

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
July 10, 2025

FinancialMatters

Under the guidance of Finance/Audit Committee Chair Dr. Dan Scheerer, board members took action on the following matters:

- **Reconciliation Report:** Reviewed and approved the June 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.
- **Other Financial Reports:** Also reviewed the following June 2025 fiscal reports: 1) Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2025; 2) Monthly Report of Funding Reserves; 3) a Year-to-Date Status Report for the MHRS Board's Operating Budget; and 4) a Dashboard Report that provides a high-level overview of key fiscal indicators.
- **Appropriation Transfer - CY 2025 Budget:** Approved the transfer of \$110,691.00 from the Contingencies Line Item to the Professional Services – (CA) Line Item for service fees related to the new SmartCare claims billing system that is replacing the GOSH system.
- **Payments for Mental Health & Addiction Recovery Treatments and Support:**
Below is a breakdown of June payments for services for clients and families or for system improvements.

<i>Accounts Payable</i>	<i>In-Network Providers</i>	<i>Out-of-Network Partners</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
June 12, 2025	\$261,028.10	\$45,521.84	\$306,549.94
June 26, 2025	\$142,572.47	\$57,846.35	\$200,418.82
TOTAL	\$403,600.57	\$103,368.19	\$506,968.76

- **Funding Request – Muskingum Behavioral Health:** Board members approved an allocation of up to \$60,696.27 in seed money to Muskingum Behavioral Health to support the hiring of a newly-accredited LSW who will be joining MBH's clinical team. MBH will be asked to provide monthly reports of the new employee's productivity rates – following which the MHRS Board will provide additional financial support until the employee's initial productivity rates reach expected levels.

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

Leondra Davis

Board Vice President

Ben Taylor

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.

● ***Funding Requests – Coshocton County Juvenile Court:***

1. **Community Resource Center:** Board members approved the allocation of \$15,862.68 to Coshocton County Juvenile Court to support a 1-year extension of the Resource Center's lease agreement with the Coshocton Regional Medical Center. This action will help the Center's work to provide early intervention services for Coshocton County youth and families.
2. **Dual Status Youth Initiative:** Board members approved an allocation of \$50,000 in seed money to the Coshocton Juvenile Court to support the hiring of a Mental Health Assessor / Case Manager for the multi-disciplinary dual status youth initiative. | This initiative includes a multi-disciplinary team approach to provide consistent and timely services that will bring about youth achievement. The MH Assessor will provide short-term input for immediate case direction and will also assist with long-term planning. This team approach will improve outcomes for dually-identified youth by helping to increase community collaborations that will result in earlier identification of youth at greater risk of juvenile justice and child welfare involvement and provide the expertise and resources to most effectively meet the needs of these youth.

Updates — Community Partnerships

Guernsey County Juvenile Court: This Court's Chief Probation Officer, Travis Stevens, met with the Program Committee to report on the status of GCJC operations. He reported that cases involving youth are becoming more serious and include cases involving THC and Vaping. | Medicaid coverage for youths in detention is not usable, so children had been unable to see their behavioral health counselor. | Several months ago, the MHRS Board allocated \$5,000 to GCJC to fund a program to provide uninterrupted counseling for troubled teens while in detention. Counseling services are being provided by Southeast Ohio Counseling, Seeds of Hope / Cedar Ridge – and, since October 1, 2024, \$1,500 has been spent to help youths in detention. With help from the MHRS Board, there has been no break in the continuity of care. Travis expressed appreciation for their funding allocation and noted that, through lots of hard work, positive outcomes are occurring for children and their families.



The Legendary Adventure Zone Park in Belle Valley, Ohio, officially opened its gates with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on **July 8**. The event celebrated the completion of the new playground, where the park's mission is to support children with disabilities through inclusive play environments. The MHRS Board allocated some funding for the development of this exciting new park.

Student Ambassador Program



MHRS Board Student Intern Sophie Carder reported on her efforts to establish Student Ambassador Programs in local schools. The first school she is working with is Zanesville High School. When fully functional, trained ambassadors will take on leadership roles to promote mental illness, reduce stigma, and support their peers. Thus far, Sophie has created an ambassador application process, created flyers, drafted pre- and post-participant surveys, and

developed goals. Sophie will soon begin to develop some activities and potential trainings based on students' interest.

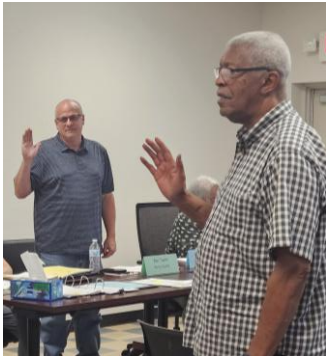
AG Program

Sarah Reed, the MHRS Board's Director of Compliance and Quality Improvement, reported that the Agriculture Linkage Program has begun. Guernsey Health Choices has hired Mattea Schockling as an AG Program's Navigator. Ninety percent of Mattea's time will be spent in Noble County—with the other ten percent being split between Guernsey and Morgan Counties. Mattea will serve as a linkage between rural farmers and mental health service providers. The development of this program came about as a result of important data that was collected from farmers in 2024 at service area County Fairs. That data indicated a significant number of farm workers who were experiencing stress. AG Navigators are emerging to bridge the gap between farmers and behavioral health services—especially important, given the unique stressors in agricultural life, like unpredictable weather, market volatility, and isolation. Navigators meet farmers where they are—literally—making access less intimidating.

Liberty Manor Group Home:

State operations ceased at midnight on June 30, with new Director Mike Wiggins and New Housing Ohio then assuming operations. The new provider was able to retain nine full-time staff from the state, and one additional staff member was added to the team. A temporary license has been obtained, and an on-site licensure/certification visit will soon take place. Management is now considering ways to obtain a much-needed van for the home – to accommodate running various errands and client field trips.

Oath of Office



MHRS Board Office Manager Terri France administered the Oath of Office to the following reappointed board members: **Ben Taylor** (Perry County) whose appointing authority was the Perry County Commissioners; and **William Johnson** (Coshocton County) whose appointing authority was the Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services. Two other reappointed board members, **Leondra Davis** (Coshocton County) and **Randi Earnest** (Guernsey County) will be sworn in at the next meeting of the Governing Board. On the left is Ben Taylor and on the right is William Johnson.