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MINUTES of September 9, 2019

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Andy Bateman, Jacki Block, Carrie Brown, Karen Conrad, Kelley Costello, Laura Esslinger, Dorothy Glancy, John Kelly, Erica Koe-Krompecher, Patty Lawrence, Geoff Schwerzler, Greg Varner
- MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Carole Cottrill, Katie Shepard
- ASSOCIATE MEMBER PRESENT:** Richard Chaney
- GUESTS PRESENT:** Tammy Brewer, Alicia Fine, Amy Foley, Patty Hassel, Jeff O'Neil, Julia Saldanha, Laura Stith
- STAFF PRESENT:** Cindy Knoblauch, Erica Pursley, Karen Scherra, Lee Ann Watson

1. Chairperson Karen Conrad welcomed everyone and mentioned there was a new Board member, Erica Koe-Krompecher, present. Erica gave a brief summary of her credentials and explained her interest in being a Board member. Patty Lawrence asked if she could have a copy of the Board's Community Plan that is submitted to OMHAS.
2. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda for the September 9, 2019 Board meeting. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Jacki Block).
3. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the July 8, 2019 meeting minutes. (Motion-Carrie Brown, second-Kelley Costello).
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 Youth Mental Health folder, Karen mentioned several articles focusing on suicide prevention, the governor's plan to prevent school and community violence, and ways to deal with trauma. Karen also said there was an article about students in Oregon being allowed to take mental health days just as they would sick days. Kelley Costello mentioned that Williamsburg Schools has a similar policy.

In the Correspondence folder, Karen pointed out letters from Ohio National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) regarding the state budget and the recent deadly shooting in Dayton Ohio. There was also a letter from the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) to State legislators in response to the Dayton shooting. This letter discussed the

need for increased funding in the state budget for access to high-quality treatment and support services for people impacted by mental illness.

In the State/Federal Issues/Articles folder, Karen discussed the Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) “e-Update” newsletter. Karen asked the Board members if they would like to receive these emailed newsletters. The Board members expressed interest, and Karen advised them they would get copies via email from Board staff. Also in the folder were articles about the impact of the State budget on Medicaid, as well as articles reporting on federal court hearings involving the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Karen further mentioned the article about Terry Johnson being chosen to fill the Senate seat vacated last month by Joe Uecker.

In the Local Issues/Articles folder, Karen said there was an article about Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services (GCB) being recognized as “Best in the State” for its Community Transition Program (CTP). The program works with inmates to connect with them prior to release to link them with critical services prior to leaving the prison system, thereby reducing recidivism. Karen also said there were several county press releases put out by the new county Communications Coordinator Mike Boehmer. Karen said Mike has been a real asset in getting information about our Board and system out to the county, including press releases on the migrant program, the Candlelight Vigil and other projects.

In the Addiction folder, Karen referred to several articles highlighting what is working and what is not working regarding the fight against the opioid epidemic. Some areas are still showing overdose rates increasing while others are experiencing a decrease. There was also an article reporting on the possibility that the pharmaceutical company that created oxycodone might be filing bankruptcy as a result of the multiple lawsuits against the company. Karen also mentioned an article on “safe injection sites” such as the one that may open in Philadelphia. This would be the first safe injection site in the U.S. The theory behind safe injection sites is that providing a safe space for individuals to inject their drugs under the supervision of a medical professional decreases the risk of diseases and overdoses.

In the Adult Mental Health folder, Karen spoke about several articles that erroneously linked mental illness to gun violence, such as the shooting in Dayton. Karen said although some gun violence may be a result of an untreated mental illness, mental illness and violence are not linked. Karen said she wished news stories regarding this topic would discuss “untreated mental illness” rather than mental illness as a possible contributing factor. The stigma around mental illness and the recent gun violence has prompted President Trump’s suggestion of reopening “asylums” for the mentally ill.

5. Executive Director’s Report: Karen presented a few highlights from her Executive Director’s report. Karen said the state and the local state hospital are now admitting that Summit Behavioral Health is really a forensic only hospital, with so few beds for civil clients. This is an ongoing concern since there is very little access to hospitalization for clients who are not involved in the legal system. Karen plans to work with OMHAS and OACBHA on developing judicial trainings to help reduce the use of state hospitals for misdemeanor restoration to competency clients.

With regard to the OACBHA update, Karen noted the articles previously mentioned in the meeting that OACBHA sent to state legislators. The letters discussed the response to the Dayton shooting and State budget efforts to support and expand behavioral health services.

Under OMHAS related activities, Karen said she participated in a call with OMHAS staff on August 8th related to their developing a mental health response to farmers impacted by the weather and other issues. OMHAS wanted to know what collaboration, if any, CCMHRB currently has with farmers. Karen was able to share her connection to the Clermont County Farm Bureau and her attendance at their Policy Committee meetings, which gives her an opportunity to highlight what the behavioral health system is facing, the resources available, and to answer any questions.

Karen also reported that the OMHAS capital grant requested by Child Focus, Inc. (CFI) to cover some of the costs of the new Carter Educational Center has been approved. Child Focus held a ribbon cutting and Open House for the facility on August 16th, followed by a Mental Health Summit focused on school-based services. Karen mentioned that Board members Patty Lawrence and Laura Esslinger attended the event.

Karen also provided an update on the ENGAGE grant. Karen participated in conference calls regarding fiscal mapping with the other Board representatives on July 18th and 25th. The group decided to use ENGAGE carryover funds to pay for the services of an expert in the area of fiscal mapping, which will document all the funds in each county used for services to children. During our SAMHSA System of Care grant, we were asked by SAMHSA to do fiscal mapping, but the amount of work involved was beyond the capacity of the Board staff at the time. By using the consultant, all the involved Boards will receive valuable information and only have to assist the consultant in obtaining access to needed fiscal information.

Karen also attended the “Handle with Care” presentation on 7/23 organized by the ENGAGE Director. This program is likely to be implemented in Clermont with some assistance from the ENGAGE grant funds. The program allows first responders to notify schools whenever they respond to an incident where a student was present. A specific email is set up to do this. The first responder does not give specifics related to what happened on the call; they just let the school know that a student has recently dealt with a traumatic event. The schools know the next day that there are reasons why a child may be acting out, tired, didn’t show etc., and can act accordingly.

On criminal justice activities, Karen reported that the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) met on August 13th. Most of the meeting was focused on the high number of inmates in the local jail. It is likely that the Commissioners will have to fund the opening and staffing of unused sections of the jail in the near future to accommodate the increased number of individuals who require jail time. The jail should house around 350-375 inmates but recently was as high as 430. Karen gave a presentation on the Linkage project and its recent expansion at the CJCC meeting.

A couple of years ago, OMHAS worked with Clermont County to update our criminal justice/mental health Sequential Mapping. Karen stated that Beth Gersper from OMHAS has agreed to facilitate a meeting for Clermont to develop committees to work on prioritized issues that came out of the last planning process meeting. Karen is hoping Ms. Gersper will help with the planning of a Crisis Stabilization center and early diversion.

Karen also attended the Family Recovery Court Advisory Board quarterly meeting on August 22nd. Based on discussion at that meeting, CCMHRB will not be entering into another contract

for the Peer Recovery Support phone application (app) that Clermont piloted last year. The Recovery Coach indicated that the participants did not use the app very frequently and that there were similar apps that are free that could be explained to the participants who might be interested.

Karen also mentioned that the Linkage clinical staff met on August 20th for their monthly meeting to review progress with the project, led by Lee Ann Watson. Two GCB Linkage staff have been hired to replace the two staff who recently left those positions. GCB has also posted the new care manager position that the Board approved at a previous meeting. The Steering Committee, which includes jail administration, met on August 29, 2019.

On suicide prevention activities, Lee Ann Watson advised the Board that the 18th Annual Suicide Prevention Candlelight Vigil will take place on September 10 at Riverside Park in Milford at 7:00pm. This year, the Cincinnati Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) has partnered with the Board to hold the event. The vigil is held yearly during National Suicide Prevention Week.

Another suicide prevention event going on during the month of September is the “Stand Up to Suicide” campaign. During the months of July and August, Lee Ann Watson and Melanie Palmer from Child Focus, Inc. participated in the planning for the “Stand Up to Suicide” project. Heather Wells, the Engage 2.0 Southwest Project Director, developed a plan to have counties volunteer to provide several suicide prevention gatekeeper trainings (QPR: Question, Persuade and Refer) throughout Ohio during September. Clermont is one of the fourteen counties participating. Clermont has scheduled three (3) QPR trainings in September and will be available to provide QPR training to anyone in Clermont County who requests the training. Wide-spread marketing of the “training marathon” is occurring. The Clermont County Commissioners have also shown their support for these activities by issuing a proclamation for Suicide Prevention Week in Clermont County at their September 4th meeting.

Karen Scherra added that she and Lee Ann had visited the WXXU radio station earlier in the day where Karen was interviewed by the radio host for Cincinnati Edition on suicide awareness and prevention. The radio spot also promoted the candlelight vigil taking place on September 10th. Karen said the radio station wants them to come back again in the future for another spotlight.

Under the Ohio Legislation section, Karen highlighted the item detailing Ohio Governor Mike DeWine’s announcement of a series of legislative reforms to address gun violence and an outline of further action to increase mental health prevention, identification, and treatment to better protect Ohioans after the shooting in Dayton. In her report, Karen quoted Governor DeWine: *“Gun violence doesn’t just take the form of mass shootings, people are victims every day in Ohio and across the country. I believe that this is both a public safety issue and an individual wellness issue – we must address both sides to help solve the problem. It’s time to do something, and that is exactly what we are going to do.”*

Karen wrapped up her report highlights with a review of meetings attended. On July 25th Karen presented on CCMHRB to the I-Team, a committee working with the Adult Protective Services

(APS) operated by Senior Services. She also discussed an issue with a man in jail with Dementia, which CCMHRB was asked to address, since APS indicated to Jail Administration that they were unable to help. The CCMHRB system did end up helping the jail get this man into Mercy Hospital, but Karen felt the responsibility should not have been on CCMHRB. Karen said claims were also made against CCMHRB and Mobile Crisis by APS staff and individuals working with them. Karen discussed this with Tim Dick, Interim DJFS Director. Apparently, there are several issues related to APS, and he has scheduled a meeting so that everyone involved can address the concerns.

6. Committee Reports: Jacki Block, Finance Committee Chairperson, presented to the Board members the discussions from the earlier Finance Committee meeting. The first item Jacki reported on was the SFY 2020 Budget. The Board is currently slotted to receive \$2,783,558 from state funding, which is \$2,000 less than SFY 2019 funding. In addition, the Board will receive a portion of the funding allotted to the Southwest Collaborative for crisis funding. That funding will be \$250,000 for mental health services and \$955,533 for withdrawal management services. Also, each Board will receive \$35,000 in crisis flex funding and an amount based on a formula for population, for intermittent needs (for Clermont, \$72,928, for a total of \$107,928). There is also the possibility of more funding for the crisis infrastructure; however, the amount remains to be determined. OMHAS is requiring Boards to attend the “Crisis Academy” training at the end of October to learn more about crisis services. Board Fiscal Officer Erica Pursley will have a finalized budget for the Board members at the October Board meeting. Jacki stated that Karen had recommendations for the use of the crisis funding, and that this would be discussed in detail later in the meeting.

The next item Jacki discussed was the reconciliation/overage of services at GCB, CRC, and CFI. Board staff presented a slide on the Smart Board showing the FY 2019 billing overages as follows: CFI – \$90,973; GCB – \$193,954; and CRC – \$287,169. The total overage of all agencies combined is \$571,916. In order to provide the Board members with a comprehensive picture of agency spending in FY20, Board staff will include all agency billings in the monthly depletion report, not just service billings that are entered into GOSH. Erica provided the Board members with a slide detailing the most current financial projection. Jackie pointed out that in FY19 the Board had \$136,000 of unspent revenue that could possibly go toward the agency overages. She also pointed out the \$823,481 in free reserves that is available for unforeseen expenditures. However, Jacki said if the Board keeps allowing for overages like those of FY 2019, the free reserves will be used up very quickly. Jacki said that although it is not feasible to stop paying for services, the Board needs to be more realistic with allowing agencies to overspend on their allotted budgets from the Board. Karen Scherra advised the Board she will set up meetings with the agencies to get specific reasons as to why the overages were so large and how to reduce spending for FY 2020. The findings of those meetings shall be presented to Finance Committee and the Board at the October Board meeting. Jacki closed by saying it is also time to start moving toward the goal of restoring the required reserves to \$1 million by adding back to it in \$50,000 increments. No final decisions were made at this time.

The final item the Finance Committee discussed was funding for the Juvenile Court project. Karen Scherra expanded on the subject. The ENGAGE grant funding has been used to fund a project for families involved with Juvenile Court. The project involves a counselor from CFI and a Peer Support Specialist who work as a team to assist the families with a crisis situation

and help them get the services and supports they require. Now, however, OMHAS has mandated that this grant funding to be used for services that are available to all families, not just those involved with the court, as well as be available to schools and police. Karen Scherra wants to be able to keep the current project going for Juvenile Court and accommodate the expansion of Mobile Crisis as requested by the state. Karen has asked the Board to support setting aside funds to maintain the Juvenile Court project as grant funds will now be used to hire more staff for the Mobile Crisis Team in order to expand their ability to respond to youth in the ENGAGE project. Karen believes that this funding can be used for the present need, until additional state funding for the ENGAGE project and/or crisis services is obtained.

7. Action Items: The first action item was the FY 2020 MOU with Municipal Court for IDAT funds. For almost two decades, the Board has had an arrangement in place with its local Municipal Court for the use of the Indigent Driver Alcohol Treatment (IDAT) Fund dollars to support treatment services provided by the Clermont Recovery Center (CRC).

In past years, the amount of funds included in the contract has varied, based on the amount in the Fund, the Board's financial situation, and the needs of the system and clients. The amount has been reduced significantly over the past couple years, as there are fewer indigent clients accessing services at CRC since the implementation of Medicaid Expansion. Karen Scherra recently met with Judge Nagel, the Administrative Judge for Municipal Court, about the use of the IDAT Funds in FY 2019. They also discussed maintaining the amount of the funds for FY 2020 at \$75,000, the amount contracted for last fiscal year. In a follow-up call with Joe Ellison, Chief Probation officer for the Court, Karen was informed the judges agreed to that amount. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY2020 MOU with Municipal Court for IDAT Funding and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOU on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-John Kelly).

The second action item was the FY 2020 MOUs with Municipal Court and Juvenile Court for OMHAS Specialized Docket Subsidy Funds. In SFYs 2017 and 2018, OMHAS provided Specialized Docket Subsidy funds to the courts operating these dockets in one lump payment per court. However, beginning in FY 2019, these funds are now provided to the local Boards as part of their allocation, and the Boards will provide those funds in the amount determined by OMHAS to the Courts. Municipal Court will receive \$40,000 and Juvenile Court will receive \$20,000. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2020 MOUs with Municipal and Juvenile Courts as presented and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOUs on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Kelley Costello, second-Greg Varner).

8. Discussion Items: The first discussion item was the FY 2020 Crisis Funds. Karen Scherra stated that OMHAS will be holding the "Crisis Academy" at the end of October to train Boards and providers on the types of crisis services that are available. The training will also provide Boards time to develop a plan to implement crisis services using the OMHAS crisis funding in their counties. The state was originally allowing each Board to bring a team of three to the training but has since bumped that number up to five. Karen advised the Board members that she will report on the crisis plan developed at a future Board meeting. Karen said that Clermont's crisis funding may be used for Mobile Crisis reinforcement. The amount each county will receive is still unknown, but the state has said there is around \$9 million to disburse among Ohio counties.

Unfortunately, the funding may only be for two (2) years.

The second discussion item was the FY 2020 School Wellness and Success Funds/Board Prevention Funds. Karen Scherra reminded the Board members that there was \$625 million in the SFY20-21 state budget that was disbursed to schools for expanding programs that “promote youth wellness, success, and overall good mental health”. The Board was hoping this money would “beef” up the school-based services in Clermont. However, Karen said she heard from two school Superintendents, as well as management at CFI, that the money is not new funding and that the schools do not expect to be able to fund new services. With that information, Karen said there will be no expansion on school-based services for now. Karen said she will keep the Board apprised on the situation and if anything changes.

The third discussion item was the Update on Behavioral Health Redesign. Karen Scherra informed the Board members that there is currently a post-implementation task force in place to aid in the identification of large-scale systems issues, or issues in which a Managed-Care plan might be denying Medicaid-covered services. The Behavioral Health Redesign resulted in an increase in reimbursement for several services, which may be contributing to the agencies’ overages in FY19. Jeff O’Neil from GCB said his agency is recovering well from year one of working with Managed Care companies and he feels the change was seamless for the clients. Jeff said in the beginning, some Managed Care companies were pushing claims through just to get them processed. But that is all now being reconciled, and agencies are dealing with “take backs”. Jeff said the billing process is very expensive and time consuming for GCB and has resulted in GCB having to hire more non-billable staff. Jeff closed by thanking the Board for its support and patience with GCB.

Karen mentioned that the state has issued asked OACBHA to assist with gathering information on the difficulties that providers are experiencing with the Managed Care companies. In response to that request, OACBHA sent a report regarding essential items that seem to be problematic with Managed Care companies. Karen said the leadership at the state level, such as Lori Criss, Director of OMHAS, have extensive background which helps with the process of getting agencies, Boards, and Managed Care companies on the same page.

The fourth discussion item was the Community Transition Program (CTP). Karen provided the Board members with an explanation of CTP. According to Karen, people who receive treatment while incarcerated and who continue treatment upon release are less likely to relapse and recidivate. To assist with connection to community treatment and recovery support services, OMHAS started the Community Transition Program (CTP) through a contract with CareSource. OMHAS has decided that starting October 1, 2019, Mental Health and Recovery Boards are going to manage the program instead of CareSource. Boards will be providing the CTP program on a voluntary basis. Karen Scherra said Clermont is interested in participating but does not know how much funding will be allotted for the program. CareSource has until December to reconcile its spending with OHMAS, so Karen said it will likely be February before the Boards know how much funding is available for CTP. Karen said Board staff will meet with GCB to discuss the program. Karen said the programs that are approved for CTP funding are programs that Clermont already has in place, so the funding will be a huge asset once it is available. GCB has also been recognized as the best in the state for agencies implementing this program at state

prisons. Karen said OMHAS estimated at least 43 people will be referred to CTP this year.

The fifth and final discussion item was the Levy Update. Karen Scherra said the CCMHRB five-year levy is up in 2020. The levy is currently at .75 mil as of the 2015 levy renewal and .25 increase. The Board is on the same levy cycle with Children's Protective Services (CPS) and Senior Services. Interim DJFS Director, Tim Dick, wants to be on the ballot with CCMHRB, as he and Karen believe the agencies will be stronger together. Karen would like to see the CCMHRB levy on the November 2020 general election rather than the primary in March of 2020. Tim is leaning more toward the primary as he feels the November election, being a presidential election, will be a heavy ballot. The Board will need to decide their preference for the month to be on the ballot and whether to place a renewal, increase, or replacement on the ballot. The Board will need to ask the County Commissioners for permission to be on the ballot, and for support as to whether to have a renewal, increase or replacement on the ballot. To illustrate how much it would cost taxpayers for a renewal or a replacement, Board staff presented a chart on the Smart Board.

Karen said the Board would need to make decisions on the levy very soon and that a levy committee would need to be formed. Karen also announced that Board member Patty Lawrence had agreed to chair that committee. Patty has had recent election experience. Patty advised the Board the deadline to be on the March 2020 ballot is December 18th, 2019 and the deadline to be on the November 2020 ballot is March 17th, 2020.

9. Agency Directors' Reports: Laura Stith of CFI said most of her highlights were already touched upon throughout the meeting. She added that the Carter Center is now open. She said the ribbon cutting ceremony on August 16th had a good turnout, including representatives from OMHAS. Laura also told the Board members they were welcome to come and tour the new facility between the hours of 1:30pm and 4:00pm. Laura closed by saying the students at the Carter Center are extremely happy with the facility.

Amy Foley of Hope Community Center (HCC) passed out her report. Amy added that after the Dayton shooting, she was pleased to hear Governor DeWine mention in one of his speeches a "Resilience Manual" that was written by two of the Peer Support Specialist (PSP) that work with HCC. Amy closed by saying the HCC had recently finished a total rejuvenation of the building and had an Open House to welcome the community to visit HCC. Amy advised the Board members they were welcome to tour the newly remodeled building on any Tuesday through Thursday from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

Jeff O'Neil of GCB said GCB's report stands. Alicia Fine of GCB reminded the Board members that GCB/CRC had finalized the purchase of a property for a women's recovery house in February of 2019. GCB is calling the house the Eastfork Recovery House, and it has capacity for 7. The house currently has one resident in the house, which is the lead peer. GCB plans to slowly introduce residents to the house in a deliberate fashion. Alicia also briefly updated on the men's recovery house stating that it is currently at full capacity with all residents being employed. The men's recovery house has been in operation for 2 years.

Alicia also informed the Board that in January, OMHAS was given the oversight of licensing for Opiate Treatment Programs in Ohio. OMHAS recently completed their site visit of GCB's MAT

program. The review focused on assuring that the policies and procedures for the MAT program follow OMHAS' regulations. The visit went very well and OMHAS found GCB to be very successful and organized in programming and following regulations. Alicia said the site visit lasted about 6 hours where other agencies' site visits reportedly lasted 10 to 11 hours.

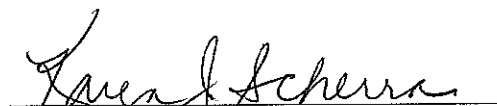
Julia Saldanha of NAMI said her report stands. Julia added that NAMI held support groups on August 1st and September 1st at HCC with a good turnout. Julia also said NAMI is currently in the process of reaching out to schools to schedule "Ending the Silence" presentations in area schools for the 2019-2020 school year.

Before adjournment, Karen Scherra advised the Board members that she planned to allot a portion of the agenda at upcoming Board meetings to the agencies for presentations on their programming and services. The agency presentations would occur only when the Board agenda was short. The Board was in support of this addition to upcoming Board meetings. The agencies that are to be given time for presentations are GCB, HCC, CFI, and CRC. Karen said she thought the presentations would be easier than trying to schedule times for Board members to visit the agencies as it may pose client confidentiality issues.

10. Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the September 9, 2019 Board of Directors meeting. (Motion-Carrie Brown, second-Dorothy Glancy).



Karen Conrad, Chairperson



Karen J. Scherra, Executive Director