

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
November 10, 2022

DART Program

(Muskingum County Prosecutor's Office)

Partners Workgroup Chair Randi Earnest summarized a presentation that was shared with her committee members about the DART (*Diversion and Rehabilitation Treatment*) Program now being offered by the Muskingum County Prosecutor's Office.

Program Coordinator Kasi Stewart noted that the program is aimed at people in the early stages of using or experimenting with drugs, who are facing a low-level drug possession charge.

DART is centered on connecting eligible individuals to treatment and services that address the underlying reason for the offense while still holding them accountable. The program is a pre-arrest diversion process because early intervention can help individuals avoid the costs and collateral consequences that result from arrest and involvement with the justice system. The Diversion Coordinator completes the Initial Risk Assessment and interviews potential participants (low/medium risk will be DART eligible; medium/high risk will go back to typical legal process). If someone is not eligible for DART but would like to be linked to treatment or additional services, that will take place.

DART is a 3-phased program: Phase 1 establishes treatment and sobriety; Phase 2 is focused on maintenance of treatment and establishing employment; and Phase 3 marks the completion of programming requirements. If an individual no longer wants to participate in DART or they violate program rules, the case will proceed to indictment and will follow typical legal processes.

DART Definition of Success: Participant refrains from further criminal activity and engages as a productive person in the community.

The overall goal of DART is to provide resources and support to participants and remove barriers that often complicate the recovery process.

Executive Director
Misty Cromwell

Board of Directors
Sean Brady
Reid Carpenter
Leondra Davis
Randi Earnest
Megan Gee
Jennifer Hanson
Larisa Harper
Dennis Hitchcock
Sue Hoover
William Johnson
Tony Mayle, Jr.
Dan Scheerer, M.D.
Wendy Starlin
Ben Taylor

Board President
William Johnson

Board Vice President
Sue Hoover

***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.***



We extend a BIG ‘Thank You’ to the many individuals who voted for our Muskingum County Renewal Levy on November 8! Your support will help to ensure that treatment and support services are available for those struggling with mental illness and/or addictions. Actions that successfully improve the overall mental health of those in need are accompanied by other important benefits to those individuals and our society as a whole.

FinancialMatters

Under the guidance of Finance/Audit Committee Chair Dr. Dan Scheerer, board members reviewed and approved the October 2022 Reconciliation Report that showed deposits, check written for MHRS Board operations, payments to in-network contract service providers and out-of-network community providers, 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>	In-Network Providers	Out-of-Network Partners	TOTAL
October 11, 2022	\$384,470.03	\$306,962.28	\$691,432.31
October 17, 2022	\$133,848.73	---	\$133,848.73
October 19, 2022	\$100,000.00	---	\$100,000.00
October 24, 2022	\$420,108.10	\$49,062.40	\$469,170.50
TOTAL:	\$1,038,426.86	\$356,024.68	\$1,394,451.54

Other Actions:

- **October 2022 Financial Reports:** Board members reviewed the MHRS Board’s other October Finance Reports that included: 1) Contract Service Expense Reports; 2) Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2022; 3) Network Funding Reserves; 4) a ‘Year-to-Date’ Status Report for the MHRS Board’s CY 2022 Operating Budget; and 5) a Dashboard Report that provides a high-level overview of key fiscal indicators.
- **Appropriation Transfer:** In preparing for Muskingum County’s CY 2022 Fiscal Close-Out, board members approved the transfer of \$753,500.00 from the Contingencies Line Item to the following expense areas: Advertising and Printing, \$1,000.00; Utilities, \$2,500.00; and \$750,000.00 to Contract Services.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Trainings

► **Patrol Officer Academy:** The 17th Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Patrol Officer Academy was held October 24-27 at the Muskingum County Welcome Center. In attendance were: 11 Patrol Officers, 7 Corrections Officers, and 1 Probation Officer. The attendees represent three of our service area counties and four departments. Speakers from local agencies, as well as Nationwide Children's Hospital and the Central Ohio VA Healthcare System, presented information to assist officers with improving their communication skills. They were also provided with resource information they can share with community members they encounter. Officers also heard about the importance of self-care and received some resources that are available to help them take care of themselves.



► **Dispatchers:** The first CIT training for Dispatchers was held on October 28 at the MHRS Board Office. Nate Coffield from the Union County Sheriff's Office facilitated this first training, but in the future locally trained CIT Dispatch personnel will be taking over the lead training role. There were 10 Dispatchers that completed the course, representing four counties. They were provided with resources for their communities, as well as for themselves, and were given an opportunity to practice new skills through role-plays.



Board Member Spotlight — Megan Gee



Megan joined the MHRS Board of Directors in January of 2022. She currently represents Guernsey County. Megan is a mom of four children — ages 18, 14, 12, and 4. She spent eight years as a caseworker in the mental health field and has been a foster parent for 16 years. She has also been involved with the Muskingum County Family & Children First Council. Megan has a passion for helping those who are struggling with mental illness and addiction issues and brings that passion with her to the Board of Directors. We are most grateful for Megan's experience, compassion, and empathy.

Oath of Office – New Board Member

MHRS Board Associate Director Elaine Shuster administered the Oath of Office to *Wendy Starlin*, who has been appointed to the MHRS Board of Directors by the Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health as a representative of Perry County. Wendy is joining the Partners Workgroup and has been designated as the MHRS Board's Clinical Professional Representative for mental illness and addiction.



Annual Meeting – Muskingum County Criminal Justice Collaborative

On November 2, 2022, 32 criminal justice professionals, local officials, and behavioral health service providers met to consider several issues:

- ▶ ***DART Program – Muskingum County Prosecutor's Office:*** (Summary on page 1.)
- ▶ ***First Responder Wellness:*** Steven Click, Director of the Ohio Office of First Responder Wellness, presented extensive information about first responders' risks of experiencing behavioral health issues due to the many critical incidents they often encounter. He stressed that responders could build their resilience by increasing awareness about risk factors and warning signs, talking with each other, and using healthy coping strategies. Information was also provided about some free postvention programs that are available at the state level.
- ▶ ***Zanesville City Schools – Muskingum County Juvenile Detention Center:*** Maureen Montgomery-Christian, JDC Educational Administrator, provided information about the JDC's education program and efforts that are made to assist students in their transition back to regular schools and classrooms. She also reported that the number of JDC students experiencing serious mental illness and/or addiction issues continue to grow, bringing forth a need for other treatment and support options for students and their families.
- ▶ ***Development of a Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) For Kids:*** MHRS Board Executive Director Misty Cromwell reported that this MHRS Board is partnering with Boards covering Belmont-Harrison-Monroe, Jefferson, and Washington Counties to create a 16-20-bed Crisis Stabilization

Unit for kids. The CSU will be focused on serving young people in crisis by providing access to a program that can stabilize them as quickly as possible. More information to come.

► ***Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Academy:*** Muskingum County Sheriff's Captain Jeff LeCocq reported on the CIT Academy that took place October 24-27. (Summary on page 3.)

► ***eTMS – Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation:*** Theresa Kane, Director of Perry Behavioral Health Choices, presented detailed information about eTMS, a non-invasive, painless, and drug-free option to improve brain health. This service is provided free of charge to Veterans, First Responders, and Law Enforcement Officers for help with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Sleep Disorders, Mental Illness, Concussions, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Substance Use Disorders. For more information, contact Theresa at 740-342-1991.



► ***Development of a Multi-Disciplinary Continuum of Care:*** Director Misty Cromwell is partnering with Matt Perry (*Genesis CEO*), Dan Atkinson (*CEO of Muskingum Valley Health Centers*), and James McDonald (*CEO of Allwell Behavioral Health*) in making some initial plans to fill the gap that exists between outpatient care and psychiatric inpatient care. The goal of this effort is to find ways to provide a more intense level of care for persons in crisis, so they can reduce the need for inpatient hospitalization.

► ***PAX Training for Pre-Service Teachers at Ohio University-Zanesville***

Director Cromwell has been meeting with representatives from PAXIS and OUZ to discuss the possibility of providing PAX training to pre-service teachers involved with the University's Early Intervention Program. The PAX Good Behavior Game is a research-based environmental intervention used in the classroom to create an environment that is conducive to learning. PAX nurtures self-regulation in peer-contexts to reduce off-task behavior, increase attentiveness, and decrease aggressive and disruptive behavior – as well as shy and withdrawn behavior.