

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 14, 2021

Pearl House Zanesville (PHZ) Update



Executive Director
Misty Cromwell

Board of Directors
Sherile Beardmore
Michael Bullock
Jennifer Hanson
Sue Hoover
William Johnson
Pamela Kirst
Jeff LeCocq
Mindy Lowe
Kelly Lynch
Thomas Lynch
Dan Scheerer, M.D.
Danielle Scott
Beverly Steinbrecher

Board President
Jeff LeCocq

Board Vice President
William Johnson

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.

Board members adopted a resolution in support of Muskingum Behavioral Health’s capital application (that has been approved by OhioMHAS) for the development of Pearl House Zanesville in downtown Zanesville. It is hoped the facility can open in March of 2022.

Delayed by COVID-19, PHZ has received \$500,000 from the State Controlling Board, and construction of the 34-unit facility has begun.

PHZ will include one-, two-, and three-bedroom sober-living apartments for individuals in recovery and their families.

Muskingum Behavioral Health CEO Steve Carrel notes, “For people to achieve a good quality recovery, they need human support, employment, and safe housing.”

In addition to Muskingum Behavioral Health, other project partners are the Zanesville Metropolitan Housing Authority, and Fairfield Homes (the property manager).

One of the aims for PHZ, according to Carrel, is to reunite families who may have lost custody of their children due to addiction struggles. “The end game of this whole thing is to help folks get into long-term recovery and become contributing members of the community; we’re going to be all about building up,” Carrel said.

FinancialMatters®

Board members approved the December 2020 Reconciliation Report that included two December accounts payables. Below is a breakdown of payments for the provision of mental health and addiction recovery treatment and support services.

Accounts Payable	In-Network Providers	Out-of-Network Partners	TOTAL
December 8, 2020	\$258,518.02	\$48,005.33	\$306,523.35
December 18, 2020	\$170,457.26	\$42,707.27	\$213,164.53
TOTAL	\$428,975.28	\$90,712.60	\$519,687.88

In other actions, board members

- Passed a resolution authorizing the payment of Calendar Year 2020 bills in Calendar Year 2021.
- Approved an appropriation transfer in the MHRS Board’s CY 2021 budget, moving \$54,893.00 from the Contingencies Line Item to the Contract Services Line Item. This transfer will facilitate the payment of invoices related to the MHRS Board’s grant from the Bureau of Workers’ Compensation.

Increased Access to Addiction Treatment and Recovery Supports

Board members also approved the following SOR Grant Sub-Awards, contingent upon receipt of a ‘Notice of State Award’ from the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services.

SOR GRANT 2.0

Allwell Behavioral Health	\$ 96,820.00
Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices	\$138,393.00
Cambridge Municipal Court	\$ 56,160.00
Guernsey Health Choices	\$ 36,295.00
Guernsey County Health Department	\$ 21,298.00
Muskingum Behavioral Health	\$207,996.00
Muskingum County Health Department	\$ 30,867.00
Perry Behavioral Health Choices	\$129,100.00
MHRS Board	\$ 28,373.00
Total SOR Grant 2.0:	\$745,302.00
SOR GRANT – NO-COST EXTENSION	
Guernsey County Health Department	\$ 45,136.00
Muskingum County Health Department	\$ 53,237.00
MHRS Board	\$221,627.00
Total SOR Grant No-Cost Extension	\$320,000.00
TOTAL SOR GRANT FUNDS:	\$1,065,302.00

Our southeastern region has been severely impacted by the opioid crisis for several years, and this was exacerbated by the methamphetamine upsurge. SOR Grant funding will allow increased access to treatment, peer support, recovery resources, transportation, employment training, and medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for those impacted by opiate and stimulant abuse and addiction. Peer Recovery Supporters, Parent/Child Coaches, and Maternal Health Case Managers will be used to work with eligible participants on a variety of issues.

The goal for all treatment components is that participants will learn about addiction and recovery skills through the use of evidence-based services.



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 is designed to reduce off-task behavior, increase attentiveness, and decrease aggressive and disruptive behavior and shy and withdrawn behavior. Over the last several years, the MHRS Board has been sponsoring and helping to implement PAX programming in several school systems throughout the six-county region.

Cambridge City Schools:

Last week, *The Daily Jeffersonian* in Cambridge published a special article about the PAX Good Behavior Game that has been implemented in Cambridge City Schools.

Cambridge Intermediate School Principal Laurie Goggin noted: “A grant from the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board paid for the first level of training of all the pre-K through fifth-grade teachers in Cambridge. In addition, the MHRS Board funded internal PAX Partners training, PAX Heroes training, and PAX Community Partners training. I don’t know where we would be without the support of the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board.”

Third-grade teacher Jennifer Coulter noted, “You can hear the kids reinforcing each other’s positive behaviors, and they are more empathetic and supportive of each other.”

Principal Goggin added, “PAX may begin as a program in our schools, but the goal is that it becomes a way of life. PAX equals peace, productivity, health, and happiness; those are basics for living. The goal as we move through school is that we don’t just DO PAX; WE ARE PAX.”



Students in Jennifer Coulter’s 3rd grade class line up to shoot a paper wad into a trash can—an activity used to reward positive behavior during the PAX Good Behavior Game.



Suicide in the Black Community Workgroup:

The “*Life is Better with You Here*” campaign has been launched in conjunction with the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation and Canvaas Consulting. The campaign will be using social media, traditional media (radio and television), and socially-distanced events to get the message out across Ohio. The MHRS Board will be working to coordinate some strategies for connecting with black young people and ensuring resource information is available to those who are struggling with depression or other mental health and/or addiction issues.



De-Escalation Training:

MHRS Board staff and the NAMI Six County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Steering Committee have been asked by the Ohio Attorney General’s Office to assist with the development of a standardized De-Escalation course for Ohio law enforcement. Attorney General Yost has made this topic a priority for the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. Concepts and tactics for this class will be inserted in the basic academy, field training, agency in-services, and other instructor courses.

Youth Mental Health First Aid Planning Collaborative:

OSU Extension has received a grant to provide Youth Mental Health First Aid courses across Ohio — free of charge. MHRS Board staff have been invited to participate in the planning collaborative to assist with identifying groups who would benefit from the training, as well as making the necessary connections and referrals to assist with scheduling those trainings in our six-county region. For more information, contact Care Management Director Jamie McGrew at 740.454.8557 or at jamiem@mhrs.org.

Designation of Health Officer:

The Board of Directors approved the designation of Allwell Behavioral Health Clinician Marlayna Adamic as a system health officer. Designated Health Officers are responsible for determining if a person is subject to involuntary hospitalization for mental illness.



THE MENTAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL NEXT VIRTUALLY MEET ON:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021, AT 7:00 PM