

GMSS Board Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2025

Virtual

Attendees (board): Sarah Henshaw, Janet Bruner, David McAllister, Michele Streeter

Attendees (Staff): Elizabeth Walters

Attendees (invited): Bill Ashe, Alex Torstrick

Agenda item	Summary of discussion	Actions taken	Follow up
Meeting began at 6:06pm			
Mission Moment	Board begins each meeting noting one thing they've done since the last meeting that furthers the GMSS mission.		
Review and Approval of March 2025 Meeting Notes	Board reviewed Feb 2025 meeting notes	Motion to approve: Janet Second by Michele Unanimous 'yea'	
Financial Committee Update	Continued loss in both Jan and Feb is due to low client counts resulting in low revenue. Expenses for both months (Jan and Feb) are on par with budget with the exception of costs associated wheel pad project which continues to incur costs over the budgeted amount for the project. Now staffed up with enough staff to bring on new clients and Elizabeth has let staff know that they should be onboarding folks who can safely receive services from GMSS. Board will continue to monitor, with ARIS and leadership.		
Board Recruitment	Two new prospective board members were welcomed and asked to provide an overview of their interest in being on the board and were provided the opportunity to stay for the meeting and get to know the board. Bill Ashe brings 50+ years of working with and in partnership with folks who live with developmental disabilities, including the former Executive Director for Upper Valley, former interim ED for GMSS. He has two family members with developmental disabilities.		Sarah to reach out to both and if appropriate, request a vote from the board through email.

	<p>Alex Torstrick is a neuropsychologist with a specialty in testing and evaluation, Traumatic Brain Injuries. He had been on the board during the leadership transition, and had to step away for family reasons. He is interested in returning to support GMSS' important mission.</p>		
Board Updates	<p>Officer elections have been delayed until we can recruit new board members.</p> <p>Board members were reminded to please update their Conflict of Interest document and send it back to Sarah.</p> <p>We discussed having a financial training refresher in April by Dave, to be confirmed.</p> <p>We agreed that a morning retreat in May or June would be good to discuss board recognition of staff, committees, and a mission rewrite, among other potential topics.</p>		<p>Sarah to send out doodle poll with dates for a potential board retreat in June.</p>
Executive Director Update	<p>Elizabeth updated the board on the Conflict Free Case Management (CFCM) process, which will remove case management from GMSS to a centralized entity. This change is happening to ensure the state is in compliance with Medicaid rules. Elizabeth and other leaders are focused on creating a seamless process for participants and families, as this could cause disruption. This change will not make services better, just make our state system compliant.</p> <p>Transition starts May 15th, with the new entity responsible for care plan creation starting Oct 1.</p> <p>While this is challenging and frustrating, there are some small opportunities – including an increase in counseling referrals.</p> <p>Complicating this transition is that it is being rolled out at the same time as the Paymet Reform at the state level. GMSS is advocating for moving the start date of the payment reform to the beginning of the FY (i.e. July).</p> <p>Both of these are making the budgeting process challenging this year. More to come on this in the coming months.</p>		

Public Comment	The public was invited to make comments or pose questions to the board.		
Executive Session	Motion to move into executive session by Janet, second by Michele, Unanimous. Went into Executive Session at 7:17 and left at 7:23p		
Next Meeting	Next meeting will be on April 24 at 5:30 virtually. Will discuss in-person, summer meetings at the April meeting.		

The meeting ended at 7:24p