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### MINUTES of May 12, 2025

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Elizabeth (Liz) Atwell, Andrew (Andy) Bateman, Rebecca Cochran-Kasson, Gretchen Behimer, Jacki Block, Jara Bonner, Joe Ellison, Joy Lytle, Laura Perez, Tony Rees

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Patty Lawrence, Greg Varner

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Raymond Bailey

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Richard Chaney

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Jen Dorschug, Zoe Fiscus-Doss, Alicia Fine, Barb Isemann, Laura Stith

**STAFF PRESENT:** Marcie Keith, Cindy Knoblauch, Denny Moell, Erica Pursley, Lee Ann Watson

1. Call to Order: The May 12, 2025, Board of Directors' meeting was conducted in person at 7:00 pm at the Board office at 2337 Clermont Center Drive, Batavia, Ohio, 45103. Chairperson Andy Bateman welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of the Agenda: A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda for the May 12, 2025 Board of Directors' meeting with the addition of agenda items V. B. 1. D. "Financial Reports" and V. B. 1. E. "Narcan Reimbursement Funding". (Motion-Gretchen Behimer, second-Tony Rees).
3. Approval of the Minutes: A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2025 Board of Directors' meeting. (Motion-Gretchen Behimer, second-Liz Atwell).
4. Training: Board Staff, Marcie Keith-Clermont County Suicide Prevention Coalition: Marcie Keith, the Chair of the Suicide Prevention Coalition, gave a brief presentation on the Coalition. The Coalition is under the auspices of Board. Marcie's presentation included the Coalition's Annual Report and suicide fatality review data obtained from Clermont County Public Health.
5. Executive Director and Staff Reports: Executive Director Lee Ann Watson said that her report stands.

Associate Director Denny Moell highlighted the section of his report regarding Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training held the week of March 31, 2025. The forty-hour training included eighteen patrol officers from Clermont County jurisdictions in addition to three (3)

Corrections Officers from the Clermont County Jail and three (3) adult probation officers from Clermont County Common Pleas Court.

Community Engagement Manager Marcie Keith updated the Board on the Revving Up for Mental Health Car Show Event that was rained out on May 3, 2025. Marcie stated that she had a couple of tentative make-up dates in September 2025, and that all of the vendors and attendees that were signed up for the May date are onboard for attending a make-up date in September. Marcie will update the Board once a final make-up date has been chosen.

6. Committee Reports:

A. Finance Committee: The Finance Committee met prior to the Board of Directors' meeting on May 12, 2025 at 6:00pm. Finance Committee Chair Jacki Block summarized that evening's meeting.

GCB FY25 and FY26 Funding Requests: Jacki said that Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services/Clermont Recovery Center (GCB/CRC) submitted a request to the Board to authorize moving \$197,370 from its Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Purchase of Services (POS) contract Substance Use Disorder (SUD) budget line to its FY25 POS contract Mental Health (MH) budget line. GCB/CRC has stated that the SUD services budget is trending toward being underspent, whereas the MH budget line will be overspent. The Finance Committee recommended approval of this request. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve GCB's request to moving \$197,370 from the FY25 POS SUD services to the FY25 POS MH services. (Motion-Rebecca Cochran-Kasson, second-Gretchen Behimer).

In addition, GCB/CRC has requested that the Board provide FY26 POS funding for its Peer Recovery Coaches. The Board discussed the request at the Board retreat and requested a revised budget from GCB. The FY26 Recovery Coach funding approval was tabled by the Finance Committee until a revised budget is received from GCB.

Hope Community Center (HCC) FY26 Funding: Jacki Block reminded the Board members that the Board has been providing annual funding in the amount of \$60,000 to HCC for the past several years. For this fiscal year, HCC has requested up to \$374,637, which includes the \$60,000 annual funding amount, to operate a "Clubhouse Model", a nationally recognized program to improve community support for those living with a mental illness. It is possible that the amount requested may be less than \$374,637 if HCC is allowed to carry over Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) grant funding. HCC Director Zoe Fiscus-Doss stated that, if approved, the FY26 funding from the Board will cover a gap period between when OMHAS grant funding ends and HCC is able to have the necessary infrastructure in place to bill Medicaid. The Board funding will be used for the additional staff needed for the Clubhouse model. Once the Clubhouse model is established, it will be self-sustainable through Medicaid billing. The FY26 HCC funding would be paid on a reimbursement basis, will be billed quarterly, and the Board will be considered the payer of last resort. The Finance Committee recommended approval of this request. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve FY26 Board funding to HCC in the amount of up to \$374,637. (Motion-Jara Bonner, second-Rebecca Cochran-Kasson).

Child Focus FY26 Handle with Care Funding Request: Jacki Block said that Child Focus has asked the Board to table this request until the FY26 State Budget is released. Funding for Handle with Care will not be needed if cuts to 988 are not made in the State Budget.

Finance Committee Financial Reports: Jacki mentioned that the Finance Committee approved the State Fiscal Year 2025 (SFY25) Profit and Loss Statement, the SFY25 third quarter Agency Utilization Report, the SFY24 040 Actuals Report submitted to OMHAS on March 27, 2025, and the SFY24 Substance Abuse Entity Inventory Report submitted to OMHAS on March 27, 2025.

Narcan Reimbursement POS FY26 Budget Reduction: Lastly, Jacki informed the Board members that Board staff had requested to remove the \$5,000 budget line for Narcan reimbursement from the CRC FY26 POS Contract budget as Narcan can be ordered for free from Project Dawn. The full Board agreed to omit the Narcan budget line from the CRC POS FY26 Contract.

7. Unfinished Business: Crisis Receiving Center: Lee Ann Watson stated that the Crisis Receiving Center project is still on schedule. The agreement between the architecture firm, Kleinfelder, and the Board has been fully signed. Lee Ann will be meeting again with Kleinfelder on May 14, 2025. The Center, which will occupy a portion of the Board's office building at 2337 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia, is scheduled for completion in late spring of 2026. The Board has received funding for the project from various sources.

Levy Planning: Lee Ann Watson said that the Board's Levy Consultant, Jens Suttmoller, advised the Board to hire a polling firm for a targeted levy survey prior to the Board being on the November 2025 ballot. The survey is intended to gauge the Board's likelihood of passing its levy. The survey company, Fallon Research, has been used by other Boards and other familiar local entities with positive outcomes. The cost would be between \$17,000-\$20,000 for 300-400 targeted calls to registered voters. The overall consensus of the Board was to not move forward with the survey, due mostly to cost. Marcie Keith suggested using A.I.M. Media for a targeted levy campaign for as low as \$2,000. The Board members requested to table the discussion until after the Board has more direction from the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and whether they will allow the Board to go on the ballot with a renewal plus a .5% increase as requested.

8. Agency Directors' Reports: Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services/Clermont Recovery Center's (GCB/CRC) report stands. Jen Dorschug added that the Community Alternative Sentencing Center's (CASC) annual report is complete and available for review. The Clermont BCC has renewed the contract with GCB for CASC for FY26. In addition, Jen said that GCB has received a grant to purchase locking medicine bags for its cannabis misuse prevention program. Jen closed by saying that GCB's Champions of Hope dinner, which honored Municipal Court Judge Anita Bechmann, was a success, and GCB's transitional youth program Fidelity Review went very well.

Child Focus's report stands. Laura Stith added that Child Focus has heard back from five (5) Clermont County School Districts regarding the new school-based mental health (SBMH) services redesign model and is waiting on feedback from six (6) more. Lee Ann Watson, Pamela

Lindeman, and Susan Graham have a meeting with the final school district, West Clermont, on May 13, 2025.

Hope Community Center's (HCC) report stands. Zoe Fiscus-Doss added that HCC's Clubhouse Model is ready to launch once the hiring phase is complete. HCC is working on the requirements needed to implement a Medicaid billing system. HCC's CARF accreditation is scheduled for January 2026. Lastly, Zoe added that April was a very successful month for HCC, as fourteen new members attended the facility. HCC will hold its annual art show and sale on May 15-17, 2025.

NAMI of SW Ohio's report stands.

9. New Business:

A. Action Items

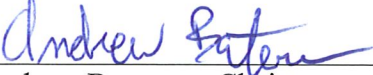
1. New Virtual Board Meeting Attendance Policy: In order to address H.B. 257, which went into effect on April 8, 2025, and allows public bodies to conduct virtual Board meetings, Board staff wrote an operational policy for the Board members to review for adoption. The policy was reviewed at the April Board meeting and Board members asked the Board staff to make revisions. Those revisions were shared with the Board members. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the new Virtual Board Meeting Attendance Policy #O1.14 as presented. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Rebecca Cochran-Kasson).
2. New Generative AI Personnel Policy: Board staff created a new personnel policy for the Board to review for adoption of the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) in the workplace. The policy will be reviewed annually. A motion was made, and approved by majority vote, to approve the new Generative AI personnel policy #8.27 as presented. (Motion-Gretchen Behimer, second-Tony Rees).
3. FY25 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with On Our Way Home for Housing Funding from the Ohio Department of Development: The Board was awarded Housing Access for Ohioans in Recovery funding in the amount of \$37,154 from the Ohio Department of Development to provide recovery housing support in Clermont County. On Our Way Home (OOWH) operates two recovery houses, one in Bethel and one in New Richmond. OOWH will utilize \$7,154 of the funding for recovery support services at its two locations. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the MOU with OOWH for housing funding from the Ohio Department of Development as presented, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the MOU on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Rebecca Cochran-Kasson, second-Joy Lytle).
4. Addendum to the FY25 POS Contract with Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services (GCB) for Housing Funding from the Ohio Department of Development: The Board was awarded Housing Access for Ohioans in Recovery funding in the amount of \$37,154 from the Ohio Department of Development to provide recovery housing support in Clermont County. GCB operates two recovery houses, one for women and one for men, in Clermont County. GCB will utilize \$30,000 of the funding for recovery support

services at its Clermont County locations. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY25 POS Addendum with GCB for housing funding from the Ohio Department of Development as presented, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the Addendum on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Rebecca Cochran-Kasson, second-Jara Bonner).

5. FY26 Agreement with A Perfect Stay for Residential Services in Clermont County: The Board has received a proposal from A Perfect Stay for residential services in Clermont County. Aniysha Blanchard is seeking startup funding in the amount of \$28,000 which will cover the acquisition and setup of suitable property, furnishings, and initial operating expenses for a supportive living environment for individuals with a severe and persistent mental illness. The proposal was reviewed at the April Board meeting, and the Board members asked Board staff to follow up with A Perfect Stay with additional questions. After review of the additional information, the Board of Director's agreed to fund the project in the amount of \$28,000. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agreement with A Perfect Stay for residential mental health services in Clermont County for \$28,000 as presented, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Rebecca Cochran-Kasson, second-Laura Perez).

B. Discussion Items:

1. Review of Board Retreat: Board members provided feedback on the April 26, 2025 Board Retreat. Board members had positive comments about the overall experience including the setting (Clingman Park), the food, organization of the day, and an engaging agenda. The Board would like to keep the Gillette Priority Grid as an ongoing theme for the Retreats and a mid-March to early April timeframe for future Retreats.
  2. Civil Solutions Agreement: Lee Ann Watson said Board staff are currently seeking educated opinions on whether to hire a construction manager, such as Civil Solutions, to oversee and represent the Board's best interests, as well as manage the time schedule, during the construction of the Crisis Receiving Center. Lee Ann will keep the Board informed and will have the Board review any contract proposals should the Board move forward with hiring a construction manager.
10. Announcements/Comments from Public Attendees: There were no announcements or comments from public attendees at the May 12, 2025 Board of Directors' meeting.
  11. Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the May 12, 2025 Board of Directors' meeting. (Motion-Gretchen Behimer, second-Rebecca Cochran-Kasson).

  
Andrew Bateman, Chairperson

  
Lee Ann Watson, Executive Director