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MINUTES of July 18, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andy Bateman, Jenifer Binder, Jacki Block, Jara Bonner, Rebecca Cochran, John Kelly, Patricia Lawrence, Greg Varner

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Barbara Bird, Kelley Costello, Richard Costello, Laura Esslinger, Erica Koe-Krompecher

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT: Raymond Bailey

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS EXCUSED: Richard Chaney

GUESTS PRESENT: Tammy Brewer, Heather Cokl, Alicia Fine, Susan Graham, Katie Harper, Pamela Lindeman, Becky Mosteller, Jeff O'Neil, Julia Saldanha, Laura Stith

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

1. The July 18, 2022 Board of Directors meeting was conducted in person at 2337 Clermont Center Drive, Batavia, Ohio 45103 at 7:00pm with the option for guests to join virtually, via Zoom. Chairperson Patricia Lawrence welcomed the attendees and the meeting proceeded.
2. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda for the July 18, 2022 Board meeting with the additions of Action Item 9. The FY 2023 MOUs with Juvenile Court/Family Recovery Court and Municipal Court/OVI Court for the Specialized Docket Funding Programs and Action Item 10. The Resolution for Approval of Child Focus' Application for Capital Funds for the Carter Center. (Motion-Greg Varner, second-Rebecca Cochran).
3. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2022 Board of Directors' meeting. (Motion-Jenifer Binder, second-Greg Varner).
4. Executive Director's Report: Executive Director Karen Scherra shared a few highlights from her report. Karen provided the Board members with information on the increase in unintentional drug overdose deaths in Ohio. While the number of deaths are increasing in Ohio and nationally, Clermont has seen only a slight increase. In 2020, the United States saw the highest number of substance-driven deaths ever recorded in a single year, with 186,763 Americans dying. Karen stated that the increase in deaths can be partially contributed to the number of counterfeit prescription pills that are laced with fentanyl. Clermont County is one of the counties in Southwest Ohio that the DEA is targeting due to the large number of these pills. Many of these counterfeit fentanyl laced pills are being purchased on the internet by teens and young adults. Karen further mentioned that while the number of overdoses is increasing, a Pew Research Center study found that the number of Americans who see addiction as a "major

5. problem” in their community has declined, suggesting that substance misuse may no longer be seen as a major priority to address.

Karen Scherra also shared that she and Erica recently participated in the OMHAS webinar on the new SOR 3.0 funding. The SOR 3.0 grant will provide funding to continue current projects, such as CASC. It is not yet clear what the stipulations of the grant will be.

Karen Scherra stated that she also participated in a webinar about the Indigent Inpatient Funds available through OMHAS. The amount requested by the Board, \$62,500, was not awarded but reduced to \$46,875. Use of these funds have increased over the past several months.

Karen Scherra mentioned that Erica Pursley and Lee Ann Watson met with NAMI Executive Director, Katie Harper, to discuss NAMI’s FY23 agreement. NAMI and the Board agreed to keep the funding the same as FY22 with review at midyear to determine any ongoing needs.

Karen Scherra informed the Board members that she recently attended an event held by Artsy Fartsy, one of the Board’s mini-grant recipients. Artsy Fartsy has had remarkable success with all of the youth who have participated in the program over the years. Karen passed around a book about Artsy Fartsy that highlighted the work of the program and also mentioned the funding provided by the Board. Karen stated that the Director of Artsy Fartsy thanked her publicly for the support.

Karen mentioned that the County fair will start at the end of the month. If any Board members are interested in attending or working the Board’s booth, please notify Board staff.

6. Finance Committee: Finance Committee Chairperson Jacki Block delivered a summary from that evening’s Finance Committee meeting. Regarding the update on SFY 2023 revenues to the Board, Jacki shared that the SFY2022 Profit and Loss Statement spreadsheet, through July 6, 2022, showed year to date revenues totaling \$8,621,672.40 compared to a budgeted \$8,825,804.25, and year to date expenses totaling \$7,377,337.61 compared to a budgeted \$9,221,119.61. Jacki stated that Erica Pursley mentioned that she anticipates that the provider agencies will be underspent on their contracts for FY22, which could increase the amount of funding available in the Board’s reserve.

Jacki Block discussed the Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health (GCB) FY23 Allocation and Request for Additional Funding. GCB is requesting \$80,679 in gap funding for their CCBHC grant. GCB is waiting to hear if they were awarded a second two-year CCBHC grant and there is a two-month gap between the time that the first grant ends on July 31 and the second grant begins on October 1. The funding would cover the cost of the following services for August and September of 2022: Crisis Respite Beds-Kemper House (2 set aside beds) \$15,148; Mental Health Peer Wellness Specialists 2.5 FTE \$25,159; Substance Use Disorder Peer Recovery Coach 1 FTE \$8,161; and Behavioral Health/Physical Health Clinic Operations 3.5 FTE \$32,211. The CCMBHC grant also provided funding for the mobile crisis expansion. Jacki stated that the mobile crisis expansion will be discussed under the Child Focus (CF) funding request. Jacki informed the Board members that the Finance Committee recommended funding to cover the two months of the gap out of the set aside \$400,000 for SFY 2023. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve funding for Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health in the amount of \$80,679 to cover the two -month gap between the end of the first CCBHC grant and the start of the second CCBHC grant. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Patty Lawrence).

Jacki Block then discussed Child Focus' FY2023 Allocation and Request for Additional Funding. Jacki reminded the Board members that mobile crisis is a priority for the Board and with the CCBHC continuation funding being reduced from \$2 million to \$1 million, plus the two-month gap between the CCBHC grants, CF is in need of funding for 11 months to continue the expanded mobile crisis hours at 24/7. Karen Scherra explained that with the implementation of 988 and MRSS, the expanded coverage is needed to meet requirements and manage the anticipated increase of calls. The additional coverage would cost \$12,296.95 per month for a total cost of \$135,266.45 for SFY 2023. Jacki stated that the Finance Committee recommended the funding to cover the cost of the mobile crisis expansion for 11 months. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the funding to sustain the expanded mobile crisis hours for a period of 11 months. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Jara Bonner).

Jacki Block reviewed the Hope Community Center's (HCC) FY23 Allocation. Jacki stated that the amount for HCC's allocation for FY23 was reduced from the SFY 2022 contract of \$183,272 due to the transition of the JCTT peer to Child Focus, moving the MRSS peer position to Child Focus, and the reduced hours of the Executive Director to eight hours per month.

7. Action Items: The first action item was the FY2023 POS Contracts with GCB/CRC and Child Focus, and the MOU with HCC. Karen Scherra reminded the Board members that at the June Board meeting, after recommendations from the Program and Finance Committees, the Board agreed to the allocations for the FY2023 Purchase of Service (POS) Contracts with Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services/Clermont Recovery Center (GCB/CRC) and Child Focus. Hope Community Center (HCC) was not a part of those discussions, as their budget is being reduced due to the change in agency for the parent peers (from HCC to CF) and Amy Foley leaving as Executive Director (although she will be assisting the agency eight hours/month). Due to the reduction in funding and changes to HCC operations, the HCC POS contract was converted to an MOU for FY 2023. Karen stated that other than the funding amounts, the POS contracts for FY23 are the same as FY22. The funding amounts are as follows: GCB/CRC-\$3,637,204; Child Focus-\$2,280,207; and HCC-\$60,376. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY2023 Purchase of Service Contracts with GCB/CRC and Child Focus, and the MOU with HCC and to authorize the Board Chairperson and Executive Director to sign the Contracts and MOU on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Greg Varner).

The second action item was the FY 2023 Revised Contract Standards. Karen Scherra asked that this action item be tabled until the September 2022 Board meeting. The Contract Standards need to be updated for FY23 to include any new requirements listed in OMHAS' annual assurances.

The third action item was the FY 2023 Agreement with NAMI of Southwest Ohio. Karen Scherra stated that the Board enters into an agreement with NAMI of Southwest Ohio every year to support the activities the agency undertakes on behalf of Clermont County families impacted by the mental illness of a family member. The amount of the funds to be provided to NAMI for FY 2023 is \$30,000, the same as in the previous few years. Karen mentioned that

Board staff will meet with NAMI in January to review if additional funding is needed since NAMI has been expanding their reach in Clermont County. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY2023 Agreement with NAMI of Southwest Ohio and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Rebecca Cochran, second-Greg Varner).

The fourth action item was the FY 2023 Agreement for Adult Residential Care with Alternate Living Solutions, Inc. (ALS) for Mellon Meadows Care Center Inc. and Peebles Place Care Center, Inc. Karen Scherra explained to the Board members that Mellon Ridge, located in Goshen, and the other facility operated by Alternative Living Solutions, Inc., Peebles, in Adams County, have been an integral part of the Board's residential services for many years and are essential in maintaining low hospital utilization for adults and a continuum of care for SMD consumers.

The proposed agreement with Alternative Living Solutions, Inc. for Mellon Meadows and Peebles is the same as last year's agreement. Board staff have not yet confirmed the per diem with the agency but are requesting no rate change for FY 2023 due to the Board's financial situation and the increase that was granted in the per diem for FY 2021. The per diem will remain \$85/day for Mellon Meadows and \$70/day for Peebles. Per the contract with ALS, the Board is considered the "payer of last resort" for these services. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2023 agreement with Alternative Living Solutions, Inc., adult residential care provider, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Andy Bateman, second-John Kelly).

The fifth action item was the FY 2023 Agreement for Adult Residential Care with Brown County Care Center. Karen Scherra shared that the Board has been placing consumers at Brown County Care Center as an alternative to the Mellon Meadows and Peebles adult care facilities for many years. The agreement with Brown County Care Center for FY 2023 is the same as last year's agreement. Board staff have not yet confirmed the per diem with Brown County Care Center but are requesting no rate change for FY 2023 due to the Board's financial situation and the increase that was granted in the per diem for FY 2021. The per diem will remain \$75/day. Per the contract with Brown County Care Center, the Board is considered "the payer of last resort" for these services. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2023 agreement with Brown County Care Center, adult residential care provider, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Greg Varner, second-Rebecca Cochran).

The sixth action item was the FY 2023 Agreement with Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Karen Scherra mentioned that each year the Board maintains an agreement for inpatient psychiatric services for children/adolescents with Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati. Board staff is requesting that the Hospital's per diem cost remain the same as the previous years but would recommend to the Board to support an increase should the hospital ask, considering the importance of this contract and the rarity that the Board is billed for these services. The Board currently contracts with the Hospital for a \$900.76 per diem rate that is all inclusive for room and board, ancillary services, and physician services, only for those children with no third-party coverage. Considering the small number of children without Medicaid or insurance who are

hospitalized at Board cost – and for many fiscal years there have been none – it is very cost-effective to maintain this contract. This agreement is critical since Children’s is the only option in the region for children who need inpatient psychiatric care. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the agreement with Children’s Hospital for psychiatric inpatient services to children/adolescents for FY 2023 and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Jara Bonner, second-Jenifer Binder).

The seventh action item was the FY 2023 MOU with Beckett Springs. Karen Scherra stated that OMHAS is again authorizing funding for local board reimbursement for indigent, civil patients to be served at hospitals with inpatient psychiatric beds for FY2023. Clients who qualify for referral must be deemed indigent via verification of no enrollment in Medicaid, Medicare, or private insurance. The OMHAS definition of an indigent patient is an uninsured individual without the financial means to pay for services out of pocket, which typically is someone who is at or below the federal poverty guideline.

Hospitals approved by the local board to accept indigent patients may submit weekly utilization reimbursement requests for emergency transportation. No additional funds will be allocated and will have to be accounted for from the board’s allocation. Transportation invoices should be sent to the local board and kept on file. The rate of reimbursement is \$750 per day for up to seven days, including professional fees. If a patient requires hospitalization past the initially allotted seven days, a clinical case review will be conducted with the patient’s Board of residence to determine further eligibility. Clinical case reviews will focus on the patient’s need for continued hospitalization as it relates to safety and stabilization.

Over the past two years, all the clients needing this service were hospitalized at Beckett Springs, so the Board plans to work with that hospital again this fiscal year. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY 2023 MOU with Beckett Springs for Indigent Patient Inpatient Services and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOU on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Greg Varner, second-John Kelly).

The eighth action item was the FY 2023 MOU with Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities (DD) for Project Partners. Karen Scherra informed the Board members that each year a Project Partners MOU is developed between DD and the CCMHRB. The MOU consists of a template that is used when an individual who has both mental illness and a developmental disability needs placement in a group home or other setting. The MOU permits the two agencies to split the cost of the placement. While it is not used very often, the MOU does have financial benefits for both our Board and the DD Board. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY2023 MOU template with the Board of Developmental Disabilities as presented. (Motion-Andy Bateman, second-John Kelly).

The ninth action item was the FY 2023 MOUs with Juvenile Court/Family Recovery Court and Municipal Court/OVI Court for the Specialized Docket funding Programs. In SFYs 17 and 18, 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 Boards as part of their allocation, and Boards then provide those funds in the amount determined by OMHAS to the courts. The primary legislative intent of these funds is to assist courts with payroll costs for specialized docket staff. Karen Scherra stated that this year’s MOU includes updated requirements. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve

the FY 2023 MOUs with Juvenile Court/Family Recovery Court and Municipal Court/OVI Court for the Specialized Docket funding Programs and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOUs on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Greg Varner, second-John Kelly).

The tenth and final action item was the Resolution for capital funds for Child Focus' Carter Center. Child Focus is requesting capital funds for the Carter Center and must receive approval from the Executive Director to submit the request. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Resolution for Board approval for Child Focus' request for capital funds for use at the Carter Center and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the Resolution on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Jara Bonner).

8. Discussion Items: The first discussion item was the Update on OhioRISE. Karen Scherra informed the Board members that OhioRISE began on July 1, 2022. Children meeting OhioRISE eligibility requirements were supposed to be pre-enrolled, and names were to be sent to the service providers. Clermont was told that seventy-two youth were anticipated to be pre-enrolled. As of today, Child Focus has not received any names. Karen also stated that the Boards recently learned that the funding for non-Medicaid related MRSS services was not going to the Board but instead Aetna would be handling the funding. Karen expressed concern over this since there may not be enough funding to provide services to those in need and not including the Board will result in lack of coordination across the system. Further, funding was only given to those Board areas that were in the original MRSS grant cohort. Susan Graham from CF mentioned that CF has not received payment from Aetna, or a contract, and CF had not yet heard that Aetna would be the contractor for non-Medicaid funding of MRSS. Susan also relayed that CF has identified that 66 of the 82 youth that were to be pre-enrolled in OhioRISE were CF clients and CF is connecting those families to care coordinators. There is concern that the number of youth eligible is higher than the estimate and that there may not be enough care coordinators to address all the needs.

The second discussion item was the Update on 988 Implementation. Karen Scherra informed the Board members that the “soft launch” of 988 happened on July 16, 2022. Karen explained that OMHAS will be providing funding to CF to increase hotline staff to cover the anticipated increase in call volume. Laura Stith stated that CF has yet to receive the funding. Laura also added that there is not yet “geolocating,” so calls are routed to hotlines based on area code. According to Laura, there was not an increase in lifeline calls over the weekend.

Agency Directors' Reports: Alicia Fine of Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services/Clermont Recovery Center (GCB/CRC) shared with the Board members that GCB is celebrating the five-year anniversary of the Merwin Recovery House. Alicia also shared that the House is being recertified next week. Several staff from GCB attended the yearly national prevention conference, CADCA, this week. The Coalition for a Drug Free Clermont County is also in the process of applying for a new SAMHSA grant for alcohol prevention for youth. Alicia also provided a success story of a family that was contacted by the QRT. Alicia thanked Karen Scherra for her ongoing support of GCB. Jeff O'Neil also thanked Karen for her tremendous work over the years.

Laura Stith of Child Focus said that she had already discussed 988 and OhioRISE earlier in the meeting. Laura also thanked Karen Scherra for her collaboration over the years and forward thinking.

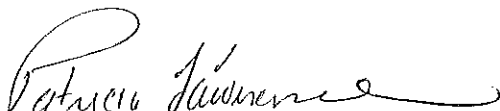
Becky Mosteller, the new Coordinator of Hope Community Center (HCC) was not able to stay until the end of the meeting, so her report stands.

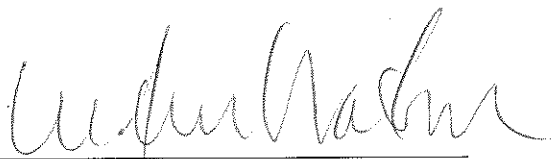
Katie Harper of NAMI, SW Ohio stated that her report stood. Katie mentioned that NAMI has completed a strategic planning process and one of the goal areas is to increase their support groups in areas of Clermont County that are more financially disadvantaged. NAMI will be providing some support groups in Felicity. Katie also thanked Karen Scherra for her support of NAMI.

9. Public Comments: There were no public attendees at the July 18, 2022 Board of Directors meeting.
10. Executive Session: A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. (Motion-Greg Varner, second-Rebecca Cochran). Andy Bateman-yea, Jenifer Binder-yea, Jacki Block-yea, Jara Bonner-yea, John Kelly-yea, Patty Lawrence-yea. The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:10 pm.
11. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to move back into Regular Session. (Motion-Andy Bateman, second-Greg Varner). Jenifer Binder-yea, Jacki Block-yea, Jara Bonner-yea, John Kelly-yea, Patty Lawrence-yea. The Board moved out of Executive Session at 8:21 pm.

Patty Lawrence stated that the Board had discussed Lee Ann Watson's employment contract as incoming Executive Director starting August 1, 2022. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve Lee Ann Watson's employment contract as Executive Director starting on August 1, 2022 as presented. (Motion-Rebecca Cochran, second-Jen Binder).

12. Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the July 18, 2022 Board of Directors meeting. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Andy Bateman).


Patricia Lawrence, Chairperson


Lee Ann Watson, Executive Director