appreciate the respect he has garnered in the community, state legislation and locally.

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 Bridge's Quality Improvement Plan. Seconded by Mr. Sabo the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-053)

Next Meeting Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Crossroads Health

*As the **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** did not meet since the last full Board meeting,  
the Board moved on to the next agenda item*

*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:**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Payment of Bills Mr. Lau moved that the Board approve the January bills totaling \$2,763,685.44 be paid as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sabo and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-054)

**GOOD OF THE GROUP:**

Mr. Lau stated that he read in the New England Journal of Medicine that 22 school-age children pass away from fentanyl each week. Narcan is expensive. He was wondering if the Board can do anything to promote or give out Narcan. Ms. Fraser stated that the ADAMHS Board has recently become a Project Dawn Site. We are not a Narcan provider but provide fentanyl strips to provider agencies. The Health District, Signature Health, Lake-Geauga and Crossroads Health are Project Dawn sites that offer Narcan at no cost to their clients or have on site to offer to the general public. Board staff can work with the Health District to increase marketing and awareness about the availability of Narcan.

Ms. Schilero asked when working with the schools is a drug educational system involved. Ms. Fraser stated that yes, the schools have certain requirements of things that they have to teach. We make those pieces available thorough providers. It is up to the school if they want to use our resources or go a different route.

Ms. Blasko reported that Lake-Geauga's alumni association will be holding a St. Patrick's Dinner/Dance on March 15<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 p.m. at Painesville Township Park. She would love to have everyone join them.

As there was no further business, Mr. Sabo moved for adjournment at 7:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (23-055)

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Kalb  
Chair

Amber Torres Gonzalez  
Treasurer