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MINUTES of January 14, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andy Bateman, Jacki Block, Karen Conrad, Carole Cottrill, Dorothy Glancy, Peggy Hickman, Geoff Schwerzler, Katie Shepard

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Suzy Carter, Kelley Costello, John Kelly, Greg Varner

ASSOCIATE MEMBER EXCUSED: Richard Chaney

GUESTS PRESENT: Jim Carter, Alicia Fine, Amy Foley, Patty Hassell, Jean Houston, Julia Saldanha, Laura Stith,

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

1. Chairperson Karen Conrad welcomed everyone. Karen introduced and welcomed the newly appointed Board member Geoff Schwerzler. Karen also informed the Board that this would be Peggy Hickman's last meeting as a Board member since she is moving to Brown County. The meeting then proceeded.
2. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda for the January 14, 2019 Board meeting. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Dorothy Glancy).
3. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the December 10, 2018 meeting minutes. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, 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. From the Local Info. folder, Karen said there was information on Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health's (GCB) Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team, which is funded by a SAMHSA grant. The first meeting of the ACT Advisory Board met in December. Also in this folder was an article announcing the start of newly appointed Clermont County Commissioner Claire Corcoran's first term. Karen said that she and Associate Director Lee Ann Watson plan on setting up a meeting with Commissioner Corcoran to establish a relationship and convey the Mental Health and Recovery Board's purpose and mission.

In the Adult Mental Health folder, Karen said many of the articles focused on the rise in the number of suicides. Several articles addressed the increased risk of suicide among police officers. More police officers die from suicide than in the line of duty. Lee Ann Watson

mentioned the newly formed peer support program for first responders that Hope Community Center is providing.

In the Youth Mental Health folder, Karen pointed out that suicides are also a topic of concern among young people, with those numbers increasing also.

Karen said in the Federal/State Issues/Articles folder, there were articles about criminal justice reform and the changes needed in drug laws at state and federal levels.

In the Heroin/Opiate/Addiction folder, Karen said many articles reported a decrease in overdose rates in various counties in Ohio and across the country. However, meth usage is still on the rise. Karen also pointed out an article on how to determine if someone is “drugged driving” since there is no instant testing available for police officers. On a side note, Karen mentioned that on Wednesday, some of the approved medical marijuana dispensaries would be open and operating for the first time in Ohio. Karen also stated that recreational marijuana will probably be on the ballot in 2020 and polls indicate it will most likely pass.

5. Executive Director’s Report: Karen Scherra presented a few highlights from her Executive Director’s report. Under hospital update and utilization, Karen said there were no civil clients hospitalized for the entire month of December, and a high of 13 and a low of 9 forensic clients. That was an average of 11.5 forensic clients for the month, the highest number of such clients we have ever had at Summit. These numbers continue to illustrate the issue at Summit – too many forensic clients and not much room for civil clients. To clarify the difference between forensic and civil clients, Karen explained that civil clients are individuals in the community needing inpatient services and their admission to Summit must be approved by our Board staff; forensic clients are referred to the hospital by the jail or the court, for such things as a competency evaluation or restoration to competency, and the “policy” has become that these cases cannot be denied access. Karen advised the Board that Mercy Hospital Clermont has expressed possible interest in re-establishing a contract with the Board for inpatient hospitalization. This could assist with the ongoing difficulty of getting anyone hospitalized at Summit by providing an alternative, but one that would be an additional expense to the Board.

The next item Karen mentioned was the Department of Labor (DOL) grant that she has been discussing with other county offices to determine how Clermont wishes to spend the funding. The DOL grant, received by the state of Ohio, focuses on persons displaced from employment because of the opioid epidemic. The state of Ohio determined specific counties with high need to receive the funds. The grant project will be coordinated through the Workforce Investment Board (WIB), with the funds flowing through local Departments of Job and Family Services (DJFS). Unfortunately, the grant has restrictions on how the funding can be used which may not benefit our population. Karen will be talking with the WIB staff and the state to determine if the restrictions can be changed.

Under federal activities, Karen Scherra said a federal judge in Texas, who struck down the Affordable Care Act earlier this month, certified his ruling on Sunday, paving the way for an appeal. He wrote that the law should remain in place as the case winds its way through the courts. Karen told the Board members she would keep them posted. Other federal activities Karen highlighted were CMS’s efforts to improve healthcare and President Trump’s method of handling Medicaid. Late last month, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Administrator Seema Verma sent a letter to state Medicaid directors describing ways states can improve care and reduce burdens for individuals who are dually-eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. This population of individuals tends to have complex medical and behavioral health needs and accounts for a disproportionate share of federal spending for both programs. The letter outlines ten opportunities for states to improve care for the dually-eligible population in 2019. President Trump has hinted at changing Medicaid to block grants, which Karen said would greatly affect the people in our system. On the same day President Trump came out with the block grant idea, the new Director of CMS resigned after only 4 months.

6. Committee Reports: Jacki Block spoke on behalf of the Finance Committee which had met prior to the Board meeting. Jacki reported that the Board's finances are on track for income and budgeted expenses. Jacki provided the Board members with a summary of the Finance Committee's review of the CY 2019 County budget, which is the Board's official budget. However, since the County is on calendar year, and the state funding is receiving on a fiscal year, the CCMHRB CY 2019 budget of \$7,522,364 is an estimate, as it includes the funds for the second half of SFY 2019 and projected funds for first half of SFY 2020. The County Commissioners must approve all appropriations requested by Board staff to be spent in the calendar year. The calendar year budget includes additional funds in personnel, as the County Commissioners requested funds for salary actions of 2.25% for employees. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the CY 2019 Board budget submitted to the County as presented. (Motion-Andy Bateman, second-Carole Cottrill.)

Jacki also reported on the State Opioid Response (SOR) grant funding. Jacki explained to the Board members that OMHAS received federal funds that will be passed to the Boards through the Collaboratives. \$2.5 million is allocated for each collaborative, and the Boards in the collaborative must determine if the funds will be used for regional projects and/or individual Board projects, with a maximum of \$750,000 available for any individual Board. The Boards in the collaborative must collectively determine the use of the funding in their region. Butler County has agreed to be the fiscal agent for the grant. The applications are due by January 25th. Plans will be reviewed by stakeholders to determine awards the following week. Since the money must be spent by the end of September 2019, it is unrealistic to start a new project with this funding, with no guarantee of continued funding. Our Southwest Collaborative met to discuss each board's ideas about use of the funds. Brown, Butler, and Clermont Counties have agreed to work with the local health districts for a regional syringe exchange program. SOR funds in Clermont will also be used to cover the costs of the women's CASC program, along with part of the men's CASC program, from May 1, 2019 through September 29, 2019, the time period between when the CURES grant funds end and the SOR grant ends. There will be other opportunities coming to apply for additional funding to support peer services and recovery housing projects.

Wrapping up, Jacki informed the Board that the lease allowing Juvenile Court to rent part of the CCMHRB building has been renewed for 2 years at the same monthly fee.

7. Action Items: The first action item was the FY 2019 Addendums to the Child Focus and Families Connected contracts for the ENGAGE grant funded Juvenile Court program. The Board was the recipient of grant funds from OMHAS from their SAMHSA ENGAGE grant. Those funds are being used to provide mobile crisis/parent peer support to families with a child

involved with Juvenile Court. Child Focus and Families Connected are the agencies providing these services. Because these grant funds are allocated on a federal fiscal year, it is difficult to determine how funding would be allocated to the agencies across state fiscal years. So, Board staff developed an Addendum to each agency's POS Contract to include the amount of funds the agency will receive and the requirements of the grant which the agency must meet.

The time period for the Addendum will mirror that of the grant: October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. There will be two subsequent years of the grant for which an Addendum will again be done to each agency's contract. There are no Board funds involved in this grant program, as all costs are being covered by the grant. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2019 Addendums to the Child Focus and Families Connected contracts for the ENGAGE grant funded Juvenile Court program as presented and to authorize the Executive Director to sign each Addendum on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Carol Cottrill).

The second action item was the resolution of support to GCB for the new women's recovery house. One of the requirements that an agency must fulfill as part of the OMHAS Capital Grant process is obtaining a resolution from the county Board indicating approval of the project and willingness to monitor the services to be provided. Alicia Fine of GCB addressed the Board and added that GCB had managed to get the cost of recovery house renovations down a bit. As such, the Board's match funding for the woman's recovery house that was approved at the December Board meeting will be sufficient. The full cost of the recovery house is \$231,000 with the house itself costing \$210,000. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the resolution of support for GCB's new women's recovery house as presented and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the resolution on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Andy Bateman, second-Peggy Hickman).

The third action item was the resolution of support for the Child Focus, Inc. (CFI) facility. CFI is also seeking capital funding for real estate property. Much like the resolution for GCB, CFI must also obtain a resolution of support from the county Board indicating approval of the project and willingness to monitor the services to be provided. The capital grant that CFI is applying for will help offset the costs of the purchase and renovation of a property to be used for provision of services in Clermont County. The total cost of the project is \$666,667, with \$500,000 (75%) requested from OMHAS and CFI providing a 25% match of \$166,667. Jim Carter of CFI said the new building is to be used for expansion of its early childhood treatment program in collaboration with Clermont County Educational Service Center. Jim went on to say CFI had managed to get Union Township to change its mind about tearing down the old Glen Este High School and both parties have signed a letter of intent to allow CFI to purchase the property of over 60,000 square feet. The building will allow CFI to service many schools' children at one location, thus allowing more children to be seen in a single day as staff will not have to travel from school to school. Board member Katie Shepard asked Jim how he thought this change may affect the current methods of treatment. Jim advised Katie he thought it would be a huge improvement, since many more children will have to opportunity to get connected to services. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the resolution of support for the Child Focus facility as presented. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Andy Bateman).

The fourth action item was the FY 2019 contracts to support the Quick Response Team (QRT)

programs at Miami Township's police and fire departments and the City of Milford's police and fire departments. The Board received a grant from Interact for Health last year to implement Quick Response Teams in Milford/Miami Township. The Board is the fiscal agent, so it is providing the funds allotted in the grant to the various agencies providing the QRT services. We neglected to enter into MOUs with the police and fire/EMS agencies in Milford and Miami Township last year to allow the Board to pay the invoices from these agencies. These MOUs have now been drafted, reviewed and approved by the various agencies, and are attached for your review. The funding for these services is already included in our FY 2019 budget, so there is no additional funding required beyond what we have already projected. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the four contracts to support the QRT program at Miami Township/City of Milford as presented and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOUs on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Carole Cottrill, second-Andy Bateman).

The fifth and final action item was the rescheduling of the May, June, and November 2019 Board meetings and the scheduling of the Board Retreat. As has occurred in past years, the date of the June Board meeting conflicts with the OACBHA Opiate Conference, which is being held this year on Monday and Tuesday, June 10-11. The regular Board meeting date is June 11th. Both Lee Ann Watson and Karen Scherra usually attend this conference, and a few Board members have also attended. In addition, Lee Ann and Karen will be attending the Collective Impact Conference in Chicago from May 13-15, which is required by the OMHAS Collective Impact grant. The regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 13, which obviously conflicts with the conference.

In 2018, it was decided to cancel the November meeting because the date fell on the Veteran's Day observance holiday. In 2019, the observance of Veteran's Day falls on the Board meeting date again, Monday November 11. Finally, the Board retreat must be scheduled. With a new Governor, his budget is not due to the Legislature until mid-March. Karen Scherra recommended holding the retreat in April, so there is time to understand the Board's potential allocation based on the Governor's budget, hear what the Legislature thinks of it, and get a good sense of possible funding and any issues going into FY 2020.

After much discussion and review of calendars to pick the dates on which most Board members would be available, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to cancel the April 8th Board meeting, schedule the April Board meeting and Board Retreat on April 13, 2019, cancel the May 2019 Board meeting, move the June Board meeting to June 3, 2019, and change the November meeting to November 18, 2019. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Andy Bateman). On a side note, Karen Scherra advised the Board that we would have to revisit the July Board meeting date as it is a popular month for vacation but is also a critical month to meet quorum.

8. Discussion Items: The first discussion item was the Behavioral Health Redesign/Managed Care update. Karen Scherra advised the Board that she and Erica Pursley were going to give a PowerPoint presentation based on the training they had attended last month but decided to postpone it, as many Board members were not present and there are still some things changing within the system. Karen did point out some important things from that training. She provided the Board members with some data regarding Medicaid Expansion: 89% of Medicaid Expansion clients had no insurance prior to Expansion, and out of the 1,180,940 people on

Medicaid due to the Expansion, 630,000 are behavioral health clients. These numbers illustrate how critical Medicaid is to the people we serve. The presentation also included the rationale as to why the Department of Medicaid moved BH Medicaid to the five managed care companies: because there would be an increase in access to care, better quality care, and value-based payments. The Department of Medicaid believes that treatment outcomes will improve under this system, since payment will be made based on quality of the services not just simply providing the services. Medicaid believes that this individual-centered care will lead to the sustainability of Medicaid. Jim Carter of CFI responded to these reasons, pointing out that Medicaid is suggesting that treatment agencies were not providing quality care, and that this is an excuse for the broad-based changes to Medicaid billing. The Department of Medicaid has stated that claims not being processed is the fault of the treatment agencies not being able to convert their systems correctly and in a timely manner. However, Jim says that the agencies have been held accountable all along to provide proof of care to Medicaid. Jim thinks that the switch to the managed care companies, which will be able to set their own rates and fees in the near future, will create difficulties for the system. Karen said the good thing is, Medicaid did decide to keep the rates the same across all five managed care companies until January 1, 2020 instead of the original date of July 1, 2019. Medicaid has also extended the time frame in which agencies have to pay back advances they received on claims when processing was behind.

Karen said she is not sure what to expect when the five managed care companies start charging their own rates. How will that affect billing and claims? Karen has asked Erica Pursley to discuss this matter with other boards using the GOSH billing system to see how they are planning on dealing with this imminent change. The Board of Directors will have to determine how to handle payment for services once the managed care companies start changing their rates. Karen said the Medicaid changes will be a big issue for newly elected Governor Mike DeWine. The Governor has stated his support for Medicaid Expansion but added it is unsustainable for the state. More discussion on the matter will take place at the Board Retreat.

The second discussion item was the newly elected Governor Mike DeWine's Administration update. Karen Scherra said that Governor DeWine has assembled one of the most diverse cabinets in Ohio history, including many women and minorities in top positions. Governor DeWine has chosen to replace OMHAS Director Dr. Hurst with Lori Criss, CEO of the Ohio Council. Karen believes that she will be a balanced leader and the agencies are very pleased with this decision. Karen said Jeff O'Neil of GCB has a very good relationship with Ms. Criss and is happy to see her in the position.

Governor DeWine choice for Director of Developmental Disabilities came from the treatment providers' state organization, and he also created three new cabinet positions and signed six executive orders immediately after taking his oath. The first was the development of the Governor's Recovery Ohio Initiative, appointing Alisha Nelson as the Director. Ms. Nelson will have six deputies reporting to her and each of those deputies will have their own staff. The other executive orders created the Governor's Children's Initiative; established Ohio as a disability inclusion state and model employer of individuals with disabilities; elevated foster care priorities in Ohio; put an anti-discrimination policy back in effect adding pregnancy, transgender, young children and foster parents as protected classes; and elevated prevention within the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Governor DeWine hopes

the new coordinator for Children's Initiatives will lead the efforts to boost access to preschool and mental health services for youth, as well as other policy proposals for education and children. Governor DeWine has also appointed a senior policy advisor for criminal justice policy and reform.

The final item of discussion was the 2019 OACBHA Legislative Reception. Karen Scherra said OACBHA's Legislative Day begins at 10:00am on January 29th. The day will consist of a membership meeting, awards luncheon, and time slotted for Board Directors to schedule meetings with their local legislators. OACBHA is encouraging Board Directors to invite other individuals involved in addiction and mental health services, such as recovery coaches and Board members, to participate in the day, including the Legislative Reception at 4:30pm. This year, OACBHA has invited Governor DeWine and other leaders to attend this important event that will provide a good opportunity for boards to lay the foundation for budget advocacy with the members of the General Assembly. Karen advised the Board that she currently has a recovery coach coming to the event and extended the invitation to Board members. Karen said she would have Board staff send the information about the event in an email the following day.

9. Agency Directors' Reports: Jim Carter of Child Focus, Inc. said his report stands. Jim added that he will be retiring in June of 2019. He said the last 40 years have been made very special by his incredibly caring and dedicated staff. Jim also thanked the Board, saying if it had not been for CCMHRB, CFI would not be what it is today.

Jean Houston of Families Connected said her report stands. Jean also passed out flyers with information on "Sibshops", a coming together of brothers and sisters of children with special needs. Jean said she plans to have three (3) more Sibshops before she retires, also in June 2019. Karen Scherra asked if the kids attending Sibshops needed to be from Clermont County and Jean said that all, including other counties, are welcome. Jean closed by announcing she is in the search for a project to celebrate mental health month in May.

Amy Foley of Hope Community Center said her report stands. Amy also passed out flyers for her First Responders Peer Support Team event. Dr. Kate Chard, who is the Director of the Trauma Recovery Center at VA Medical Center, Director at UC Health Stress Center, and Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience at University of Cincinnati, will speak at the event. Also speaking at the event will be two members of Hope's Peer Support Team. Amy closed by announcing she is seeking new board members.


Julia Saldanha of NAMI said her report stands. Julia added that NAMI started a new Family to Family class at Milford United Methodist Church. The peer support groups have had such good turnout, NAMI plans to continue the classes in the summer. Julia stated NAMI's "Ending the Silence" program in area schools has been very well received and encouraged the folks in the room to contact her if they had any school connections that may be interested in the program. Julia closed by thanking the Board for their support.


Alicia Fine of GCB said her report stands.

Board Member Katie Shepard shared that her choir kids at West Clermont are very involved in

suicide prevention and every year participate in the suicide walk at Sawyer Point. The kids also sing at Clermont County's Annual Suicide Prevention Candlelight Vigil. This year, to raise money for the event, the choir put on a performance at the school and sold t-shirts afterward. The t-shirts said "You will be found, you're not alone" on the front and had the national suicide hotline phone number on the back. Katie said the group was able to raise \$1,400 and she was very proud. Katie said after the performance, a student came to her and expressed how relieved he was that suicide is finally a topic that students can talk about openly at school. Julia Saldanha of NAMI told Katie she would be happy to bring an "Ending the Silence" presentation to the school where Katie works. Katie closed by saying how happy she was that the students and the school, as a whole, were so receptive to the topic of suicide prevention.

10. Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the January 14, 2019 Board of Directors meeting. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Carole Cottrill).


Karen Conrad, Chairperson


Karen J. Scherra, Executive Director