

# Board Update

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

Regular Board Meeting  
Highlights  
September 9, 2021

## *PAX Good Behavior Game Brings About Many Positive Outcomes*

The PAX Good Behavior Game (GBG) is a research-based environmental intervention used in the classroom to create an environment that is conducive to learning. The GBG nurtures self-regulation, improves attention, and reduces impulsivity, thus wiring the brain during any school activity for long-term gain.

Beginning in 2018 (*in collaboration with Nationwide Children's Hospital*), the MHRS Board identified the PAX GBG as a way to provide the best people and programs to achieve the best outcomes for kids in our service area. The MHRS Board has invested in the PAX Program by funding Teacher Trainings, Partner Trainings, and Tools Trainings. PAX Tools is a collection of trauma-informed, evidence-based behavioral strategies for families and communities to promote the development of self-regulation in children's lives outside the classroom.

PAX Partners Amanda Bright (*Buckeye Trail – East Guernsey Schools*), Reid Carpenter (*Zanesville City Schools – John McIntire Elementary*), Joyce Girord (*East Muskingum Schools*), and Van Hoyt (*Rolling Hills Schools*) shared with board members how the PAX Program is benefiting students and teachers in so many ways.



▪ At the beginning of the school year, students first develop a vision of a wonderful classroom. What would they wish to see, hear, feel, and do more of — and less of? The things they want more are called PAX (which stands for peace, productivity, health, and happiness). The things they want less are called SPLEEMS, which are unwanted behaviors. By playing the GBG game, children eventually learn how to predict what PAX and SPLEEMS are — greatly enhancing their self-regulation. Students

receive positive reinforcement through the use of “Tootles.” A Tootle is a positive note that lets a recipient know someone noticed their good behavior. Tootles can be given by teachers to students or they can be given by students to other students, by students to teachers, and by students to their parents. Within weeks, teachers generally notice a significant decrease in impulsive and disruptive behaviors class-wide.

Teachers have found that the implementation of the GBG in their classrooms has improved the behavior of their students and allows them more teaching time. More importantly, the GBG has a positive impact on students — who tend to be kinder, more supportive, and more encouraging to their classmates and more respectful to their teachers and other adults.

The Partners expressed appreciation to the MHRS Board for their outstanding support of PAX — noting the program is making many positive differences in the lives of local teachers, students and their families.

### ***Executive Director***

*Misty Cromwell*

### ***Board of Directors***

*Jon Black*

*Rev. Dr. Michael Bullock*

*Jennifer Hanson*

*Erin Heard*

*Sue Hoover*

*William Johnson*

*Pamela Kirst*

*Jeff LeCocq*

*Tony Mayle, Jr.*

*Dan Scheerer, M.D.*

*Danielle Scott*

*Ben Taylor*

### ***Board President***

*William Johnson*

### ***Board Vice President***

*Rev. Dr. Michael Bullock*

***The mission of the  
MHRS Board is to  
facilitate a Recovery-  
Oriented System of Care  
that promotes mental  
health and supports the  
recovery of each person  
who needs services for  
mental illness and/or  
addiction.***

# FinancialMatters

Under the guidance of Finance/Audit Committee Chair Dr. Dan Scheerer, board members reviewed and approved the August 2021 Reconciliation Report that showed deposits, checks written for MHRS Board operations, payments to in-network service providers and out-of-network community partners, and journal entries. Below is a breakdown of payments for the provision of treatment and support services for persons with mental illness and/or addictions.

<i>Accounts Payable</i>	<i>In-Network Providers</i>	<i>Out-of-Network Partners</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
<b>August 3, 2021</b>	<b>\$94,617.53</b>	<b>\$13,811.56</b>	<b>\$108,429.09</b>
<b>August 16, 2021</b>	<b>\$214,485.84</b>	<b>\$304,499.27</b>	<b>\$518,985.11</b>
<b>August 30, 2021</b>	<b>\$336,147.33</b>	<b>\$28,084.73</b>	<b>\$364,232.06</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$645,250.70</b>	<b>\$346,395.56</b>	<b>\$991,646.26</b>

Other financial reports included: Contract Services Expenses; Balance Sheet as of August 31, 2021; and a Dashboard Report that provides a high-level overview of key fiscal indicators.

In other actions, board members certified service area estimated tax levy revenue for Calendar Year 2022 and reviewed a report of levy fund balances as of August 31, 2021.

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## *New Board Member*



MHRS Board Associate Director Elaine Shuster administered the Oath of Office to **Tony Mayle, Jr.**, who was recently appointed to the Board of Directors by the Morgan County Commissioners. Tony holds degrees in Organizational Communication Studies, Higher Education Administration, Clinical Mental Health and Rehabilitation Counseling, and Counselor Education. He has taught at Ohio University, Hocking College, and Zane State College — and is now the Assistant Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Marietta College. Welcome aboard, Tony!

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## *Annual Report of Major and Unusual Incidents*

The Ohio Revised Code establishes standards to ensure the prompt and accurate notification of certain prescribed incidents. It also requires agencies to review and analyze all incidents to identify and implement corrective measures designed to prevent recurrence and to manage risk. The MHRS Board’s contract organizations are required to forward each reportable Major/Unusual Incident (MUI) to the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (with a copy to the MHRS Board) within 24 hours of its discovery.

In FY 2021, the MHRS Board received 68 MUI reports, 36 of which were related to positive cases of COVID-19 — and received 4 Client Rights Grievances, all of which were duly addressed and resolved. In Partners Workgroup, Care Management Director Jamie McGrew provided detailed background information about the various incidents and grievances.

# STRATEGIC PLANNING

Board members were given a quarterly update about actions taken over the last three months toward achieving the goals and objectives of the MHRS Board's FY 2021-2023 Strategic Plan.

- ◆ Plans have been made for all contract providers (including NAMI Six County) to provide updates about their operations to the members of the MHRS Board's Partners Workgroup.
- ◆ The MHRS Board's electronic billing system (GOSH) now includes additional codes to enhance the tracking of services. Work is continuing to reduce the number of paper bills that are processed each month.
- ◆ Allwell Behavioral Health Services has purchased a building to house their Youth and Family Services Programming. The building's purchase was partially funded through a Community Youth Resiliency Capital Grant from the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services.
- ◆ The MHRS Board's VISTA volunteer completed a Youth Services Inventory for the six-county region. The inventory includes all behavioral healthcare providers — not just those who are contract agencies of the MHRS Board.
- ◆ Contract service providers have reported a 27% increase in credentialed and licensed staff. (Some of these are not new staff, but those who have received credentials and licenses since the baseline was developed.)
- ◆ Client satisfaction rates among alcohol/drug recovery contract service providers increased by 1% over the previous year. Allwell Behavioral Health Services reported a 7% increase for that same time period.
- ◆ In the last quarter, wait times for assessment appointments went from 0-20 on the baseline data for all providers, to a new wait time of 0-12 days overall — an average of eight days less wait time.
- ◆ Plans have been developed to move third-year PAX Partner schools toward sustainability. As the 2021-2022 school year progresses, the sustainability plans will be implemented with the support of PAX Partners and the PAX Consultant from Nationwide Children's Hospital.
- ◆ *Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Services:* There have been a total of six responses to critical incidents. Work is continuing to recruit team members and market the Team's services. Additional CISM trainings have also been scheduled.
- ◆ *Website Analytics:* In FY 2021, total visits to the MHRS Board's website have increased by 479% and unique visitors have increased by 544%. Feedback indicates that the site has become more efficient, allowing visitors to quickly find needed information.
- ◆ *Facebook Analytics:* From April 9, 2021 to June 30, 2021, page views increased by 15.5%; page 'likes' increased by 24%; people reached by posts increased by 11.3%; and post-engagement was up by 23%.
- ◆ There are currently 90 followers of the MHRS Board's Instagram account, and the reach increased by 200%.
- ◆ Due to the prevalence of COVID, goals for restarting consumer-operated services have been tabled.



### *Understanding Addiction & Recovery Through a Child's Eyes*

The MHRS Board is sponsoring this webinar for service area clinicians and peer supporters, as well as employees of Children Services Boards. The webinar is scheduled for Friday, October 1 (from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.). The presenter is Jerry Moe, National Director of Children's Programming for the Hazelden Betty Ford Center in California. Addiction to alcohol and other drugs impacts more than just the user, yet there are few opportunities for young children to become part of the treatment and recovery process. Jerry's presentation will cover the Multi-Generational Cycle, Healing Stages for Children, Planting Seeds, and a Message of Hope. Pre-Register for this webinar at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Ic0RrR8TTg2Zx5L0QKwFKA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ic0RrR8TTg2Zx5L0QKwFKA)

### *Guardianship Program*

Allwell Behavioral Health Services has hired a full-time Guardianship Coordinator, and it is hoped to have this program launched by the middle of September. Another partner in this effort is NAMI Six County. This program will enable appropriate interventions when there are client issues related to health, safety or exploitation.

### *Smart Choices...Healthy Families*

In partnership with the Muskingum County Health Department, the MHRS Board has helped to develop a marketing campaign for this program that includes a MOMS Addiction Recovery Support Billboard. The campaign was developed in response to recent surveys that indicated moms and other community partners were not aware of available services to help reduce complications during and after pregnancy. The billboard will run for four weeks (beginning on September 12) in two locations – one on Linden Avenue and one on Maysville Pike. The billboard project is being funded through MHRS Board State Opioid Response (SOR) grant dollars.



### *Peer Recovery Supporter Training*

The MHRS Board is hosting a Peer Recovery Supporter Training from November 29 – December 10. This training is required for individuals in recovery to become Certified Peer Supporters. For more information, go to the MHRS Board's website – [www.mhrs.org](http://www.mhrs.org). – and click on the Training Tab.

### *Virtual Celebration of Recovery*



[Register now](#) to join the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) for a virtual Celebration of Recovery on Friday, October 1, at 1:00 PM. This celebration will feature inspiring recovery stories, a recovery-centered trivia game, and a keynote presentation from comedian, writer, and podcast host, Chris Gethard (*pictured to the left*). At 3:00 p.m., attendees will have the option to attend one of two breakout sessions: 1) Art for the Heart; or 2) Yoga and Mindfulness for Recovery. This event is hosted in partnership with NAMI Ohio, Ohio Citizen Advocates for Addiction Recovery (OCAAR), and Ohio Peer Recovery Organizations (Ohio-PRO). This Celebration of Recovery is generously sponsored by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.