

Board Update

Mental Health & Recovery Services (MHRS) Board
Serving Coshocton, Guemsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble & Perry Counties
1500 Coal Run Road, Zanesville, Ohio 43701
Phone: 740-454-8557

Regular Board Meeting
Highlights
December 11, 2025

Liberty Manor Homes – A New Chapter Begins

Mike Wiggins, Director of Liberty Manor Homes, along with a few group home staff members and residents, reported on the transition of the former state-operated Liberty Manor Group Home to a facility now operated through an agreement with New Housing Ohio. Transition work began when in January of 2025, the then Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) announced they would no longer support services at the home, effective July 1, 2025.

Due to the hard work and tremendous support of MHRS Board Executive Director Misty Cromwell and her Board of Governors, on July 1, 2025, Liberty Manor Homes re-opened and 14 residents were officially admitted. Residents who had been slated to be displaced were retained! Also, 10 former state employees were retained—ensuring continuity, smooth operations, and improved service delivery. On the date of the re-opening, OhioMHAS issued Liberty Manor Homes a full compliance 2-year licensure.

Liberty Manor was fully stabilized, and wrap-around services were put in place. Allwell Behavioral Health is providing resident case management, and Guernsey Health Choices is providing on-site individual and group services. Liberty Manor has ramped up its recovery-based activities and events (i.e., the “No Limits” showcase at the Noble County Fair, interactions with Fetch Remedy Therapy Dogs, and a Halloween party – pictured below).



Group home staff and residents also reported on their goal of establishing a skills lab, where they can create items to be sold for use at celebrations and special recognitions.

Executive Director

Misty Cromwell

Board of Directors

Sean Brady

Reid Carpenter

Abby Corder

Leondra Davis

Randi Earnest

Dennis Hitchcock

Sue Hoover

William Johnson

Tony Mayle, Jr

Lt. Dave Peoples

Dan Scheerer, M.D.

Wendy Starlin

Ben Taylor

Bonnie Taylor

Board President

Sue Hoover

Board Vice President

Leondra Davis

Mission Statement

Our mission is to distribute federal, state, and local funding to community mental health providers in a way that facilitates the existence of (and access to) high-quality mental health and substance use recovery services in our six counties.

After months of uncertainty and tireless advocacy, the residents of the group home for persons with severe mental illness are finally able to breathe a sigh of relief. The looming threat of displacement had weighed heavily on them, but now that their home is secure, the atmosphere is filled with gratitude and joy. For many, Liberty Manor is more than just shelter—it is a community, a source of stability, and a foundation for healing. The victory of remaining in their home has brought a renewed sense of hope, dignity, and belonging, reminding everyone involved that perseverance and compassion can protect the spaces where people feel safe and supported.

FinancialMatters

Board Members.

- Approved the November 2025 Reconciliation Report that showed deposits, checks written for MHRS Board operations, payments to in-network contract service providers and out-of-network community partners, and journal entries.
- Reviewed the following: 1) Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2025; 2) Network Funding Reserves; 3) a ‘Year-to-Date’ Status Report for the MHRS Board’s CY 2025 Operating Budget; and 4) a Dashboard Report that provides a high level overview of key fiscal indicators.
- Approved a \$100,000 allocation to support renovations at the Morgan PREP Center building (pictured below) in McConnelsville. The building was last renovated 16 year ago. The Center is owned by the MHRS Board, and two contract service providers occupy the facility: 1) Allwell Behavioral Health’s Morgan Counseling Center; and 2) Morgan Behavioral Health Choices.



Thank YouMHRS Board Staff	Thank YouGoverning Board Members
Board President Leondra Davis expressed appreciation to employees for their dedication to the MHRS Board’s network of care and stressed that they are making profound differences every day. She noted they inspire hope through the care, strength and humanity they consistently share with individuals and families struggling with mental illness and addiction, as well as with community partners and contract organizations.	MHRS Board Executive Director Misty Cromwell expressed gratitude for board members’ steadfast leadership and commitment to advancing behavioral healthcare in our communities. Misty stressed that board members’ support empowers staff members, strengthens our network of care, and offers hope to countless clients and their families. Misty also expressed her deepest appreciation to board members for the time, expertise, and passion they bring to the organization’s mission.

SPECIAL COMMUNITY IMPACT



(Pictured Standing Above are MHRs Board Employees Sarah Reed, Misty Cromwell, and Jamie McGrew)

MHRs Board Participates in Morgan County Healthy Meals for Healthy Minds Event

Our MHRs Board recently participated in the Healthy Meals for Healthy Minds event held in Morgan County. Hosted by the Appalachian Children's Coalition, the Joe Burrow Foundation, Morgan Local Schools, and the United Way of Muskingum, Perry, and Morgan Counties, the event brought families together with local service providers to promote wellness, connections, and access to community resources.

MHRs Board staff shared behavioral health information, answered questions, and engaged with families throughout the morning. The Board also assisted with event coordination and outreach efforts to help ensure strong community participation.

More than a dozen agencies set up resource tables and connected directly with attendees, contributing to a collaborative and supportive environment for local families. The MHRs Board remains committed to partnering with schools and community organizations across the region to strengthen behavioral health awareness and access to services.

Healthy Meals for Healthy Minds promotes the idea that what we eat directly impacts how we think, feel, and learn. It emphasizes balanced nutrition as a foundation for mental clarity, emotional stability, and academic or professional success. Almost 200 meal kits were handed out at this important event.