



2337 Clermont Center Drive • Batavia, Ohio 45103

TELEPHONE: (513) 732-5400 FAX: (513) 732-5414 TTY: 1-800-750-0750

WEBSITE: www.ccmhrb.org CRISIS HOTLINE: (513) 528-SAVE (7283)

MINUTES of May 8, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jacqueline Block, Suzy Carter, Karen Conrad, Greg Cotrill, Dorothy Glancy, Molly Greer, Scott Wheeler

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Richard Chaney, Lynn Jung, Angela Liggett

GUESTS PRESENT: Tammy Brewer, Jim Carter, Alicia Fine, Amy Foley, Steve Goldsberry, Jean Houston, John Kelly, Sandy Lock, Laura Stith, Heather Turner, Katherine Shepard, Lucas Strakowski

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

1. Karen Conrad began the meeting by welcoming all who were present and introducing Jean Houston from Families Connected, who would speak later in the meeting.
2. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda for the May 8, 2017 Board meeting, with the addition of discussion item number 1a, the passing of the House version of the American Health Care Act bill. (Motion-Molly Greer, second-Dorothy Glancy).
3. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the April 10, 2017 meeting minutes. (Motion-Molly Greer, second-Scott Wheeler).
4. Review Materials/Correspondence: Executive Director, Karen Scherra, brought attention to the Correspondence folder, stating there were copies of several letters regarding the federal budget. She specifically mentioned a letter to Tom Price, Secretary of the Office of Health and Human Services, from Senate leadership, stating that they support continuing Medicaid Expansion in Ohio and do not support the waiver policy. In the Miscellaneous folder, Karen brought attention to a communication from the Governor's Office that demonstrates that Ohio is investing nearly \$1 billion in work to fight drug abuse and addiction. Karen also pointed out an article that shows the impact to the behavioral health system if Medicaid Expansion would be discontinued. Karen also touched on an email alert from the State that both she and Julianne Nesbit, Clermont Health Commissioner, recently received informing them of the large increase in overdoses in Clermont. Karen also pointed out a statement from Senator Rob Portman in which he expressed his support for full funding of the Comprehensive Addiction & Recovery Act (CARA). Karen went on to mention a report on the shortage of psychiatrists

in our country, stating that our own agencies, Clermont Recovery Center, Child Focus, Inc. and Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services, are seeing that shortage. Moving on to the Newspaper folder, Karen specifically noted articles about the American Health Care Act (AHCA) and Ohio's State budget. She also advised the Board about articles pertaining to the increase in youth suicides, especially in Hamilton County, and about a controversial Netflix series centered around a youth suicide, called "13 Reasons Why". Karen went on to add that articles on heroin and the impact of proposed Medicaid changes dominated the news articles folder.

Karen Scherra then presented a few highlights from the Executive Director's Report. Karen mentioned within the OACBHA update in her report, the main focus of the previous month was advocacy around the state budget for SFY 2018-2019 and budgetary support for behavioral health. Karen then brought up that the House's version of the state budget was unveiled the week of April 24th and has an investment of \$170 million per year to fight the opiate epidemic. The State House's budget proposal was much better than anticipated, although the additional funds could be removed by the Senate and/or vetoed by the Governor. Karen also mentioned that the Executive Director of Ohio NAMI wrote a letter thanking the Board Association and boards for their advocacy for behavioral health funding.

Karen updated the Board on the progress of the Multi-System Collaboration Training and Technical Assistance grant, noting webinars and conference calls in which she has participated. She said the work is coming along well, but unfortunately she will be backing out of the group for a while due to her husband's illness. Judy Eshmann, Director of Clermont DJFS, will be taking over the role of grant coordinator in Karen's absence.

Karen also discussed the passage of the House version of the American Health Care Act (AHCA) bill. The AHCA bill would convert the Medicaid program to a Block Grant in 2020, end Medicaid Expansion in 2020, decrease the enhanced match in 2017, and repeal funding for prevention and public health. She said this bill could be very harmful to individuals with mental illness and addiction because of the barriers it would create for access to care.

Karen moved on to President Trump's decision to nominate Dr. Elinore McCance-Katz to serve as Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use. Karen's report stated that Dr. McCance-Katz is currently serving as Chief Medical Officer for the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals. Karen said she previously served as the first Chief Medical Officer for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Karen pointed out that because of Dr. McCance-Katz's previous services with SAMHSA, Congressman and mental health advocate, Tim Murphy, raised concerns about the nomination. Karen expressed her own concerns on another decision made by President Trump's Administration - the request for the resignation of U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy. Karen said Murthy's resignation is a huge loss to the behavioral health community because of his strong advocacy for individuals and families impacted by addiction. Dr. Murthy made great advancements in promoting addiction as a

public health issue, and projected the office's first comprehensive report on addiction in America.

Karen discussed Congress' introduction of new bipartisan legislation, The Fair Chance Act, which is modeled after the "Ban the Box" reforms. "Ban the Box" legislation, which has been embraced by 26 states and over 150 cities and counties across the country, gives individuals with a history of incarceration or a criminal record a fair chance in the job market. The bill would require federal government and contractors to remove the conviction history question from their job applications and defer background checks to the end of the hiring process.

Karen mentioned that the Trump administration has suggested massive cuts to the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). The ONDCP provides funding to local coalitions under "Drug Free Communities" grants. The Coalition for a Drug Free Clermont County has one of these grants.

The next highlight Karen touched on was the April 27th meeting she attended regarding the Pierce Township recovery house. The meeting was a discussion between Commissioner Painter, Pierce Township Trustee Alan Freeman, GCB staff Jeff O'Neil, Steve Goldsberry, and Alicia Fine, and Drug Free Coalition Director Mary Wolf, who is also a Miami Township Trustee. The meeting focused on the concerns of the community regarding the recovery house.

Karen also announced to the Board that she was asked by NACo to participate and speak at a national forum on behavioral health care, specifically on the Stepping Up Initiative to keep those with mental illness out of local jails. Karen said the invitation highlights the great work of Clermont County, and it was an honor to be asked. Karen said she regretfully had to decline the invitation due to her husband's situation.

5. Committee Reports: Finance Committee Chair, Scott Wheeler, advised the Board that the Finance Committee met earlier in the evening from 6pm to 7pm. The first item he discussed was GCB's request to move contracted funding from the LPS POS to the GCB POS for FY18. GCB has been moving services from the old LPS contract to GCB's contract, and with the move of the remaining services still funded under LPS, GCB will only have one POS contract for FY18. While the switch of funding from one POS to another will not increase the amount of funding from the Board, it will change the original FY17 contract with GCB. Therefore, in order for the change to take place, it must be approved by the Board. Due to the Behavioral Health Redesign, the Board had voted to continue the FY17 POS contracts for the first quarter of FY18. As such, the Board needs to approve the proposed change to GCB's FY17 contract that will be in effect for first quarter of FY18. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve GCB's request for moving services and funding from LPS to GCB for FY18. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Jacki Block).

Scott then shared with the Board the Committee's discussion regarding funding for Families Connected. Families Connected will need an extension of their funding contract to continue service delivery through the first quarter of FY18. The Board is the only funding source for Families Connected. If the Board does not agree to continue the funding for them for FY18,

the organization will not be able to continue operating. Scott informed the Board it would take approximately \$64,000 to fund the agency for a year, most of which is salary. Karen Scherra pointed out that Families Connected is an important program that needs to stay available for the community. The program provides peer support to parents with children who have a behavioral health disorder. Karen also stated that the program has a very lean budget and the staff have even taken pay cuts to keep operating. Karen told the Board they could always reassess the need for the program next year. Scott Wheeler then informed the Board, and the Board agreed, that the Finance Committee thought it best to agree to funding Families Connected, but are not sure of where the money will come from as of yet. Due to the uncertainties surrounding the Board's funding for FY18, it was decided to table the decision for funding for Families Connected for FY18 until the June or July meeting. Karen mentioned that funding for the program may have to be taken from the Board's budget or be pulled from the yearly contribution to Family and Children First, at which point Families Connected would become a program under the auspices of the CCMHRB.

The final issue for the Finance Committee was on Participation in the Homeless PATH Grant. Scott reiterated the information about a funding request for PATH, a federally funded (SAMHSA) service for individuals with a severe and persistent mental illness who are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. GCB, who runs the PATH program in Hamilton County, will operate the program in Clermont County. Scott explained that the Board would need to provide match for two part-time PATH workers and 15% of a PATH supervisor. The match is a three to one match, with 2/3rds coming from the federal government. The program would not start until October 1, 2017 since it is funded on the federal fiscal year. As such, the Board would only need to provide match funding for 9 months, for a total of \$13,077. Scott stated that the Finance Committee recommended the funding for multiple reasons, including: good public relations, that this is the second request to the Board from OMHAS, the program has been successful in Hamilton County for over 10 years, and there is a genuine need. Associate Director, Lee Ann Watson, further relayed the need for the Board's approval of PATH funding, saying it would be a great benefit to homeless individuals in Clermont County and a huge ally to the county's Mobile Crisis Team. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve participation in the homeless PATH grant. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Dorothy Glancy). The Board stated that they want to review the outcomes and reassess the need of the program before approving funding for FY19.

6. Action Items: Karen Scherra presented to the Board regarding OACBHA's Opiate Resolution. At OACBHA's March Membership meeting, it was unanimously voted upon to have all Board areas ratify a resolution related to "Responding to Ohio's Opiate Epidemic". Additionally, OACBHA members decided that every local opiate task force should be asked to approve a similar resolution specific to each county. Karen recommended to the Board that they approve the Resolution that she drafted with local references, modeled after OACBHA's Opiate Resolution. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Opiate Resolution as presented. (Motion-Dorothy Glancy, second-Molly Greer).

Karen then announced action item number two, the rescheduling of the June 2017 Board meeting. Karen explained that the regularly scheduled June Board meeting would fall on June

12, which conflicts with the annual Opiate Conference presented by the Board Association. Since Karen, Lee Ann, and some Board members plan to attend the conference, Karen recommended that the Board approve to move the June Board meeting to a different date. After discussion, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to reschedule the June 2017 Board meeting to June 5th. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Jacki Block).

7. Discussion Items: Karen Scherra gave an update on the SFY 2018-2019 state budget. The Board Association's budget platform was fully supported by the House. The proposed House budget has an additional \$27 million in funding for behavioral health services. Of that, \$12 million is earmarked for the Boards, based on County population and overdose death rate. This \$12 million will be in line item 424, which is the base allocation for the Boards. This will increase the base funding going forward. Line item 424 can be used to fund both mental health and addiction services. It is proposed that the additional funding (\$15 million) be utilized in the following manner: \$6 million for regional crisis stabilization centers and \$9 million for regional detox centers. Additional funding in the amount of \$20 million is proposed to be earmarked for capital funding for expansion of existing treatment agencies. Children's Protective Services (CPS) would receive \$15 million to support out of home placement for children in CPS custody due to parents with addiction. An additional \$10 million would be available to support kinship care due to the large number of grandparents and other relatives who are raising grandchildren due to the opioid epidemic. A proposed \$6 million would be available through the State Housing Trustfund to support individuals with a substance use disorder exiting residential treatment programs. A proposed \$15 million would also be available to develop and implement a statewide website that would provide treatment resources, prevention activities and education around substance use disorders. This funding might also be utilized for statewide prevention PSAs, and possibly a mobile phone app to assist individuals with locating treatment resources. Three million is also earmarked for 18 counties, including Clermont County, to expand the use of Medication Assisted Treatment in their Drug Courts. The House budget shows support for treatment as well as recovery support services, including food stamps for individuals with a substance use disorder, and a proposed \$5 million in vocational rehabilitation services for individuals to learn a skilled trade. Further, each County's Board of Commissioners will receive \$12,000 for creation of an "Opiate Addiction Hub". Karen stated that she has talked to Commissioner Painter about this, and has proposed that the Board fulfill that role. Karen also gave a brief update on a few bills that are currently being reviewed by the State legislature. One involves the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections requesting that level five felony inmates be kept in local jails instead of being sent to state prisons. This would skyrocket the county jail counts, with no additional funding being provided to Counties to manage the cost. A bill that the Senate voted down would provide local systems with funds for the costs of providing psychotropic drugs in jails, as well as MAT services to inmates.

Moving on, Karen gave the Board an update on the Behavioral Health Redesign and the impact of the state budget and BH Redesign on Board contracting for FY2018. The House budget bill proposes the delay of the effective dates of the Behavioral Health Redesign coding and rate changes until January 1, 2018 and would delay the managed care carve-in until July 1, 2018.

The Senate does not support delays in the Redesign, so they may take that provision out. OMHAS is also in support of Redesign moving forward. If the Redesign is delayed, Karen stated that the Board will have to determine how to address the approved motion of extending the FY17 POS contracts through the first quarter of FY18. If the Board receives additional funding from OMHAS, the Board will have to determine at the July Board meeting where the additional funding should be allocated.

The next discussion item was the House version of the American Health Care Act (AHCA) bill passing. Karen highlighted the summary of the ACHA that was emailed to the Board earlier that day, which included very brief, but informative, summaries of the provisions of the AHCA and where the repeal/replace issue stands. Dorothy Glancy mentioned that she appreciated getting electronic updates of the big issues with healthcare rather than all of the paper communications. Karen stated that the AHCA plan, which was narrowly passed in the House, allows states to circumvent coverage for essential services, such as those for individuals with behavioral health disorders. Karen also said the federal Government is considering giving States waivers to customize their Medicaid plans. Giving states this flexibility could cause changes to Medicaid without having to pass a single federal bill. Proposed changes also call for a 25% decrease in Medicaid funding, a six month waiting period for acceptance on Medicaid, and the possibility of denial of insurance coverage for pre-existing conditions. Karen said that while funding for behavioral health services has support from Ohio Senators Rob Portman and Sherrod Brown, U.S. Representative Brad Wenstrep has been unclear of his support. These differences in support of behavioral health services demonstrate that the battle over national healthcare is not going away and Medicaid will be under extreme scrutiny. Karen assured the Board she would continue providing updates on the issue.

Karen Scherra then proceeded on to the next item of discussion, the Families Connected program: Parent Support Partners/Peer Support Services. The program was previously funded under the Board's FAST TRAC SAMHSA grant. All services under the FAST TRAC grant, except Families Connected, were sustained after the grant ended. Karen Scherra explained that the Board had previously approved that half of the funding the Board contributes to the Family and Children First Council would be utilized in FY17 to keep Families Connected operational for six months. Karen also stated that the Finance Committee discussed funding for Families Connected for FY18, but voted to table the actual funding decision until the State FY18-19 budget was released. Karen asked the Director of Families Connected, Jean Houston, to explain the program to the Board members. Jean told the Board members that Families Connected is an organization whose mission is to support and connect families who have a member with a disability. Jean stated that all of the program's staff are peers, and are called "Peer Support Partners" (PSPs), as they have children with behavioral health disabilities. Jean said PSPs are a crucial component to helping families with disabilities connect with treatment. Peers understand the difficulties parents with children with behavioral health disorders encounter, and the peers provide support and empower families to advocate for themselves and their children in the community. The program's goals are educating families on how to advocate for their needs related to services for their family; educating families on resource availability; and providing peer social and emotional support. Jean stated that she and her staff,

educators Brenda and Monica and peer supporters Chanelle and Justine, often act as mediators between parents and providers. Karen Scherra noted the importance peer support, stating that we have seen the value of mental health Peer Supporters and AOD Recovery Coaches. Karen also stated that she has seen many successful outcomes related to families working with the PSPs. During the SAMHSA grant, outcomes related to the PSPs were evaluated. Jim Carter, Executive Director of Child Focus Inc (CFI), spoke in favor of Families Connected, stating that CFI frequently works with Families Connected, and fully supports the importance of the organization. Karen stated that the funding for Families Connected will be further discussed at the June Board meeting.

The next item of discussion was the Recovery House update. Steve Goldsberry, Vice President of Addiction Services at Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services (GCB), presented. To start the discussion, Karen passed around an article in "The Clermont Sun" called "Substance Abuse Home in Pierce Township Draws Ire". Steve expanded on this "ire" from the community. During a recent Pierce Township meeting that Steve attended, the main concerns with the house were community safety, property values for the surrounding homes, and its close proximity to a school. Residents of Pierce Township feel that GCB "snuck in" the Recovery House without going through the proper channels. Karen Scherra added that she had advised GCB discuss the Recovery House with the Township Trustees and that she had mentioned the house to the County Administrator and Assistant Administrator. Steve told the Board that GCB did approach one Pierce Township Trustee and also had discussion with the Township's Zoning person, and the Township's Fire and Police Chiefs. Steve said that in light of the community's concern about the Recovery House, GCB will be holding an open house at Clough Pike Church on May 15th and May 18th for the community to learn more about the Recovery House. Steve also added that there were zoning concerns in the beginning, but those concerns have now been resolved. Karen informed the Board that she had attended a meeting with a Pierce Township Trustee about the Recovery House on April 27th and noted that Commissioner Painter advocated the need for the house in Clermont County. Karen also said a follow up meeting open to Pierce Township residents was planned for May 3rd, but the meeting has been postponed to a not yet determined date. Karen reminded the Board that the Recovery House is an OMHAS continuum of care requirement. If the Board does not have Recovery Housing operational in Clermont County by the beginning of SFY18, our State funding could be impacted. Karen added that the Board staff submitted the SFY18 service directory inventory to OMHAS on May 5th. Recovery Housing was checked as an available service with plans to open prior to July 1, 2017. Steve Goldsberry reassured the Board members, stating that June 1st is the proposed opening date of the Recovery House. Steve also mentioned that GCB is building a fence around the Recovery House property to hopefully address some of the neighbors' concerns. Steve provided the Board members with some of the eligibility requirements for residency in the Recovery House. These requirements include: being in recovery; needing housing; working towards employment or having a job; being supportive of one another in the Recovery House; and being involved in after care services and support with GCB staff.

The final discussion item for the Board meeting was the Northland Intervention expansion. Associate Director Lee Ann Watson informed the Board members that she recently attended Northland's open house on April 28th. Northland is a private, for profit outpatient drug and alcohol treatment and recovery center in Milford, Ohio. Lee Ann stated that Northland recently moved to a bigger facility and has expanded their services. Services are offered in a tiered or "step down" fashion based on client need. The Medication Assisted Treatment program called SIOP, Suboxone Intensive Outpatient treatment, involves intensive clinical treatment for two weeks, five times a week. After stabilization on Suboxone, the client can step down to intensive outpatient services. These IOP services start with education on addiction and expectations of treatment in a group session for two weeks. The Doctor provides weekly educational sessions in the groups. After the client successfully completes treatment, they receive "aftercare treatment" for 52 weeks. Aftercare consists of group therapy and one-on-one counseling. The final tier would then be post continuing care. Lee Ann said Northland also has a family night where the client and members of their family attend an hour long educational session with the doctor and then have an hour with a counselor for processing the information. Karen Scherra told the Board members that there has been a lot of focus on Northland's expansion and to expect the possibility of them asking the Board for a contract.

8. Agency Directors' Reports: The meeting then moved on to the Agency Director's Reports. Jim Carter reported for Child Focus, stating their report stood as is. Jim also handed out a report as a follow-up to answer questions the Board members posed to CFI at last month's meeting regarding the partial program. Jim's chart answered three questions: "Did you seek other funding?", "Did you use your reserves?", and "How much of your funding comes from the Board?". CFI reported they do seek other funding, they do use their reserves, and 12% of their funding came from the Board.

Steve Goldsberry said Clermont Recovery Center's report stood as is.

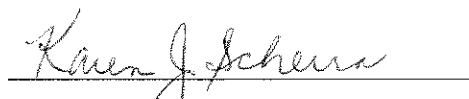
Amy Foley presented her report on Hope Community Center (HCC). She also said her report stands as is, but did want to recap highlights from HCC's Art Fair. Amy said the Art Fair was a success and raised over \$1,500 from the fair itself, a Go Fund Me page, and a generous donation. She said it HCC may do another Art Fair in the next six months.

Heather Turner presented on NAMI's behalf. She too said the report stood as is. Heather mentioned that the NAMI Walk takes place Saturday, May 13th at Sawyer Point in Cincinnati. The walk is intended to raise money and awareness for mental health. Heather "challenged" the Board to a friendly fundraising competition of \$25 per person between the Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren/Clinton County Boards. Heather said donations could be made online.

9. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the May 8, 2017 Board meeting. (Motion-Scott Wheeler, second-Molly Greer).



Karen Conrad, Chairperson



Karen J. Scherra, Executive Director