

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
January 11, 2024

FinancialMatters

● **Reconciliation Report:** Under the guidance of Finance/Audit Committee Chair Dr. Dan Scheerer, board members reviewed and approved the December 2023 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.

● **Payments for Mental Health & Addiction Recovery Treatment and Support Services:** Due to Muskingum County's end-of-year processes, only one accounts payable for the provision of behavioral health treatment and support services was processed on 12/11/23 — with \$391,025.88 going to in-network service providers and \$42,083.31 going to out-of-network providers, totaling \$433,109.19.

● **Other December Financial Reports:** Board members reviewed the following: 1) Contract Services Expenses; 2) Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2023; 3) Network Funding Reserves; 4) a 'Year-to-Date' status report for the MHRS Board's CY 2023 Operating Budget; 5) Contract Provider Amber Alert Information; 6) a report of FY 2023 Revenue and Expenses; and (7) a Dashboard Report that provides a high-level overview of key fiscal indicators.

Other Actions:

- ◆ **Authorization to Pay 2023 Bills in 2024:** Adopted a resolution noting that 2023 invoices presented for payment in 2024 are approved for payment.
- ◆ **New Revenue Account:** Approved the creation of a new revenue account for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds the MHRS Board will be receiving.
- ◆ **Special Allocation Request – Perry Behavioral Health Choices (PBHC):** Given the MHRS Board's previous action to advance \$400,000.00 to Perry Behavioral Health Choices for the organization's Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) Clinic, the Board of Directors approved the allocation of an additional \$50,000.00 to support the full development of this service. TMS is a non-invasive form of brain stimulation and affects central nervous system activity by applying powerful magnetic fields to specific areas of the brain. PBHC offers these services free of charge to Veterans, First Responders and Law Enforcement Officers needing help with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and/or Depression.
- ◆ **Risk Management and Insurance:** Approved the levels and adequacy of insurance coverage — including cyber security — to protect against allegations of improper conduct when carrying out duties as board members.

Executive Director
Misty Cromwell

Board of Directors

Sean Brady
Reid Carpenter
Abby Corder
Leondra Davis
Randi Earnest
Megan Gee
Dennis Hitchcock
Sue Hoover
William Johnson
Tony Mayle, Jr.
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.

MHRS Board Staffing Changes

Elaine Shuster, the MHRS Board's Associate Director and Systems Manager, is retiring effective April 30, 2024. Her position is being revamped and has been posted as Compliance and Quality Improvement Director. Board members approved the in-house posting of Associate Director responsibilities for attachment to an existing employee's duties.

Helping High-Risk Clients

Randi Earnest, Chair of the MHRS Board's Partners Workgroup, summarized her committee's review of priorities for helping high-risk clients. When clients have complex mental health and/or addiction concerns and engage in high-risk behaviors, it is an overall priority for service providers to address the core issues, assist with problem-solving, and offer them some skills to enhance coping and achieve better long-term outcomes. Behaviors included in this category could range from being life-threatening, to therapy-interfering, to negatively impacting quality of life.

Committee members specifically reviewed Tier 2 Services in the MHRS Board's FY 2025 Prioritized Continuum of Care:

- 2.1 Medical and Service Interventions and Other High-Risk Community Supports
- 2.2 Engagement and Planning
- 2.3 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Residential Treatment
- 2.4 SUD Outpatient Treatment Services
- 2.5 Community Care Coordination and Case Management Services
- 2.6 Child & Youth Outpatient Mental Health and SUD Counseling Services and Other Supports
- 2.7 Adult Outpatient Mental Health and SUD Counseling Services and Other Supports

The above services help clients to understand and mitigate risk by increasing safety and working on the core issues that put them at greater risk.

Hearings for Review of FY 2025 Funding Applications

The MHRS Board is developing a new method by which service provider recipients of funding will be selected—a process that will enhance accountability and demonstrate the appropriate and successful use of public funds.

MHRS Board staff and board members reviewed the first two funding applications — submitted by Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices and Perry Behavioral Health Choices. The Q/A portion of the hearings were recorded, and those transcribed interactions will be used to help facilitate informed decision-making. Funding application reviews for other potential service providers will take place at the February 8 and March 14 board meetings.

Monthly Report of Primary Activities Organized by the MHRS Board's Workplan Goals

Workplan Goals	Activities
<p>#1 — Ensure Availability of and Access to Quality Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enhancement of Crisis Services: Using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, the MHRS Board is undertaking the development of four projects: 1) a regional Youth Crisis Stabilization Unit; 2) a Youth Crisis Stabilization Wing within the Genesis Healthcare System; 3) Allwell Behavioral Health's transition to the EPIC electronic health record system; and 4) a Behavioral Health Urgent Care facility in Cambridge, Ohio. ➤ Guardianship Services: The MHRS Board has contracted with the Ohio Network for Innovation (ONI) for the enhancement of client guardianship services in our region. Karl Hoop, MHRS Board Criminal Justice & Crisis Services Coordinator, is overseeing the expansion of this service.
<p>#2 — Foster a Healthy and Coordinated Field of Provider Organizations (includes activities related to community awareness and stigma reduction)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Contract Provider Annual Compliance Reviews: Associate Director Elaine Shuster recently completed clinical audits. Agencies have been asked to complete necessary corrections by the time of the next audit. All providers have made improvements in this area. ➤ Quarterly Fiscal Review of Contract Providers: The MHRS Board's fiscal department has completed quarterly fiscal reviews and results have been posted to the Board's 'Amber Alert' tool. The latest Amber Alert Spreadsheet was reviewed by board members at the January 11, 2024, meeting. ➤ SmartCare System: MHRS Board staff have begun researching an alternative claims management system - SmartCare. An initial consultation meeting has been scheduled with system administrator Partner Solutions, housed at the Stark County MHRS Board. ➤ Problem Gambling Awareness Campaign: The MHRS Board's media consultant is developing a problem gambling awareness campaign for use during the NFL playoff season. The campaign will include a youth component to highlight important facts parents should know about video gaming and its links to problem gambling. ➤ SCOPE Grant: This initiative will involve training for first responders to increase naloxone administration and eliminate overdose deaths. The goal is to re-introduce the former work of quick response teams with those who are already on the frontlines doing the work. This initiative is being overseen by MHRS Board

	<p>Care Management Director Jamie McGrew.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Coshocton Resource Center Open House: The grand opening of the Coshocton County Resource Center took place on December 18, 2023. The Resource Center was realized when the Coshocton County Juvenile Court was awarded funds from the Ohio Department of Youth Services to establish a center for youth and families. Planners partnered with Coshocton Regional Medical Center to secure the space. The Center provides case management support and referrals for community-based resources and services to at-risk youth and their families. The Center helps youth who are exhibiting pre-delinquent behavior that puts them at risk of new or increased involvement in the juvenile justice arena. ➤ Stepping Up Planning: A county-wide virtual meeting to continue considering the formal establishment of a Stepping Up initiative will take place on January 31 from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm. Presentations will highlight mental illness and the criminal justice population. The meeting will be directed by Ohio Supreme Court Justice Evelyn Stratton (retired), along with other state and county leaders. For information about joining the virtual meeting, contact Karl Hoop at karlh@mhrs.org.
<p>#3 — Secure the ongoing health and effectiveness of the MHRS Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recruitment of Compliance & Quality Improvement Director: This position has been posted internally and externally. It is planned to on-board the new employee toward the end of March or early April to allow for some time with Retiring Systems Manager Elaine Shuster. ➤ Review of Current Job Descriptions and Organizational Structure: MHRS Board Director Misty Cromwell is leading a review of current staff workloads and future staffing needs. The goal is to re-align duties in a way that limits duplication and improves job clarity. Job descriptions are being amended to reflect core competencies and identify areas of expertise that are needed on the staff team to fulfill day-to-day responsibilities. ➤ Clear Impact Training: Training in this area will be addressed as the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) moves to a results-based, data-driven, decision-making process. Staff will be participating in OhioMHAS webinars to acquaint themselves with this accountability tool.