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### MINUTES of December 10, 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Andy Bateman, Jacki Block, Suzy Carter, Karen Conrad, Kelley Costello, Carole Cottrill, Dorothy Glancy, Peggy Hickman, John Kelly

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Katie Shepard, Greg Varner

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER PRESENT:** Richard Chaney

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Alicia Fine, Amy Foley, Patty Hassell, Jean Houston, Pam Lindeman, Jeff O'Neil, Julia Saldanha, Laura Stith, Heather Turner

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

1. Chairperson Karen Conrad welcomed everyone and explained that Executive Director Karen Scherra would be late due to a presentation in Columbus. The meeting then proceeded.
2. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda for the December 10, 2018 Board meeting. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Jacki Block).
3. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the October 8, 2018 meeting minutes. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Kelley Costello).
4. Review Materials/Correspondence Folders: Associate Director Lee Ann Watson brought everyone's attention to the folders being passed around and specifically mentioned a few of the items from each. From the Heroin/Opioids/Addiction folder, Lee Ann said there were articles reporting some areas of the country are experiencing a worsening trend in opioid addiction, while other areas, including Clermont, are improving. She also said that many of the articles focused on the impact the addiction epidemic is having on children and their families. Other articles in the folder included funding becoming available to combat the epidemic, meth and its comeback, and reminders that alcohol addiction is still in full swing. Lastly, Lee Ann mentioned articles on criminal justice reform, such as Ohio's Issue 1.

In the Adult Mental Health folder, Lee Ann said the articles mainly focused on suicide, the stigma of violent behaviors in the mentally ill, and the growing need for more services.

In the Youth Mental Health folder, Lee Ann said many of the articles focused on teen and youth suicide. There were also articles on trauma among youth, as well as an increase in school violence.

Lee Ann said in the Local Info. folder, there was information on the local syringe exchange program. Lee Ann also mentioned the report on the overdose fatality review that was included in the Board mailing packets.

In the Federal/State Issues/Articles folder, Lee Ann mentioned there were articles on foster care, legislation regarding criminal justice, healthcare, and Medicaid Expansion. Lee Ann also pointed out the article written by Board member Andy Bateman on Ohio's Issue 1.

In the Federal/State Info folder, Lee Ann said there was data reporting that all Board levies that were on the November ballot had passed.

5. Committee Reports: Finance Committee Chairperson Jacki Block advised the Board the first item was the Standards and Policies Update. Jacki gave the floor to Board staff member Erica Pursley who expanded on the subject. Erica explained that some of the fiscal policies needed to be updated in order to stay in compliance with federal uniform guidance for funding and grants. Erica further said the updates were adopted from OACBHA and modified to fit into Clermont's policies and procedures manual. Hard copies of the four new updates were passed around for review and Erica read the title and purpose of each policy. Jacki Block, on behalf of the Finance Committee, recommended the Board adopt the new policies. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adopt the four new standards and polices as read and recommended by the Finance Committee. (Motion-Andy Bateman, second-Kelley Costello).

The next item was the 21<sup>st</sup> Century CURES Grant funds Update. Erica Pursley explained the expenses for Women's CASC will be reduced for year 2. This is due to the new contract the BCC negotiated with GCBH for the Women's CASC program. Our allocation remains unchanged. The reduction of the County contract will allow funds that were originally allocated as levy expenses to be funded as grant expenses, specifically, \$25,000 for vocational services. We will also be able to offset some recovery coach expenses.

The next item was the shared funding program with Children's Protective Services (CPS). Erica Pursley said the Board has had an MOU with CPS to provide shared funding for CPS clients that are referred to CRC. In the past years, the total budget has been \$60,000, with CPS funding half and the Board the other half. In recent years the full amount had not been utilized, probably due to Medicaid Expansion. For FY19 the total amount was reduced to \$30,000, with the agencies again splitting the cost. However, the expenses this year have increased & they will go over the budgeted amount. CPS does not have it in their budget to increase their allocation to the Board. Services will continue for the clients referred. The Board will continue to track the actual expenses for the year & will address it with CPS next fiscal year.

The next item was the additional funding for GCBHS for the Linkage Grant Project. Lee Ann Watson explained to the Board that it is very likely that GCB will be asking for more funding to cover the salary of the Re-Entry Coordinator at the jail. The position has evolved into a full-time, very hands-on project. The need for the position to be broadened is due to the large and unexpected number of clients participating. Laura Stith of CFI added that the current Re-entry Coordinator saw 146 clients in one month. Lee Ann also pointed out that the funding for this position is a priority for the Board, as many important county officials are watching this important and successful program closely.

The final item was the match for the women's recovery house. Jacki Block advised the Board they would table this item until Karen Scherra arrived.

6. Action Items: The first action item was FY 2019 MOU with the Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board regarding operation of the PATH Program. OMHAS has provided the Board with funds for the PATH program that serves the homeless who suffer from mental illness. The funds go to the Hamilton County Board, which then passes on the funds to GCB, the agency providing the PATH program services in both Counties. CCMHRB must enter into an MOU with the Hamilton County Board and also provide match funds for the program, which is detailed in the MOU. It is the same as last year's MOU and the Board was provided a copy of it. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2019 MOU with the Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board regarding operation of the PATH Program and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Carole Cottrill, second-Peggy Hickman).

The second action item was the addition to the FY 2019 Health Officers for GCB. It is necessary for the Board to officially approve the designation of Health Officers each fiscal year. Health Officers are responsible for approving admission of Clermont County residents to the state hospital and admission of clients to local hospitals for psychiatric inpatient services. Health Officers for FY 2019 were previously approved by the Board. GCB has additional staff they need to have added to the list. These individuals meet all credentials for appointment as Health Officers. Their resumes were provided to the Board as well as was the resolution stating the names of all the Health Officers for GCB, including the two additional staff. The appointments of the Health Officers are effective until 6/30/19. The appointment automatically terminates if the staff members leave the agency. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2019 addition to the Health Officers for GCBHS. (Motion-Suzy Carter, second-Andy Bateman).

The third action item was the FY 2019 MOU with the Municipal Court Adult Probation Department for TASC Services at CRC/GCB. Municipal Court receives certain grant funds on an annual basis, and in the past has contracted with the Clermont Recovery Center (CRC, now a division of Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services, GCB) for services for offenders on probation to be paid with the grant funds. Once Medicaid Expansion was implemented, more of the services that these offenders receive are being paid by Medicaid, and CRC encountered some difficulties in billing the Court for specific clients on a regular basis. For FY 2016 and 2017, Municipal Court determined that they would use the SFY 2016 grant funds to offset costs that the Board paid for offenders on probation and for assessment costs.

Municipal Court Probation determined for FY 2018, they wanted to use grant funds to provide services currently offered to Common Pleas Court referrals at the TASC (Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities) program to their referred clients. The program was very successful, so the funding again will be provided by Probation to the Board to offset costs at CRC for the TASC services for FY 2019. CRC will bill the Board as they normally do for these

services and the Board will bill Probation at the end of the year.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Municipal Court Probation for FY 2019 was provided to the Board. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2019 MOU with the Municipal Court Adult Probation Department for TASC services at CRC/GCB and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOU on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Suzy Carter, second-Kelley Costello).

The final action item was the CY 2019 Election of Board Officers. Annually at the December Board meeting, the Board members must elect a slate of individuals to serve as Officers for the Board for CY2019. On a previous date, Karen Conrad indicated to Executive Director Karen Scherra that she would be willing to serve another year as Chair, and Suzy Carter, Jacki Block and Dorothy Glancy are all also willing to serve another year as officers of the Board. Suzy's second term as a Board member is ending at the end of May 2019, but she can serve in the position until then, and the Chairperson can appoint someone to take the Vice-Chairperson position beginning in June.

The proposed slate for the officer positions are as follows:

**Chairperson** – Karen Conrad

**Vice Chairperson**, Chair-Mental Health/Addiction Program Committee – Suzy Carter

**Treasurer**, Chair-Finance Committee – Jacki Block

**Secretary** – Dorothy Glancy

An opportunity to accept nominations from the floor was given at this point in the meeting. As there were no new nominations, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the slate of Board Officers for CY 2019 as presented. (Motion-Andy Bateman, second-Kelley Costello).

7. Discussion Items: The first item of discussion was the Behavioral Health Redesign/Managed Care update. Having now arrived at the meeting, Karen Scherra addressed the Board. Karen said she and staff member Erica Pursley had attended a meeting with the Department of Medicaid on December 3rd. The meeting was intended to give Boards and providers an update on Managed Care. Karen said there was a lot of information shared at the meeting, including that as of July 1, 2019, Managed Care companies would have the ability to change services, rates, authorizations, etc. However, Karen added that there may be a push back of that date due to many agencies still getting denials of claims which they are trying to sort through and having issues paying back the up-front advance program. Staff from GCB and CFI also attended the presentation. The agencies present at the Board meeting agreed with what Karen had stated, sharing that they too are struggling with claim denials. Karen Scherra said that she and Erica planned to put together a presentation on all of the new information and would present it at the January 2019 Board meeting.

The second discussion item was the 2018 election update. Karen Scherra said with the transitioning in of Governor-elect Mike DeWine, there are many changes afoot on a state level. Karen said DeWine seems to be creating and filling a lot of new positions but has not yet filled current Cabinet ones. For instance, the Director of OMHAS, Dr. Mark Hurst, has expressed

interest in staying in his position, but DeWine has yet to make a decision. Karen said she wondered if DeWine would appoint Dr. Hurst, a psychiatrist, as OMHAS Director, since Director Plouck left amid allegations of inappropriate contracting, and he might want someone with stronger administrative expertise. Some of the new appointments are: Alisha Nelson, director of Recovery Ohio, DeWine's program to attack Ohio's addiction issues; and Director of Children's Initiatives, LeeAnne Cornyn. Karen is hoping that the new children's service initiative will cause some growth on the side of youth mental health and addiction prevention and treatment services.

The third item of discussion was the NHO recovery house in Blanchester. Karen Scherra explained to the Board that Clermont and other SW Ohio Boards had provided collaborative funds for a women's recovery house several years ago to New Housing Ohio (NHO). Scott Boone, Director of NHO, had reached out to the Warren/Clinton Board that he wanted to close that facility as a recovery house, to use for another purpose, since he was going to build an apartment building behind it. He suggested we all use another recovery house in Wilmington that none of the boards is involved with or has used. We met with Mr. Boone and reminded him of our agreement about the Blanchester facility that states if the house shut down before the end of 30 years, the timeframe for state capital projects, the original funding would be returned to the Boards. Mr. Boone did not then seem to want to proceed with shutting down the recovery house. Then there was a discussion of the boards use of the facility and which boards have paid for which clients. Due to some mixed information, the boards requested a list of the clients since the beginning of the facility, along with their county of residence, so we could sort out the usage and payments. What we received instead was a spreadsheet showing his total revenue and expenses, with a loss of about \$89,000 that he said the boards owe him. We are not under any obligation to fund that "loss", and our agreement to pay for our clients living there has lapsed, without any request from NHO to continue it. Karen explained that she wanted to bring this to the Board's attention in case there is any additional attempt by NHO to try to collect funds from the boards.

The fourth and final discussion item was the rescheduling of three 2019 Board Meetings and the Board Retreat. The Board was provided with a schedule of the 2019 Board meetings. Karen Scherra pointed out that the May, June, and November meetings have conflicts with either conferences or legal holidays and will need to be rescheduled. The Retreat, which usually is held in March, will need to be rescheduled to April, as the new Governor has until March 15, 2019 to submit a state budget. Karen feels that the retreat would make more sense to be scheduled after the state budget is known. Karen urged Board members to bring their personal schedules to the January 2019 Board meeting in order to properly reschedule these meetings.

8. Executive Director's Report: Karen Scherra presented a few highlights from her Executive Director's Report. Under Hospital Update/Utilization, Karen said as of December 10, there are 10 Clermont forensic clients, the highest number yet, utilizing beds at Summit. Karen thinks that some of the clients could be managed in the community rather than in the state hospital. She said these high numbers continue to illustrate the issue at Summit – too many forensic clients and very little room for civil clients. At the November 14<sup>th</sup> OACBHA Hospital Committee, which Karen chairs, the group discussed addressing this issue by planning some

training for judges and a conference for private and public hospitals.

Under Criminal Justice Activities, Karen said the CJ/BH Linkage Team met on October 11 to discuss what data points should be collected and stored in a new data base created for the project. Karen said as of November 20, 2018, the data collection and the project as a whole are going well, but it is still difficult to schedule intakes since there is limited space in the jail.

Under ENGAGE Grant, Karen announced that the mobile crisis/peer support services connected to the grant started on December 1. She said there have been a few bumps along the way but as those all get smoothed out, she believes that the program will have a huge impact on the youth and their families involved in the program. She said the team is very excited about the potential the program has to offer.

Karen also said the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) has received confirmation from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that its application for nearly \$55.8 million in State Opioid Response (SORS) grant dollars has been approved. The Ohio State Opioid Response Project will, among other things, expand prevention efforts related to naloxone distribution. Some funds have already been distributed to entities such as Public Health for purchase and distribution of naloxone. Boards will have to submit proposals for the funds, as part of their collaborative and/or on their own. The RFP for these proposals was just released on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Boards have 8 weeks to submit their proposals.

Under Federal/Activities/Legislation, Karen said most of the headlines focus on Medicaid and work requirements. Many people across the country are losing their Medicaid due to not being able to meet the work requirements. Also, on the federal level, Karen said CMS may soon allow hospitals and health systems to directly pay for housing through Medicaid, which would be a major change to Medicaid and a boon for low income and “disabled” individuals.

Another item from her report mentioned was that a federal court ordered a jail to provide Methadone. Karen said the case sets an important legal precedent, as it is the first in the country to find that denying incarcerated individuals with opioid use disorders (OUD) access to ongoing medication assisted treatment can violate the law under both the ADA and the U.S. Constitution. Notably, the court wrote that even though the jail offered other OUD treatment options, this did not undermine the plaintiff’s case because they were not effective treatments for him.

The final highlight Karen mentioned from her report was that on 11/15, she met with Alicia Fine, who will be taking on Steve Goldsberry’s role at CRC/GCB upon his retirement. Alicia and Karen plan to meet on a regular basis, to help Alicia “navigate” the Clermont County officials and environment that are important to the behavioral system in Clermont. Karen also hopes to assist Alicia in her developing the relationships in the County that are essential to the successes CCMHRB and GCB have had in the past with the County, and will achieve in future programs, grants, and activities. On a side note, Karen added that she had attended Steve’s retirement party last week and heard that during his speech he expressed his gratitude to

CCMHRB for all the support it provided him and the agency over the years.

9. Tabled Finance Committee Discussion/Action Item: At this point in the meeting, the Board returned to the earlier Finance Committee discussion item of the match for the women's recovery house requested by GCB. With the state providing 75% of the cost of a women's recovery house in Clermont County, GCB has to submit a plan to the State on the other 25% of the funding, which is about \$75,500. Jacki Block explained to the Board that GCB has come to the Board to ask for half of the \$75,500. While the men's recovery house fulfills Clermont's requirement for the state's Continuum of Care, it is very likely a women's recovery house could be a requirement at some point. Karen Scherra advised the Board she thinks Clermont needs a women's recovery house.

The house will only have adult female residents; no children of residents will be allowed to live there. Alicia Fine of GCB added that she thinks the turnover at the women's recovery house will be higher than it is at the men's, as the women's needs and access to resources, such as transportation, differ from those of the men.

Karen Scherra reminded the Board that next month, the Board should be receiving an additional request for funding from GCB to support the linkage grant, possibly \$5,000-\$6,000. She also mentioned the SORS money that will be available in the future for use with recovery housing costs. Karen advised the Board she thought it was wise to invest at least some funding at this point to secure participation in the opening of a much-needed women's recovery house in Clermont County.

Karen Conrad asked for comments and feedback on the matter from the rest of the Board. Suzy Carter asked why the location of the house on State Route 222 near the Clermont County Sheriff's Office was chosen, as it is not on a bus line and transportation is an issue for the future residents. Alicia Fine of GCB answered that Clermont struggles with public transportation, as it is mostly rural and not much of the county is on the bus line. Alicia said that GCB is coming up with other transportation solutions, such as rides being given to the residents by the Recovery Coaches. Alicia also added that the location of the recovery house is only three miles from where the women would be traveling for treatment, so transportation would not be a huge barrier to treatment.

Karen Conrad and Andy Bateman both suggested putting a cap on the amount funded by the Board for now, and possibly funding more later as other outside funding in the form of grants became available to the Board for use. Andy felt this was an important opportunity for the Board to be involved in the women's recovery house. Jacki Block proposed funding \$20,000 to GCB for the purchase of a women's recovery house and to prioritize some future SOR funding to the house as well. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to fund \$20,000 to GCB for the purchase of the women's recovery house and to possibly fund more at a later date. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-John Kelly).

10. Agency Directors' Reports: Laura Stith of Child Focus, Inc. (CFI) reminded the Board she had submitted reports for two months since there was no Board meeting in November. Laura added

that CFI now has a new responsive website that can be accessed by phone or computer. She said CFI would welcome feedback on the new website platform. Laura also reminded the Board that CFI's CEO, Jim Carter, will be retiring in June 2019. She said his retirement party is set for May 14. The agency has hired a search firm to find his replacement. The firm is currently interviewing key stakeholders and staff of CFI to find out what type of person would be a good fit. Lastly, Laura reported that CFI's Christmas "Giving Tree" program was a huge success. The generosity of the community allowed for all of the chosen families to be sponsored, and even allowed for some extra families to receive help for the holidays. News station WCPO helped with the CFI toy drive, and 1,816 toys were collected.


Alicia Fine of GCB said her report stands.

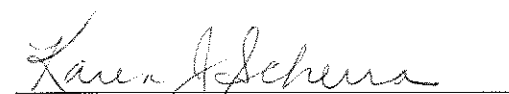
Julia Saldanha of NAMI informed the Board that NAMI has started its "Ending the Silence" program in some schools in Anderson and Dayton. The program is aimed at educating students, parents, and school staff on how to recognize the warning signs of suicidal tendencies and other mental health challenges such as anxiety and depression. Karen Scherra suggested that NAMI connect with the developing Board plan for suicide prevention, led by Lee Ann Watson, so NAMI's program can be incorporated to bring the "Ending the Silence" program to Clermont County.

Amy Foley of Hope Community Center is planning to add two peer support volunteers to her staff four hours a week to help them out as they may lose their Medicaid benefits without some paid work. Amy assured the Board she does not plan to ask for more funding for this new endeavor. Karen Scherra asked why they were losing their benefits, but Amy was not completely sure. Karen said she will find out why these individuals have to work to maintain Medicaid, as Medicaid work requirements have not yet been implemented in Ohio. Amy also plans to start a 1<sup>st</sup> responder peer support team. Amy has received a lot of interest from Police Chiefs in working together to properly handle a suspect with a possible mental illness. Amy believes her advocacy for this cause has contributed to the change in culture surrounding the stigma of mental illness.

Jean Houston of Families Connected said her report stands as is. Jean added that her employee, Chanel, has moved into her new role in the ENGAGE Grant program and Jean has hired a replacement for her. Jean also addressed NAMI and said she may be interested in implementing the "Ending the Silence" program through her agency as well, as part of a program being planned for May which is Mental Health Month. On a side note, Karen Scherra reminded the Board that Jean will also be retiring in June 2019.

11. Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the December 10, 2018 Board of Directors meeting. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Kelley Costello).

  
Karen Conrad, Chairperson

  
Karen J. Scherra, Executive Director