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MINUTES of March 11, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andy Bateman, Jacki Block, Suzy Carter, Karen Conrad, Carole Cottrill, Dorothy Glancy, John Kelly, Patty Lawrence, Greg Varner

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Kelley Costello, Geoff Schwerzler, Katie Shepard

ASSOCIATE MEMBER EXCUSED: Richard Chaney

GUESTS PRESENT: Greg Brown, Jim Carter, Heather Cokl, Laura Esslinger, Amy Foley, Patty Hassel, Jean Houston, Jeff Kirschner, Pamela Lindeman, Emily Neal, Michael Rootman, Julia Saldanha, Laura Stith, Anne Wise

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

1. Chairperson Karen Conrad welcomed everyone. Karen introduced and welcomed newly appointed Board member Patty Lawrence. Patty gave a brief description of her background and interest in becoming a Board member. Also present was Greg Brown, who has applied for the Board member position opening available on June 1, 2019. He too gave a brief description of his background and why he was interested in joining the Board. Another guest present was Laura Esslinger, who is considering applying for an OMHAS appointed position on the Board. She also gave a brief description of her background and interests. As there were many new faces in the room, Karen Conrad asked everyone in the room to introduce him/herself. The meeting then proceeded.
2. Action Item #2: Resolution of Intent to Support the Boys and Girls Club Capital Funding Project was added to the agenda. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the revised Agenda for the March 11, 2019 Board meeting. (Motion-Carole Cottrill, second-Dorothy Glancy).
3. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the February 11, 2019 meeting minutes. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Greg Varner).
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 Federal/State Issues/Articles folder there was a summary of Governor Mike DeWine's State of the State Address. Outlined in the article were Governor DeWine's

key initiatives including, but not limited to, investing in children, investing in workforce development, and combatting the state's addiction epidemic. Karen pointed out that his using the phrase "addiction epidemic" shows Governor DeWine is aware that the drug problems in Ohio go well beyond just heroin. Governor DeWine's plans for investing in Ohio's youth include a \$25 million budget for increased wraparound service models for in-need youth, such as the OhioSTART program, which provides peer support to parents with a drug addiction that have lost custody of their children as a result of their addiction. Karen said Clermont County's Child Protective Services was given the opportunity a few years back to pilot the OhioSTART program but declined due to funding concerns. Karen said she hopes Clermont CPS will be able to make the program work this time. Karen mentioned that additional funding for Family and Children First programs like wraparound services was included in the Governor's budget. Governor DeWine also plans to implement substance abuse prevention education each year in grade levels K-12th. As for his plan for increasing resources to local communities to combat the addiction epidemic, Governor DeWine plans to increase treatment capacity and create a new public health fund that will leverage resources to increase public health awareness and prevention strategies. Governor DeWine also plans to invest in workforce development, helping both Ohio citizens and job creators. Karen said the Governor's budget will be out on Friday March 15th and that she would have more specific numbers at a later date.

In the Correspondence folder, Karen said there was a "thank you" card from the Loveland Drug Free Coalition, (LEAAD, Loveland Educating Against Alcohol and Drugs), which was a recipient of the Board's FY2019 mini-grant funding. Karen said it was almost time once again to announce the FY2020 mini-grant program.

In the Youth Mental Health folder, Karen said there were articles reporting the statistics on children with diagnosed mental health disorders, which has increased. While some reports estimate the number of children with a diagnosed mental health disorder as 1 in 6, others report the estimate as 1 in 7. Either way, the statistics are staggering as nearly half of the children diagnosed go untreated.

In the Addiction folder, Karen said there were many articles that focused on the need for long-term recovery plans, past thirty days, in order to overcome the possibility of relapse. There were also articles on the increased use of marijuana and whether use is as safe as some people think. Articles suggest that in 2020 there will be more and more voters' ballots including recreational usage of marijuana. Lastly, Karen mentioned articles that reported on the inadequate and insufficient drug policies at the Federal level.

In the Adult Mental Health folder, Karen said there was an article about Lady Gaga receiving backlash for not being more open about the suicide in her new movie "A Star is Born". The backlash comes as a response to Lady Gaga's role as an advocate for mental health. Apparently, fans thought she should have made a statement prior to or at the end of the movie about the mental health issues of the main character and how close to real life the movie's plot is, and also provide information at the end of the movie on the National Suicide Prevention Hotline or other resources.

5. Awards and Recognition: Before proceeding with the rest of the meeting, Karen Conrad announced there were some awards and recognition to present. Karen Scherra announced that Suzy Carter's second term as Board member is expiring at the end of May 2019. During her eight-year term, Suzy has been a very active member of the Board and has brought a wide

amount of knowledge and tangible input to the table. Suzy said she had enjoyed being on the Board and seeing all the progress. Karen presented Suzy with a personalized tote bag filled with Board memorabilia.

Karen Scherra then announced that Jim Carter, CEO of Child Focus Inc. would be retiring in June 2019 after 40 years of service. Karen gave a brief explanation of the history of the Board and the relationship it has had with Jim Carter, specifically involving Jim Wasserman, the Board's former Director. Karen explained that many years ago the Board started handing out the "Wasserman Award", personalized wooden plaques for outstanding individuals in the Clermont behavioral health system. Karen said she couldn't think of a more deserving person than Jim Carter to receive the final remaining Wasserman Award plaque. Jim accepted the award with "full knowledge and appreciation" to the Board and Jim Wasserman's impact on his life, professionally and personally, and said a few words. His speech included the phrase, "retirement requires reflection". A few humorous anecdotes were expressed, and the meeting then proceeded.

6. Executive Director's Report: Karen Scherra presented a few highlights from her Executive Director's report. Under OACBHA, Karen said on February 25, she participated in the OACBHA Executive Council conference call meeting. On the call, she heard an update about BH Redesign and the status of the move to managed care. According to the OACBHA CEO, she thinks that the new OMHAS and Medicaid Directors will have more of a "stern hand" with the MCOs, holding the managed care plans more accountable, particularly in the area of payments to BH providers. The Medicaid Department plans to rebid the managed care contracts, but the process to get to that point will take about 18 months. For behavioral health, the option of having only one managed care company instead of the current five is "still on the table".

As for the opioid issue, on February 19th, Karen participated in an event titled "The Addiction Crisis: A Catholic and Lutheran Response". The Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the Southern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church had partnered to talk about the role of faith-based institutions and members in addressing the opioid epidemic and addiction issues overall. The event was viewed as a "call to action" for Catholic and Lutheran churches. A couple of national speakers were brought in to present to the attendees. The attendees also participated in a 1.5 hour working lunch during which breakout sessions were offered by county. Each county had a representative of the Board there to present to the attendees on the addiction situation in that county, the resources available, and how faith-based organizations in that county could become involved. There were a dozen Clermont County church members attending the Clermont County group, and Tyra Scherer from Public Health was there with Karen to talk about addiction in Clermont County. Karen said the group had a very good discussion and most of those attending said they would be in contact to talk further about getting involved in the Opiate Task Force (OTF) or having a presentation at their church.

Karen also gave an update on Appreciation Week activities. Karen advised the Board there is currently \$1,350 available from state and foundation funding to each Board for Appreciation Week activities. Karen said the first Appreciation Week Committee meeting was held on February 28th, led by Karen and Lee Ann. The group met again earlier today. Karen noted that

the Committee decided to move most of the events to later in May, rather than the week of April 29 – May 3, as set by the state, to have more time to plan and to coordinate with other events.

On February 14, Karen Scherra met with staff from GCB and the jail to address an issue that had occurred within the Linkage Team project at the jail. The meeting was very productive, and Karen believes a better understanding of the needs of the jail and how our system fits into that environment was achieved.

Regarding the ENGAGE Grant, Karen said the project is going well. On March 6th the Clermont ENGAGE MRSS Team met and continues to meet monthly to work on any issues that arise and to keep the program evolving as the team learns more about what is working and not working and how best to address the needs of the youth and families referred from Juvenile Court. Much of the discussion focused on the referral process and the new referral form for the program.

On March 1st, Karen attended the monthly Workforce Investment Board (WIB) of Butler, Clermont and Warren Counties' Executive Committee meeting. She said the group spent time talking about defining the roles of the staff (only 2 people) and the Board members and what can realistically be accomplished using the available resources. Karen also said the group will be reviewing the current committees and whether they should stay as is or be revised to better meet the areas of oversight and work to be accomplished. The team plans to discuss the Department of Labor grant and expiring contracts at the next scheduled meeting.

Under Federal Activities, Karen said there is much concern about President Trump's proposed budgetary cuts to Medicaid. He reportedly would like to turn Medicaid over to the States as a block grant project. Karen also mentioned the issue in Arkansas where 18,000 Arkansans lost Medicaid coverage due to work requirements and reporting. Only 8% of those people, fewer than 1,500, have regained coverage.

In Karen's report, she gave updates on several bills currently in the Ohio Legislature; specifically, SB 3, SB 55, SB 70, and HB 89, which are all related to the premise of Issue 1 back on the November ballot. These bills, and others still to come, deal with sentencing reforms.

Karen wrapped up by advising the Board that on February 14th, she and Lee Ann met with leadership from Mercy Hospital to discuss several items, including the development of a contract for use of the Behavioral Health unit for Clermont County residents. Mercy Hospital leadership will discuss the idea with their corporate leadership and inform Karen Scherra of the decision. If it goes through, the program would start in July 2019.

7. Committee Reports: Jacki Block presented to the full Board on behalf of the Finance Committee which had met prior to the Board meeting. The first item Jacki brought to the Board was the State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant funding update. Clermont was awarded \$360,000 in SOR funding to be spent between April and September of 2019. The funding will be used for Women's CASC, Medication Assisted Treatment, and ASPIRE (vocational services). Any leftover funding will be used for the Men's CASC program. Karen Scherra said she recently

met with the Clermont County Administrator to discuss the transition of using \$360,000 for a five-month period in the first year and stretching funding over a twelve-month period if year two grant funding is available. The County Administrator understands that the County will be responsible for continued funding of CASC if the Board does not receive continued SOR funding. The grant also allows for an additional \$250,000 for a syringe exchange program that will be shared with two other SW Ohio counties (Brown, Butler) and may expand to include Warren, Clinton and Preble counties.

The next item Jacki discussed was the Multi-system Funds Grant. Clermont has received funding in the amount of \$43,852 for youth involved in multi-system services. Karen Scherra said there were several Clermont youth-serving agencies that expressed interest in receiving the funding. Child Focus has requested \$21,000 for its day treatment youth program. Family and Children First has requested \$1,500 for a child who is very ill. Juvenile Court and Children's Protective Services are both requesting money for children who are on the waiting list for Pressley Ridge. The funding is one-time money which must be spent by June 30, 2019.

Karen Scherra informed the Board members that there were three Clermont agencies that applied for the recent Youth Resiliency Grant: Child Focus Inc., YMCA, and the Boys and Girls Club. Unfortunately, all three agencies were denied, as Clermont is now considered a Tier 2 county based on its population, OD rates, etc. The grants were all given to Tier 1 counties.

The final item from the Finance Committee meeting was the SFY 2020 sliding fee subsidy schedule. Eric Pursley reviewed the schedule with the Board members. By statute, the Board is required to annually approve the fee schedule used for individuals who are not covered by Medicaid or insurance to determine their appropriate share of the cost of the services they are receiving. The scale is based on the Federal poverty guidelines and Medicaid coverage. The scale was adapted several years ago to reflect 138% of poverty as the base, not 100%, since up to that income individuals are eligible for Medicaid under Medicaid Expansion. The scale was updated for FY 2020 to reflect changes to the Federal poverty guidelines. This fee schedule will become effective with the new fiscal year, namely on July 1, 2019. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the SFY 2020 sliding fee subsidy schedule as presented. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Carole Cottrill).

8. Action Items: The first action item was the revision of the Board's Mission Vision, and Bylaws. Karen Scherra said the items had not been revised since 2007, and in accordance with new terminology and regulations, she proposed that the Bylaws and Vision needed to be updated to be more appropriate. The Board's Mission statement has no proposed changes. Karen reminded the Board members that the proposed changes were included in the mailed Board meeting packet for their review prior to the meeting, and that the changes made were highlighted. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Board's Mission, Vision, and Bylaws as presented. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Greg Varner).

The second action item was the Resolution for Capital Funding for the Boys and Girls Club. Karen Scherra explained she had found out about the need for the Resolution after the Board mailing and provided copies of the Resolution to the Board members for review. The Boys and Girls Club of Clermont County applied for and had been notified to submit a full application

for the OMHAS Resiliency Capital Grant to fund the purchase and renovation of property to be used as the site for a third club in Clermont County. In accordance with requirements for the full application, the Boys and Girls Club, through Karen Scherra, had asked the Board for a Resolution of Support. Karen informed the Board members that Child Focus, Inc. also submitted an application for OMHAS Resiliency Capitol Grant funds. The Board's approval of the Resolution of support for funding for the Boys and Girls Club will not impact the application submitted by Child Focus, Inc. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Resolution of Support for Capital Funding for the Boys and Girls Club. (Motion-Andy Bateman, second-Carole Cottrill).

9. Discussion Items: The first discussion item was the Behavioral Health Redesign/Managed Care update. Karen Scherra said that as of January 1, 2020, Managed Care Companies will be free to change rates and services from what they were when the change-over first took place. Karen said there has been talk of combining the five Managed Care companies into one. Karen also mentioned that Board staff have been discussing with other County Mental Health Boards the best way to deal with the imminent changes as far as the billing system. The Board's service agencies collectively commented that their billing representatives were still plugging away at getting the rates and services in compliance with the Managed Care companies and submitting claims. Jeff Kirschner of GCB personally thanked the Board for being so flexible with aligning with the Managed Care companies' rules and regulations, as that was not the case with the Hamilton County Board.

The second discussion item was the WIB Department of Labor Grant update. Karen Scherra said she had already covered that during her Executive Director's Report segment of the meeting. In short, a contract for the Department of Labor Grant should be available for the April Board meeting.

The third and final discussion item was planning for the Board Retreat. Karen Scherra wanted to give Board members an idea of what items will be discussed at the Board Retreat on Saturday, April 13, 2019 beginning at 9:00 am. Karen advised the Board that she and Board staff have set up meetings with the provider agencies to discuss and understand their service and budgetary needs. Karen said she specifically plans to address the issue of CRC consistently over-spending on its allocation. This information will be presented to the Board at the Retreat. Also, at the Retreat, Karen stated that she plans to discuss in more depth the Governor's budget as well as the impact of Behavioral Health Redesign. Karen further added that Board staff will provide a review of the history of funding and the reserves to the Board members. Karen Conrad said that a historical perspective is always helpful, especially to new Board Members. The Retreat will give the Board an opportunity to prioritize its needs.

Agency Directors' Reports: Jim Carter of Child Focus, Inc. said his report stands as is. Laura Stith invited everyone to Jim Carter's retirement party on May 14, 2019 at 5:00 pm at The Barn in Mariemont.

Amy Foley of Hope Community Center (HCC) distributed copies of her report as it was not part of the Board mailing. She said HCC had started a new trauma group for women. The group has gotten a slow start, but Amy said she is hopeful it will pick up. She also said she was able to buy books on the subject thanks to two \$500 donations. Amy said she has given out about 150 copies so far. Amy also briefly described HCC as a consumer operated service

operated by individuals in recovery from mental health issues. HCC provides skill building groups to its members, which are often led by GCB staff. Some of the community group meetings held at HCC are Sober Support, Smart Recovery, NA, SOLACE, Trauma Support, and a sewing group. Amy has also trained 24 First Responders to offer peer support in their departments.

Jeff Kirschner of Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health (GCB) said his agency's report stands.

Heather Cokl of Clermont Recovery Center also said her report stands.

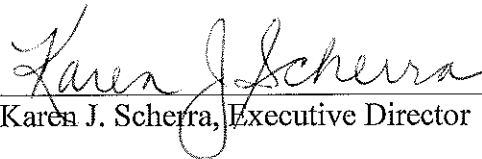
Julia Saldanha of NAMI said her report was not ready yet and planned to forward it to Board staff as soon as possible. She continued by saying NAMI has held 6 of the 9 proposed support group meetings with an attendance of 64 people. NAMI's Family to Family group will end in March with 17 of the 20 original participants set to graduate. NAMI will also be holding its "Hot Topics" event at CFI on March 12 at 6:00-7:30, where Renae Butcher from the Mobile Crisis Team will present on the topic "My loved one/client has been arrested, now what?" Julia closed by giving a brief History of NAMI for the new Board members in the room.

Jean Houston of Families Connected said her report stands and also gave a brief history of Families Connected. Jean said the group is a grass roots organization involved in peer support and counseling and has been around since 1991. Jean closed by saying she is retiring in June 2019 and the peer support "hat" would be passed to Amy Foley of Hope Community Center. Jean thanked the Board and said without the Board's support, there would be no family peer support agency.

10. Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the March 11, 2019 Board of Directors meeting. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-John Kelly).



Karen Conrad, Chairperson



Karen J. Scherra, Executive Director