



2337 Clermont Center Drive • Batavia, Ohio 45103  
TELEPHONE: (513) 732-5400 FAX: (513) 732-5414 TTY: 1-800-750-0750  
WEBSITE: www.ccmhrb.org CRISIS HOTLINE: (513) 528-SAVE (7283)

### MINUTES of December 12, 2016

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jacqueline Block, Suzy Carter, Karen Conrad, Greg Cottrell, Dorothy Glancy, Molly Greer, Angela Liggett, Scott Wheeler

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Richard Chaney, Lynn Jung

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Jim Carter, Amy Foley, Sandy Lock, Jeff O'Neil, Lucas Strakowski

**STAFF PRESENT:** Erica Pursley, Karen Scherra, Lee Ann Watson

1. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the agenda for the December 12, 2016 meeting. (Motion-Molly Greer, second-Angela Liggett).
2. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2016 meeting. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Jacqueline Block).
3. Review Materials/Correspondence: Executive Director, Karen Scherra, brought attention to the Correspondence folder, highlighting a letter received from Representative Brad Wenstrup, in reply to Karen's email regarding pending behavioral health related legislation. Karen also received reply letters from our federal senators regarding her letters requesting support for pending behavioral health related legislation. Karen commented that she shared the letters to show the Board members that the elected officials respond to advocacy efforts.

Karen Scherra went on to discuss several items in the Miscellaneous folder. She first brought our attention to an article on drug statistics on opioid misuse from various locations in the country. She also pointed out an OACBHA pamphlet explaining the purpose and mission of County Boards. These pamphlets have been distributed to newly elected state legislators, as well as Ohio representatives and senators at the federal level. Information about the newly expanded TIP program eligibility criteria was also included in the folder. The GCB Annual report was also included. Results of the contracted agencies' audits were highlighted. All the agencies had a clean audit, with no findings being noted.

Finally, Karen mentioned several articles in the Newspaper folder concerning addiction and heroin. The articles are beginning to have a more positive focus discussing treatment. There were also several articles discussing changes that might occur under the new Trump Administration. The recent Surgeon General's report on addiction was also included in the

folder. The report is of significance since it is the first such document to focus on addiction. Other articles highlighted included articles on drugged driving, Recovery High Schools, and a national survey on the impact of opioid abuse. The survey found that 25% of Americans know someone who has misused opioids and 20% know someone who has a problem with heroin. The survey reflects how large the opioid addiction problem is in our country. Karen reminded the Board Members to initial any item that they would like to have copied and sent to them.

4. Karen Scherra presented highlights from the Executive Director's Report. Karen shared that OMHAS has recently set up a crisis text line (text 4HOPE to 741741) that they are advertising throughout the state. The crisis text line does not provide connection to local crisis hotlines, and therefore doesn't connect to our Clermont County Crisis Hotline. Some Boards who do not have a county crisis line are embracing the new crisis line. Karen plans to meet with Child Focus, Inc. (CFI) to discuss the OMHAS crisis text line. Karen pointed out that she and Amy Foley, Director of Hope Community Center, were recently asked to speak at the OACBHA Membership meeting on peer support in Clermont County. Karen stated that our board is viewed as having a strong track record for implementing and funding peer support services. Karen was also asked to present at OACBHA's Leadership Training on December 13<sup>th</sup> on levies, based on Clermont's ability to pass an increase to our levy last year. Clermont is the first Board in three years to pass a levy increase. Board Member Scott Wheeler asked Karen her opinion on why the levy was able to pass. Karen explained that there were several factors such as Clermont residents recognizing the extent of, and being impacted by, the heroin epidemic, having the Commissioners' support, and having the support of the community. Additionally, Karen informed the Board Members that the Board was awarded the Interact for Health grant to implement a Quick Response Team in partnership with Union Township Fire Department.

Karen also informed the Board Members that the "OFFDP Center for Coordinated Assistance to States: Multi-System Collaboration Training and Technical Assistance Program" grant she submitted, with support from Juvenile Court Judge Jim Shriver, Judy Eschmann at DJFS, and Tim Dick at CPS, was awarded to the Board. Clermont was one of only six (6) sites in the country to be awarded the grant. The grant will provide technical assistance and facilitation of discussion among our systems. This is the fourth time this grant has been awarded, and Clermont will be part of the "4<sup>th</sup> Cohort" and will be able to work with the sites of the first three cohorts to learn how they improved and strengthened their collaborative efforts. CFI will also participate in the project.

Karen updated the Board on another pending project with the criminal justice system. One of the goals of the Department of Justice (DOJ) grant, which funded mobile crisis and Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for law enforcement, is the development of an integrated data base to share information between the criminal justice system and the treatment system. The DOJ grant included \$10,000 for the development of the data base. Karen shared that the plan is to pass the DOJ funding to the County, so that the County IT department can develop the data base. The data base will assist with several things: tracking the number of "mental health related" 911 calls; determining if active clients in our system are in jail; and assisting with

identifying individuals in jail who can apply for, or request reinstatement of, Medicaid prior to release.

Karen updated the Board members on treatment related legislation and funding that has recently been passed: the CARA Act and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act. It is anticipated that grant funding attached to CARA will be available starting in the next couple of months, with the initial funding focused on states. It appears that Congress is seeing the need to provide increased funding to support treatment. Karen pointed out that her Executive Director Report contains more details on pending legislation and possible changes to the ACA under the Trump Administration.

Karen told the Board members that Melissa Burke, Board Administrative Assistant/Office Manager, will be leaving her position before Christmas. Karen explained that in order to better meet the current needs of our office, the position will be changed to Office Manager/Fiscal Assistant. The position will be advertised soon, and hopefully the new employee will be here in time for the February Board meeting.

5. Scott Wheeler provided a summary of the Finance Committee meeting, which met prior to the Board of Directors meeting. Scott discussed the Department of Labor update, explaining that the proposed changes to overtime compensation have been put on hold after an injunction by a Texas Court. Karen Scherra reminded the Board members that at the November Board meeting, they had approved an additional \$20,000 in FY 2017 for CFI to assist with paying Mobile Crisis staff who now would be considered as working overtime. Karen explained that CFI's request is now pending, but funds will be allocated to the agency if the Department of Labor law does go into effect during FY 2017, and will be pro-rated based on the start date.
6. Action Items: Karen Scherra presented on the contract with Families Connected for Peer Support/Parent Support Partners. At the October Board meeting, the Board approved utilizing the second half of the Board's FCF contribution, \$32,321, to fund Families Connected through June 30, 2017. Karen reminded Board members that they had also previously approved funding Families Connected \$5,000 from returned mini-grant funds, to be provided after the SAMHSA grant ended. After discussion with the Families Connected Director, Jean Houston, regarding the available funding, it was determined that an additional \$1,350 would be needed to fully cover the budget for the program. The total amount of funding provided to Families Connected will be \$38,671. Karen stated that Families Connected understands that the funding is not guaranteed after June 30, 2017. Karen also pointed out that Families Connected has done what they can to cut expenses. The Director took a \$10/hour pay cut, and one of the Peer Support Partners took a \$4/hour pay cut. Karen explained that she discussed the importance of the Families Connected service at the Finance Committee and reminded the Board members that this is the only program from the SAMHSA grant that was not being sustained. Karen noted that evaluation of peer support services during the SAMHSA grant showed that the program was successful. Karen mentioned that a copy of the Peer Support Partner job description was included in the Board packet. Karen also explained that there was some concern from FCF Council about the Board redirecting the second half of their contribution to Families Connected. Karen Scherra stated that the Finance Committee recommended approval

of the additional funding to Families Connected. After discussion, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY2017 Agreement with Families Connected for Peer Support as presented, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Board (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Angela Liggett).

Karen Scherra presented the FY2017 MOU involving OMHAS and Working Partners, explaining that the Board was one of eighteen (*NOTE: that number was reduced to seventeen after the Board meeting*) in the state selected for a grant from OMHAS to promote drug-free workplaces as part of its Drug-Free Community Initiative. Karen stated that all the Boards will be working with Working Partners Systems, Inc. to develop plans for assisting local businesses with implementing a drug-free workplace. All the materials will be provided by Working Partners, and OMHAS will be paying Working Partners directly for its involvement. The Board will be partnering with GCB for implementation of the grant. Karen hopes that the work associated with the grant will result in increased relationships with county businesses, who will in turn hire more of our clients who receive services through the WIN and ASPIRE programs. Karen further mentioned that the Clermont Chamber of Commerce and the Workforce Investment Board are both excited about the project. The Prosecutor has already approved the MOU. After discussion, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2017 MOU with OMHAS and Working Partners, Inc, for the Board's Drug-Free Workplace grant, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOU on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Dorothy Glancy).

Karen Scherra presented the MOU with Interact for Health for the three year grant to establish a Quick Response Team in Union Township in partnership with CRC and the Union Township Fire Department. The grant amount is \$100,000 and has funding spread over three years, decreasing each year. As such, the Board will be required to supplement funding after year one of the grant. Karen explained that the MOU enclosed in the Board packet is a draft. Once Karen receives the final MOU, she will send it to the Prosecutor's Office for approval. After discussion, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2017 MOU with OMHAS and Working Partners, Inc, for the Board's Drug-Free Workplace grant, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOU on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Dorothy Glancy).

Karen Scherra and Chairperson Karen Conrad discussed the Election of Board Officers for CY 2017. Each year, the Board must elect officers. Karen Conrad has indicated that she is willing to serve a second year as Chair. Suzy Carter also indicated that she is willing remain as Vice Chair and Chair of the Mental Health/Addiction Program Committee, and Dorothy Glancy is also willing to remain as the Secretary. Scott Wheeler stated that he is willing to remain as the Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee. Scott will have served his full term limit as a Board member at the end of June 2017, and a new Finance Chair/Treasurer will be needed at that time. Karen Conrad stated that nominations from the floor could be taken, but none were made. Karen Scherra also provided the Board members with a list that shows the term limits of each member. Four (4) Board members will have served their full term as of June 30, 2017. After discussion, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the slate of Officers for CY 2017 as presented. (Motion-Angie Liggett, second-Jacqueline Block).

Karen Scherra discussed cancelling the January 9, 2017 Board meeting. Karen explained that the Board is required to meet ten (10) times during the calendar year and it is doubtful that there will be any required Board action during the month of January. In addition, Karen, Lee Ann and Suzy Carter will be attending the Behavioral Health conference on January 10-11 and would appreciate not having a late meeting the night before an early trip to Columbus. After discussion, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to cancel the Board meeting scheduled for January 9, 2017. (Motion-Angie Liggett, second-Scott Wheeler).

7. Discussion Items: Karen Scherra provided an Update on the Board Building, informing Board members that Juvenile Probation moved into the building on November 30th. The Board has already received rent payments for November and December. Things are going well with the new tenants. Karen met with the Probation Supervisor to discuss policies and procedures. The County installed a phone in the lobby for probationers to call their Probation Officer when they arrive for an appointment. The County decided not to install cameras in the lobby; staff will meet with individuals after hours at the building next door if they have safety concerns.

Karen Scherra shared updates on the Behavioral Health Medicaid Redesign. Karen stated that most of the Redesign has been finalized, and it remains to be seen what impact the new Trump Administration will have on Medicaid. The Director of the Ohio Department of Medicaid recently resigned from his position; boards learned that he went back to the private sector, not wanting to be involved in dismantling the Medicaid system that he designed. Karen explained that much advocacy will be needed to assure that legislators understand the importance of Medicaid Expansion for the individuals served in our system. For instance, Medicaid Expansion provided access to services for many additional people at CRC. At least 70% of clients at CRC have Medicaid, mainly due to Medicaid Expansion; CRC used to only have about 30% of their clients Medicaid eligible. Karen reminded Board members that before Medicaid Expansion, these clients would have been on the Sliding Fee Scale, with the Board providing the majority of funding for their services. Karen also discussed future changes to Medicaid, such as it being valued-based instead of based on fee for service. This change is proposed for 2020. Jeff O'Neil discussed the impact of the Redesign on GCB, stating that the agency will see a 7-10% reduction in funding. Karen reminded the Board members that the Board will have to determine how services will be reimbursed for Board clients (clients without insurance or Medicaid). We assume that agencies will use the same billing codes established for Medicaid when billing the Board. However, the question will be focused on the rates – will Board reimbursed rates be equal to or greater than the Medicaid rates, and what impact would higher rates have on the Board's financial situation.

Karen mentioned that OACBHA will be focusing on advocacy around these issues. The OACBHA Legislative day is scheduled for January 31<sup>st</sup>, and the importance of Medicaid will be a primary issue for discussion with legislators. Karen will also be chairing the new Advocacy Subcommittee for the Opiate Task Force that will also focus on funding issues.

Karen provided an update on the SFY 2018-2019 State Budget and Impact of the Presidential Election. Karen relayed that Governor Kasich recently stated that the SFY 2018-2019 State Budget will be tight since tax revenue is down. At this point, we really don't know anything,

although there is much speculation about both state and federal funding decisions moving into 2017.

The FY 2017 State Budget was not part of a Mid-biennial Budget Review this year, but there are budget language changes that the legislature finally passed, known as SB319. The changes included some for the Continuum of Care requirements for boards. Karen pointed out that Ambulatory Detox and Residential Treatment will be allowed to be provided out-of-county, as long as the service is within 30 miles of the Board's county border and is not a burden for clients to access. The requirement for recovery housing to be provided within the Board's service area remains.

Lee Ann Watson discussed Mercy Health's request for the Board to designate Health Officers. Mercy proposed that approximately 20 staff members be designated. Lee Ann has received and reviewed the staff members' resumes. The majority of the staff members are licensed and have experience working in behavioral health care. Lee Ann explained that the Board requires that Health Officers have a state license and extensive clinical experience. Those Mercy staff members who don't meet this requirement will not be designated. Lee Ann had a discussion with the Mercy Behavioral Health Director regarding the requirements for annual training of the Health Officers and regular review of their work. Mercy will provide Lee Ann with copies of "Holds" that are written by staff monthly so that she can evaluate the appropriateness of the "Holds" and determine if additional training is needed. Lee Ann stated that she believes partnering with Mercy to designate Health Officers will be a benefit to our system. Suzy Carter stated that she had concerns regarding designating Health Officers who were not licensed. Lee Ann explained that only licensed and experienced staff will be presented for designation and that the Board members can review the resumes. Karen Scherra asked if the Executive Committee could approve the Health Officers before the next Board meeting, now set for February. The Board members agreed, and Karen will be contacting the Executive Committee with further information.


8. Agency Reports: Jeff O'Neil presented for GCB, stating that Steve Goldsberry was unable to attend due to an illness in his family. Jeff discussed the new Performance Indicators (outcomes) for GCB, stating that the new outcomes will address level of care for clients, caseload size and client engagement. Jeff also mentioned that GCB Amelia now has six (6) psychiatrists on staff. Karen Scherra directed the Board Members' attention to the GCB ASPIRE program's vocational outcomes, stating that the program has been very successful at assisting clients with addiction issues in obtaining and maintaining community employment.

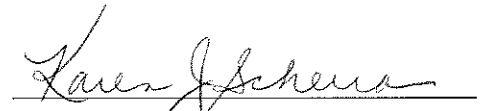
Amy Foley presented for Hope Community Center (HCC), stating that her report stands. Amy mentioned that she was recently at an OACBHA meeting regarding Consumer Operated Services and Medicaid billing. Karen explained that OACBHA is taking the lead on these issues, with support from OMHAS, while there is no formal association in place for consumer services. Amy stated that much work still needs to be done before the State is ready to make Peer Support services billable. Amy also pointed out that the SUD peer support group that meets weekly at HCC will be hosting an Open House Friday, December 16 from 10 am-2 pm.

Jim Carter presented on behalf of Child Focus, Inc. (CFI), reporting that his report stands. Jim pointed out that CFI received a state award for their MDFT program. Juvenile Court nominated CFI for the award. Jim thanked the Board for the donations of the gift cards for families for the holidays. Jim also updated the Board members on the gifting program in partnership with Channel 9 to provide holiday gifts for CFI children. Jim said the event was very successful, and CFI has also received many toys and monetary donations, as well as health care products and home cleaning supplies.

Lucas Strakowski of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) presented, advising that his report stands as is. He pointed out that the new NAMI family support group has started in Clermont County.

9. There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Angie Liggett)

  
Karen Conrad, Chairperson

  
Karen J. Scherra, Executive Director