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### MINUTES of January 8, 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Andy Bateman, Jacki Block, Karen Conrad, Carole Cottrill, Peggy Hickman, John Kelly, Angela Liggett, Katherine Shepard

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Suzy Carter, Kelley Costello, Dorothy Glancy, Greg Varner

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER EXCUSED:** Richard Chaney

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Jim Carter, Amy Foley, Steve Goldsberry, Jean Houston, Sandy Lock, Jeff O'Neil, Heather Turner

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

1. Chairperson Karen Conrad welcomed everyone and the meeting proceeded.
2. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda for the January 8, 2018 Board meeting. (Motion-Peggy Hickman, second-Carole Cottrill).
3. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the December 11, 2017 meeting minutes. (Motion-Angela Liggett, second-Peggy Hickman).
4. Review Materials/Correspondence Folders: Executive Director Karen Scherra brought everyone's attention to the folders being passed around and specifically mentioned a few of the items from each. In the Heroin/Opiate folder, Karen said most of the articles focused on the continuing issues around heroin and some new programs being tried to combat the problem. She also mentioned a copy of the draft report presented to the President by the Opioid Commission. Other articles in the folder focused on alcohol and meth; Karen highlighted the fact that while heroin is the big issue right now, other drugs are still being used, with a notable increase in meth, and all addiction problems need to be addressed.

In the Federal Articles folder, Karen said there were mostly articles about the tax cut bill, the Federal budget, and CHIP reauthorization. In the Adult Mental Health folder, Karen noted there were articles stating that suicide rates are up among adults. She specifically pointed out an article about the high rate of suicide among veterinarians. In the Youth Mental Health

folder, Karen said there was information about a new statewide youth suicide prevention program: "Be Present".

5. Executive Director's Report: Executive Director Karen Scherra then went on to share some highlights from her monthly report. Karen and Lee Ann Watson met with Mary Wolff, Coalition for a Drug Free Clermont County Director, and Michelle Lydenberg, Director of Milford/Miami Township Drug Free Coalition, on December 14 and December 21, 2017, to discuss applying for additional Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant funding for opioid and meth prevention for youth. Only Coalitions with current federal DFC grant funding can apply. It was decided that the Coalition for a Drug Free Clermont County would apply for the grant. Public Health is also participating in this process. Everyone will meet again on January 12<sup>th</sup> to combine all the information and narratives that have been collected and documented, and then determine next steps to complete the grant submission, which is due January 29<sup>th</sup>.

The monthly CASC meeting was held on December 19<sup>th</sup>. In contrast to the previous month, the judges and probation department were very happy with the CASC program now that some changes were made to better accommodate the needs of the court. The new CASC Program Manager left after just a few weeks, but Tony Huffman, a supervisor at CRC, has now transitioned into a new role as the CASC Manager. Everyone is very optimistic about Tony's ability to keep CASC running smoothly and at optimum capacity.

Also on December 19<sup>th</sup>, Karen said she and Gregg Pieples from CRC participated in the monthly call with their OMHAS liaison for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures grant funding. The OMHAS liaison continues to be pleased with, and supportive of, Clermont County's efforts and outcomes. Karen said they spent a lot of the time talking about how Boards in general, and Clermont specifically, manage to combine multiple funding sources to fund local programs in a concept called "braided funding". The OMHAS liaison was very impressed with Clermont's exceptional ability at managing funding in this manner and would like to try to highlight our approach in an upcoming training.

On December 20<sup>th</sup>, Karen attended the Overdose Fatality Review Board meeting to review the statistics gathered on opioid related overdose deaths in 2017. The number of overdose fatalities are down for 2017. Karen advised the Board she would share some of the data with the Board later on in the Board meeting.

Karen informed the Board that she will be meeting with Angie Livesay, the Coordinator of the Family Dependency Treatment Court, to discuss the use of Recovery Coaches in their program. The meeting is part of the Board's larger effort to determine all the places and programs wanting to incorporate peers into their services, how it is currently paid for, and the long-term plans for sustaining funding. Karen said the Recovery Coach positions are one area planned for discussion at the annual Board retreat. In addition, Board staff met with CRC staff earlier that day regarding the Outreach Team, the various roles and responsibilities of the Recovery Coaches, and the current and projected funding for this program. Karen also plans

to meet with Amy Foley of Hope Community Center (HCC) to discuss the Recovery Coaches employed through HCC and the peer support services for mental health..

Karen mentioned to the Board that on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, she, Lee Ann Watson, and Steve Goldsberry from CRC met with administrative staff from the Behavioral Health Department at Clermont Mercy to discuss the regional Withdrawal Management Center project funded by OMHAS. The meeting focused on Clermont Mercy's, and possibly Mercy Hospitals in other parts of the Southwest Collaborative, interest in participating in the project and providing the service. Clermont Mercy has been providing this service for awhile to individuals who walk in or are brought to the hospital and for referrals from CRC. Karen said the collaborative project would allow Mercy to "ramp it up" to a full-fledged service available to the region at no cost to the client, so that funding is not a barrier. Karen said the meeting went well and Clermont Mercy even said they don't think they need the \$155,000 that the Board has available for funding the program.

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, Karen attended a meeting with several of the Southwest Collaborative Board Directors at Beckett Springs Hospital to hear about their plans for crisis stabilization and withdrawal management services that all could access as part of the regional OMHAS funding. Karen informed the Board that the program would be expensive, \$865 per day, but it will be another resource for services.

Karen also briefed the Board on activities at the Federal level. Karen said while the final version of the tax reform bill is not expected to cut entitlement programs like Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security directly, it is likely to lead to dramatic cuts to the federal revenue necessary to fund those programs. Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R-WI) made clear his view that cuts to health care entitlement programs would be necessary should the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act become law. Karen said Congress is again pushing states to adopt the "waiver" approach. Karen said she is curious to see if Ohio will move in this direction.

6. Committee Reports: Angela Liggett presented to the Board on behalf of the Finance Committee which met prior to the Board meeting. Angela advised the Board that the Committee had discussed and reviewed some of the policies in the Policies and Procedure Manual involving fiscal issues with Board Staff. The review of the manual was prompted by Senate Bill 71 which states that a Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services may establish a rule, operating procedure, standard, or bylaw to allow the Executive Director of the Board to execute contracts, in prescribed circumstances, on behalf of the Board without the Board's prior approval. The bill limits Boards delegating authority on contracts to \$25,000 and requires the Board to define the scope of the contracts, including clarity as to whether the contracts are for emergency clinical services or standard non-clinical service contracts. Angela informed the Board that minor changes and updates will be made to the current policies and procedures. Karen Scherra added that the entire revision to the Policies and Procedures and other documents would be presented at the Board retreat.

Angela then moved to the next item which was the salary adjustments for CY 2018. Angela explained to the Board members that Board staff receive salary increases in alignment with

the County's approval of raises for County employees. This year, the County Commissioners approved a 2.35% salary increase. As such, Board staff would be eligible for the same salary increase. The increase would be retroactive to January 1, 2018. Angela said it was well within the budget as it would only be an additional expense of \$3,700 for the remainder of FY18 for all Board staff to receive the increase. Angela summed up the discussion by mentioning that the Executive Director is responsible for approving pay increases for Board staff. The full Board would decide on any salary increases for the Executive Director in Executive Session.

7. Action Items: The first item was the FY 2018 MOU between Municipal Court Probation, Clermont Recovery Center, and the Board. Karen advised the Board that the draft of the MOU included in the Board mailing for this meeting had been slightly altered after review from the Prosecutor's Office. A section stating the MOU was the "entire agreement" and a section stating that electronic delivery of the signed MOU was an acceptable form of execution were both added. Karen then explained the importance of the MOU. Municipal Court receives certain grant funds on an annual basis, and in the past, has contracted with the Clermont Recovery Center (CRC, a division of Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services, or GCB) for services for offenders on probation to be paid with those grant funds. In reviewing current services with CRC, Municipal Court Probation has determined that for FY 2018, they want to use grant funds to access services currently offered to Common Pleas Court probationers at CRC's TASC (Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities) program. The funding again will be provided by the Probation Department to the Board to offset costs at CRC. CRC will bill the Board as they normally do for these services. Karen recommended to the Board to approve the MOU. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2018 MOU between Municipal Court Probation, Clermont Recovery Center and the Board for provision of services at the TASC program and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOU on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Angela Liggett, second-Jacki Block).

The second action item was the election of officers for CY 2018. Karen first apologized to the Board, as the election of Board officers should have taken place during the December Board meeting. She stated that the current officers all agreed to serve another year. The current slate was presented as:

**Chairperson** – Karen Conrad

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

**Treasurer**, Chair-Finance Committee – Angie Liggett

**Secretary** – Dorothy Glancy

Karen advised that nominations could also be made at the meeting. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the slate of officers for CY 2018 as presented. (Motion-Carole Cottrill, second-Andy Bateman).

8. Discussion Items: The first discussion item was the Behavioral Health Redesign update. Karen said Redesign went into effect on January 1 and the new billing codes and rates are being used. The Board has not received any new billing yet, however. Karen provided the opportunity for the agencies to give their opinion of the new procedures. Jim Carter from Child Focus Inc. advised the Board that the new billing is “a mess”. Sandy Lock from CFI expanded on that, saying they are handling the situation and they have a vendor helping implement the changes on the IT side, but the staff training process is consuming all of their time. She said it has been, and will continue to be, a real struggle. Jeff O’Neil from GCB concurred, saying the Redesign has been the biggest change he has seen in his career as a behavioral health professional. He said it affects all aspects of his organization, but they are working hard to shield clients from any change. He also said he is confident that they will get through it, but it will just be a tough road ahead. Karen Scherra added that after all these changes, major changes will happen all over again when Managed Care takes over Medicaid on July 1, 2018. Karen said it is important for the Board to hear about the difficulties agencies are facing with the Redesign to stay abreast of what Board staff and the agencies are dealing with on a daily basis. She advised the Board they will discuss it further at the retreat, when there has been more time to receive feedback on how Redesign is impacting the agencies, especially fiscally. Karen also added that she is a little nervous about having the ability to provide the funding necessary to continue providing quality care to clients with only \$750,000 in reserves, compared to Butler County Board’s \$18 million reserve and Warren/Clinton County Board’s \$12 million reserve.

The next item of discussion was the PowerPoint presentation on 2017 Clermont County overdose data. Karen explained that, as mentioned earlier in the meeting, on December 20<sup>th</sup> she attended the Overdose Fatality Review Board meeting to review the statistics gathered on overdose deaths in 2017. Karen stated that she thought it was important for the Board to understand what is occurring in our County. Karen went over a few of the slides with the Board and stated that OD deaths are down for 2017 due to many initiatives, including: open access at CRC, QRT, Recovery Coach Outreach, Project Dawn, the work of the Opiate Task Force, etc. Clermont County is seeing the benefits of the Board’s efforts. She also informed the Board that an estimated 20% of Hamilton County OD deaths are actually Clermont County residents. Clermont Public Health is also making an effort in the war on drugs by starting a Syringe Exchange program. Steve Goldsberry of CRC/GCB mentioned GCB’s “in-reach” program with Caresource and OMHAS. A Recovery Coach is traveling to prisons in the area to talk to inmates with substance use disorders and encourage engagement in treatment upon release. They are finding that 80% of inmates in the inreach program show up for treatment after prison release, as opposed to only 20% attendance of those who were not contacted while in prison. The Board asked for the 2017 Clermont County overdose data PowerPoint presentation to be emailed to them to review on their own.

9. Agency Directors’ Reports: Sandy Lock from Child Focus said her report stands and added that, due to road name changes in their area, CFI’s mailing address had changed. She said they did not move, their road was just renamed. Karen Scherra told Sandy she would have the change published in the County newsletter.

Heather Turner from NAMI said her report stands but did want to make a correction. She said their Peer to Peer program will be starting in March, not January.

Jean Houston from Families Connected said her report stands and added that she will be meeting with Child Focus at the end of the month to discuss the Peer Support Partners program beginning at CFI.

Jeff O'Neil from GCB said his report stands and thanked the Board members for their support.

Amy Foley from Hope Community Center said her report stands. She added that her agency is currently meeting with a Sober Support Group that holds meetings at HCC to assure that the group leaders are following the model and are up to date on all of their qualifications. She also announced there would be a Facebook Live event on Tuesday from 12:00-12:10pm hosted by two Recovery Coaches.


Steve Goldsberry from CRC said his report stands. He added that a current GCB employee, Heather Cokl, will be transitioning into Gregg Pieples' former position. He also said they filled the CASC position as well.

10. Executive Session: A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to enter Executive Session pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G) (1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Andy Bateman). Karen Conrad-yea, Carol Cottrill-yea, Peggy Hickman-yea, John Kelly-yea, Angela Liggett-yea, Katherine Shepard-yea. The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:16 p.m.

A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to move back into Regular Session. (Motion-Angela Liggett, second-Jacki Block). Andy Bateman-yea, Karen Conrad-yea, Carol Cottrill-yea, Peggy Hickman-yea, John Kelly-yea, Katherine Shepard-yea. The Board moved back into Regular Session at 8:25 p.m.

A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to grant the Executive Director a 2.35% raise, retroactive to January 1, 2018. (Motion-Andy Bateman, second-Katie Shephard).

11. Adjournment: A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the January 8, 2018 Board meeting. (Motion-Angie Liggett, second-Carol Cottrill).

  
Karen Conrad, Chairperson

  
Karen J. Scherra, Executive Director