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ENCLOSURE ONE

MINUTES of June 8, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andrea Bryant, Suzy Carter, Richard Chaney, Karen Conrad, Dorothy Glancy, Molly Greer, Angela Liggett, Scott Wheeler

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Greg Cottrill, Wayne Johnson

GUESTS PRESENT: Anne Combs, Amy Foley, Sara Huron, Sandy Lock, Laura Stith, Heather Turner

STAFF PRESENT: Melissa Burke, Joyce Rain, Karen Scherra, Lee Ann Watson

1. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda of June 8, 2015. (Motion-Molly Greer, second-Scott Wheeler).
2. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Minutes from the meeting on May 11, 2015. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Molly Greer).
2. Review Materials/Correspondence: In the Correspondence folder, Karen Scherra referenced a thank you letter from SOLACE regarding the Board's support and participation in their recent Prevention Connection meeting which was held on May 21, 2015. Karen explained that SOLACE is a group comprised of family members who have either lost a loved one to the heroin epidemic or know someone who is currently using heroin. SOLACE works to bring awareness to the community about the current drug epidemic, reduce the stigma of addiction, and help members of the community enter into treatment and find recovery. Karen Scherra also referenced a letter from Todd Brian at Clark Schaefer Hackett thanking the Board for the relationship that was fostered through our long term business affiliation with this firm. Karen Scherra reminded the Board that they had decided to stop the annual "Agreed Upon Procedures" review due to the decrease in our annual budget and the fact that there is confidence in the Board's fiscal practices.

Karen Scherra also brought attention to several items in the Miscellaneous folder. She referenced the most recent Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services, as well as three (3) facts sheets that were clipped together within the folder about Supported Employment services for individuals with a severe mental illness and people in recovery from an addiction. Karen

Scherra explained that she believes our system is ahead of the state with regard to our Supported Employment program, particularly since we offer the services to individuals with a substance use disorder. Karen Scherra cited an article regarding "Changing the conversation about drug abuse". Karen explained that the common verbiage used to describe drug addiction such as "dirty needles" or "addict" are negative and support the stigma surrounding drug addiction. The article explained how the words that we choose to use in discussing substance abuse can have a negative impact on individuals in the community and can keep people from getting the treatment that they need. Karen Scherra illustrated that we need to rethink how we talk about drug addiction and areas surrounding such in an attempt to convey respect and empathy towards those individuals with a substance use disorder.

The Newspaper folder contained quite a few articles regarding the marijuana initiative in Ohio and the pros and cons associated with such. Scott Wheeler relayed that he has recently seen articles opposing the legalization of marijuana. Karen Scherra indicated that the public is becoming more aware of the possibility that marijuana could become legalized. Recent polling has shown that the issue will pass. Karen Conrad mentioned an article in the *National Geographic* concerning the legalization of marijuana and the effect that it may have on individuals and the community. She will bring a copy of the article to the next meeting. Karen Scherra cited an article in *The Clermont Sun* regarding the release of the County Coroner's data on overdose deaths in 2014. The number of opiate related overdose deaths increased significantly in 2014. Karen Scherra also indicated that there are more and more articles in *The Enquirer* concerning needle exchange sites due to the risk of Hepatitis C and HIV/AIDS. Karen Scherra also brought attention to articles concerning the possible discontinuation of Medicaid eligibility for pregnant women with income over 200% of poverty. Advocacy aimed at the Governor's Office has resulted in this being removed from the budget. This folder also contained an article from *The Enquirer* regarding the Opiate Task Force's Action Plan Rollout Event on May 26, 2015.

3. Karen Scherra presented highlights from her Executive Director's Report. Concerning the Southwest Collaborative/Hotspot funding, Karen Scherra mentioned that the partners have yet to hear anything about OMHAS Director Plouck's offer to possibly staff a crisis stabilization and step-down facility in Blanchester. In the meantime, the collaborative partners (Brown, Clermont and Warren/Clinton Board areas) are continuing to work on using the facility as recovery housing for women. Karen Scherra stated that the partners had recently met with Scott Boone from New Housing Opportunities (NHO) regarding the per diem cost of operating the recovery housing located in Blanchester. The collaborative partners are not in agreement with the per diem rates being proposed by NHO. After the meeting with Mr. Boone, the Collaborative partners discussed and agreed upon what was considered to be a fair per diem. Our proposed per diem is based on the rate to be charged by the recovery housing facility in Brown County for men that all three boards will be utilizing. The Collaborative partners will mail a letter, signed by the Executive Directors in all three of the county Board areas, to Mr. Boone with our per diem proposal. Karen Scherra believes that NHO may agree to our proposal once they have had a chance to digest the information and the offer provided by the Boards. Karen Scherra also discussed that it is still unclear whether the state will

require that recovery housing be located in our Board area as part of the Continuum of Care. If the state requirement remains, Clermont County will ask that our portion of the Collaborative funding that was used for the purchase and renovation of the facility in Blanchester be returned to the Board.

Karen also relayed to the group that the three Boards in the hotspot/collaborative partnership met on May 20th as a follow-up to the Steering Committee meeting to discuss ideas for services to fund with the SFY2016 Hot Spot Collaborative funds. A consensus was reached for the areas of focus. The Steering Committee will now prepare a budget for the funds. Karen Scherra stated that the full Southwest Collaborative met on May 21, 2015 to review planning for the upcoming fiscal year and to decide in what areas they want to work as a group rather than individually with the collaborative funding. They also discussed which Boards were spending out their SFY 2015 funds and which ones were requesting a carryover into SFY2016. OMHAS has yet to provide guidance on reporting out for the SFY 2015 funding or for requesting the FY 2016 funds. Thus, a meeting is scheduled for July 2016 in hopes that OMHAS will have provided the requirements by then and the Board areas can in turn meet to work through the reporting requirements.

The Opiate Task Force continues to meet on a monthly basis. At the most recent meeting in May, the focus was on state and federal legislative updates related to opiates. Karen Scherra presented at this meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for June 11th. The Opiate Task Force's "Action Plan Rollout Event" was held on May 26th. Unfortunately, bad weather may have kept many more from attending the event. There were over 100 people present, including several elected officials. The event included presentations from Karen Scherra, County Coroner Dr. Brian Treon, Health Commissioner Julianne Nesbit, OACBHA CEO Cheri Walter, Chief Deputy Steve Leahy from the Sheriff's Office, Jason Nagle from the Prosecutor's Office, Chief Scott Gaviglia from the Union Township Police Department, and several task force members. The event did receive media coverage from Channel 9, *The Enquirer* and *The Clermont Sun*.

Karen Scherra also advised the Board members that SOLACE sponsored a gathering on May 21st at the Pattison Lodge for all of the "grassroots" groups in Clermont County who have formed as a response to the opiate epidemic. There was good attendance at the event. The event received media coverage by Channels 9 and 19. There were presentations given, as well as Narcan kits provided by CRC to people who attended and wanted a kit.

At the Drug Free "Home Towns Against Heroin" event in Felicity held in mid May, Karen Scherra noted that Lee Ann Watson and Mary Wolff, the Director of the Drug Free Coalition, and she had attended. Despite the bad weather, there was a great turn out and many people spoke about their experiences with heroin abuse. Karen Scherra explained that many people came up to her after the event wanting to talk and to get more information on how to get involved in the Opiate Task Force. Karen Scherra pointed out that the more and more people are being affected by this epidemic that ever before, which reinforces that the Board, CRC and the Opiate Task Force needs to continue our efforts to combat the epidemic.

In regard to FAST TRAC, Karen Scherra noted that technically the existing SAMHSA grant is over on September 29, 2015. However, SAMHSA allows grantees to apply for a seventh year of grant funding by allowing the grantee to use existing funds that were not spent over the prior grant years. In 2009, when the Board applied for the SAMHSA grant, a budget had to be completed that included all six years of the grant. SAMHSA holds the grantee to those figures and then allows money that was not spent in each grant year to be set aside in a separate fund. These funds can then be utilized to fund a year seven. The Board will apply for the year seven funding in July. If the funding for year seven is not approved, the FAST TRAC Sustainability Plan will dictate which services/programs are continued and which will terminate at the end of the grant period. Karen Scherra will be in contact with the County's Human Resources Department to determine an appropriate course of action for Board staff funded by the grant while awaiting the decision for the extension.

Karen Scherra also relayed that she had a meeting Friday with the Superintendent of Clermont County Developmental Disabilities (CCDD), the Director of the Department of Jobs and Family Services (DJFS), the Administrator for Juvenile Court, and the FAST TRAC Coordinator/Project Director, Gretchen Behimer, about the Board discontinuing as the administrative agent for FAST TRAC and FCF. It is being proposed that wraparound services, like those delivered by FAST TRAC, will become Medicaid billable in the near future. Due to state statute, the Board is not permitted to provide direct services. Therefore, FAST TRAC will be required to be under the administration of another agency. Karen Scherra suggested that the Board needs to disengage from FAST TRAC and FCF by as early as January 2016 or July 2016 at the latest. Karen Scherra explained that if the grant is extended for the additional year, the Board will continue as the grantee, even if staff move to another agency. However, the FAST TRAC and FCF staff would no longer be considered Board staff, and they may move from our building. If FAST TRAC and FCF do decide to stay in the Board's building, the Board will charge rent, as we will no longer be the administrative agent.

In relation to Mental Health Month, Karen Scherra received the Commissioner's Proclamation for Mental Health Month in Clermont County. The focus for this year's mental health month presentation was young adults, so at the Commissioners meeting we highlighted the TIP and FIRST programs provided by GCB. In addition, Professor Connie Fenton from the UC Clermont Nursing Program was honored by UC Clermont and the Board at the Commissioners meeting for her outstanding collaboration with our behavioral health system. Professor Fenton started Active Minds at UC Clermont and was involved in the Drug Free Coalition and the Suicide Prevention Coalition. Professor Fenton was too ill to attend the meeting, but her son and daughter were present to accept the awards. Lee Ann Watson and Karen Scherra attended the reception for Professor Fenton at UC Clermont, and the Professor was able to attend the reception. The Board gave Professor Fenton the Wasserman Award in honor of her outstanding community work. Karen Scherra noted that the community is losing a very good person, and that it was great that the community had a chance to recognize her work.

Also, over the past month, Karen Scherra met with representatives from Probate Court (Judge Shriver, Probate Court Magistrate and Assistant Prosecutor) and the Southwest Ohio Developmental Center (SODC), a state facility for persons with developmental disabilities. SODC has several clients who are about to turn 18 and are refusing to take their medications. Further, the clients can walk away from the SODC facility at 18 if they choose to do so. The Court wanted to look into guardianship for these clients and thought that most of them should go to Summit Behavioral Health for placement since the families can't house them (one of them is a Clermont County resident and the others are Hamilton County residents). Karen Scherra relayed to those at the meeting that Summit Behavioral Health is not a long term care facility and is therefore not an option for these individuals. A couple of the clients turning 18 are sex offenders; and finding placements for them in the community is a gap in the system. Judge Shriver redirected the SODC to contact Hamilton County Probate about the clients who are Hamilton County residents. The meeting also focused on educating the judge and prosecutor regarding forced medication and the limits of the community mental health system, i.e., that even if an individual has a guardian, he/she can still refuse to take medication and the community system is unable to force them to take their medication.

4. Committee Reports: Scott Wheeler briefed the Board on the items that were reviewed by the Finance Committee, which met prior to the Board meeting. Scott Wheeler said that there was discussion surrounding the proposed changes in Medicaid that is currently in discussion at the state level. He also referenced the Board's current budget situation going into FY 2016 and said that there will be more information forthcoming on these two topics at the next meeting. Scott Wheeler also relayed to the group that the Board is looking for a new IT consultant, as the current company that supports the Board's needs, Geisler IT, is focusing their business on the GOSH product and is no longer able to provide overall IT support to the Board. Geisler IT is willing to support the Board's needs until we are able to contract with another company. Currently, the Board staff is interviewing various companies with the help of Mike Geisler, who is the head of Geisler IT, with the intent of identifying the new consultant by the end of June 2015. Scott Wheeler also mentioned that Board staff have not received any information from Felicity Township staff with regard to the amount of rent requested for the Board to utilize the empty EMS building.
5. Action Items: Karen Scherra presented the list of the FY2016 Health Officers and Chief Clinical Officers for the contract agencies. Karen explained that these documents will designate the Health Officers and Chief Clinical Officers for FY 2016. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY2016 Adult and Children's CCOs and to approve the FY2016 Health Officers for GCB/LPS and CFI (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Molly Greer).

Karen Scherra also presented the Indigent Driver Alcohol Treatment Fund (IDAT) FY 2016 Memorandum of Understanding, asking the Board for approval for Karen to sign on behalf of the Board. Karen explained that the Judges agreed to increase the amount for the upcoming fiscal year to \$150,000 due to the projected loss of state funding. Municipal Court is also

planning to utilize other funding to continue access to residential services at Sojourner for individuals on probation. Access to residential services at Sojourner was provided to the Courts in SFY2015 through the Collaborative monies. The judges want the Board to continue to hold the contract with Sojourner, with Municipal Court providing the funds. Karen further explained that the Commissioners recently awarded the contract for the CASC program at the jail to GCB/CRC. The re-designed programming at CASC will most likely provide an alternative to residential treatment, and may decrease the need for residential treatment, according to the judges. Karen Scherra expressed that a new contract for Sojourner will come before the Board for approval in July 2015. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the agreement with Clermont County Municipal Court regarding Indigent Driver Alcohol Treatment (IDAT) Funds for FY2016 and to authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Karen Conrad).

Karen also presented the FY 2016 Children's Hospital Medical Center Agreement, asking the Board for approval for Karen to sign on behalf of the Board at the current or at an increased rate. Karen expressed that the contract is the same as FY 2015; however, Children's Hospital has the ability to request an increase for the contract. Such an increase would have little to no impact on the Board, since Children's Hospital rarely bills the Board as most children have insurance or Medicaid coverage. However, we do really need to have this contract in place, both to maintain the relationship with the hospital afforded through the contract, and to assure children without coverage have access to hospitalization. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the agreement with Children's Hospital for psychiatric inpatient services for children/adolescents for FY 2016 at the same per diem rate as FY 2015 or at an increased rate at the discretion of the Executive Director, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the Board (Motion-Molly Greer, second-Karen Conrad).

Karen presented the FY 2016 Brown County Care Center Agreement. Karen indicated that we currently have eleven (11) clients at the Brown County Care Center, which is an adult residential care facility. The facility received an increase in the per diem last year, thus the Board staff has requested that there not be an increase for the upcoming fiscal year. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2016 agreement with Brown County Care Center and to authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Andrea Bryant, second-Molly Greer).

Karen presented the FY 2016 Continuing Healthcare Solutions Adult Care Facilities Agreement. Karen advised that Mellon Meadows Care Center, Inc. and Peebles Place Care Center, Inc. also received an increase in the per diem last year, and thus requesting that there is no increase for this coming fiscal year. We currently have ten (10) clients in Mellon Meadows and six (6) clients in Peebles Place. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2016 agreement with Continuing Healthcare Solutions and to authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Richard Chaney).

Karen Scherra also presented the FY 2016 Agreement with Children's Protective Services/DJFS. This agreement has been in place for four to five years and allows for CPS and the Board to share funding for treatment at Clermont Recovery Center for parents who are dealing with an addiction, usually opiate-related, and have lost custody of their children due to their drug abuse. Karen Scherra relayed that we have decreased the agreed upon funding amount since we have not used the entire allotted amount in past years. Karen Scherra also advised that if for some reason the expenses increase this coming year, the Board will revisit the contract with CPS for revisions at that time. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2016 agreement with Children's Protective Services/DJFS for shared funding of AOD services and to authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Richard Chaney).

6. Karen Scherra provided the Board Members with a summary of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) of 2015, which is intended to address the increasing opioid addiction issue. At the Opiate Task Force (OTF) event held on May 26, 2015, Karen Scherra and Lee Ann Watson spoke with Daniel Bower, who is a local Special Assistant to Senator Portman. Mr. Bower was advocating for support for the bill and relayed that Senator Portman has started a list of all of the organizations that are supporting this bill to show just how many people believe in it. Mr. Bower asked that the OTF and the Board join the list of supporters. Karen Scherra provided a brief explanation of the bill, stating that the bill will provide grant funding for AOD treatment. She also shared the list of some of the organizations that are in support of the bill. Karen Scherra said that initially, they targeted national organizations for support, but now are looking at organizations at the state and county level for support. She also said that she will be consulting with the OTF members and asking for their support at their next meeting, but at this time was asking for the Board's support of the bill. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to support the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) of 2015 and to authorize the Executive Director to indicate support on behalf of the Board to Senator Portman's office. (Motion-Molly Greer, second-Scott Wheeler).
7. Discussion Items: Karen Scherra relayed to the group that as of the date of our meeting, the House's version of the state budget had not yet been released. Previous communications had stated that the budget would be released today, but instead only a press release highlighting priority areas was released – and behavioral health was not included. It is expected that the budget will be released tomorrow (June 9th). We have heard that the House version contains language regarding the requirements for Recovery Housing and as well as the addition of an Ombudsman position in the County Board system. We are not expecting the \$30 million cut from the OMHAS budget to be restored. Karen said that she is semi-optimistic that we will get the cut funds restored in the Senate's version, and that a majority of Senators, including Senator Uecker, seem to be supporting adding those dollars back in. The Senate has made it very clear that they did not like the budgets proposed by the House or the Governor. Once the House and then Senate versions of the bill are voted on, the 3 versions of the budget bill are then taken up by the Conference Committee to create the final bill, which has to be passed by both the House and Senate and then goes to the Governor for approval, although he has line

item veto power. There is a very short timeline for approval – the budget has to be in place before July 1st.

Karen Scherra provided an update on the status of the pending decision from the Board of County Commissioners regarding levies to be on the ballot this November. The Board of Developmental Disabilities is scheduled to meet on June 16th to discuss their finances and confirm their decision regarding placement of levies on the ballot. The DD Board has five (5) levies - one five-year levy, and four other “continuing” levies; 3 of the continuing levies can be replaced to increase their value, as they were initially passed around 1980, as one was replaced a couple years ago. The DD Board would like to put two of their continuing levies on the November ballot. Karen Scherra relayed that she is concerned that if the Board is on the ballot with DD, our system may not get the votes that are needed to pass the levy. CPS has also asked the Commissioners to be on the ballot in November. The Board only has two years to pass our current levy before it terminates. If we not on the ballot in November of 2015, asking for an increase in 2016 might be too risky since we might not pass. Karen Scherra has spoken with Commissioner Humphrey regarding the urgency of the Board being on the ballot in the fall. She also sent an email to the Commissioners asking them for a meeting to further discuss the Board's needs. However, she has not received a response as of yet, and as of today, there has been no decision from the Commissioners. Due to the negative outlook of the Board's budget for FY 2016, she urged the board members to speak with the Commissioners and relay the Board's critical need to be on the November ballot. After discussion, Chairperson Angela Liggett agreed to sign a letter addressed to the Commissioners stating this need. Many other Board Members agreed to contact the Commissioners directly to relay the urgency as well.

Karen Scherra indicated that historically the Board does not meet in August due to vacation schedules and the difficulty in reaching a quorum. However, she has not officially asked the Board to cancel the meeting at this point due to pending items that may need to be addressed, like the state budget and the levy. We will not meet in August if there are no pending issues, and the issue will be brought to the Board at the July meeting.

Melissa Burke informed the Board members that the County Fair will be July 26-August 1. The Board will again have a booth at the fair and needs volunteers to help staff the booth. Melissa Burke passed around a sign-up sheet as well as a Fair schedule. Melissa will also send an email about the fair schedule to the Board members.

8. Agency Directors' Reports:

Anne Combs presented for Greater Cincinnati Behavioral (GCB/LPS) and provided Board members with an update on psychiatry. GCB is currently fully staffed, after losing 3.5 FTEs in the past three months in their offices in Hamilton County. Anne Combs also stated that shortage of psychiatrists is a national trend. There is a shortage of medical students choosing psychiatry due to low pay and stress of community mental health. In regard to the programmatic areas, Anne Combs relayed that the ASPIRE program (vocational services for

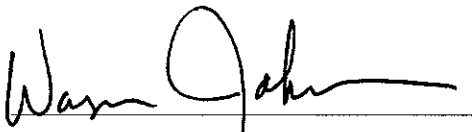
those with an addiction) is going well and GCB received fifteen (15) new referrals in the month of May for a total of 175 referrals for the fiscal year.

Laura Stith presented for Child Focus, Inc. (CFI). Laura Stith concurred with Anne Combs that there is a national shortage of psychiatrists. Laura Stith also mentioned that CFI had a lot of open positions within their organization in April. Some of the vacant positions have been filled. CFI has lost one full time psychiatrist and they are currently struggling to meet the psychiatric needs of new clients at this time, as they are not able to meet the demands of the current case load. In response to this issue, some states are passing legislation allowing psychologists to prescribe medication to help with the needs of the community. Laura Stith is currently attending graduate school to receive the needed credentials to prescribe medications should the law change in Ohio. As far as fundraising events currently scheduled, CFI will be hosting a blood drive with Hoxworth Blood Center and they have a chance to win \$1,000 - \$10,000 dollars, depending on how many people sign up and donate on behalf of CFI. There is also the Encourage the Heart dinner scheduled for July 10, 2015 and the annual Golf Classic scheduled in August 2015.

Heather Turner presented for NAMI of Southwest Ohio and stated that NAMI currently is working with UC Medical School to incorporate the showing of a film about mental health called "In Our Own Voice" to first year medical students in the hopes of encouraging their interest in psychiatry. Heather Turner also relayed that the NAMI Peer-to-Peer will be completed on June 9th and two individuals from that group will graduate. The NAMI Family-to-Family started on May 20th at Child Focus. Twenty-three (23) people registered and a total of thirteen (13) are attending. Classes will end on July 29th.

Amy Foley with HOPE Community Center (HCC) reported that she recently crafted a press release as HCC is looking for two (2) new board members for their organization. HCC is in need of an Accountant and someone with a Human Resources background to assist with the formalities of the organization. Amy Foley mentioned that she hosted a non-traditional peer support specialist training group two weeks ago and received a 5 out of 5 rating on the training for every day. Within the last month, Amy Foley also created a newsletter that will be sent to all Peer Support Specialists going forward. Amy Foley also shared with the group some of the mindfulness activities at HCC.

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


Wayne Johnson, Secretary


Karen J. Scherra, Executive Director