

# 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 13, 2022

## *Guardianship Program at Allwell Behavioral Health Services*

The Partners Workgroup heard a report about Allwell Behavioral Health's (ABHS) new Guardianship Program for persons (referred to as wards) whose severe mental illness impairs their ability to make decisions.

Guardianship is a legal process where an individual is appointed by a court to make decisions for the ward — with those decisions being made in the best interest of the ward, least intrusive, most normalizing, and least restrictive.

### *ABHS Guardianship Admission Criteria:*

- ◆ Person is an active client at ABHS.
- ◆ Patient meets the criteria for Adult Community Psychiatric Support (CPST) services and agrees to receive CPST services.
- ◆ Patient is incapable of managing his/her personal affairs as deemed by the Probate Court.
- ◆ Patient does not have family members or friends able to serve as a guardian.

### *Responsibilities and Duties of a Guardian:*

- ◆ Must report in writing to the court any allegations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Local law enforcement must also be notified.
- ◆ Notifies the court about residence changes.
- ◆ Must meet with a ward quarterly and at least one meeting should be unscheduled. It is important to get to know wards – their past history, preferences, values and traditions to make decisions in the best interest of the person.
- ◆ Offer person-centered planning, making sure individual's wants and needs are met.

### *Wards' Rights & Privileges:*

- Right to be treated with dignity and respect. ▪ Right to least restrictive environment. ▪ Right to vote. ▪ Right to privacy. ▪ Right to religious and spiritual freedom. ▪ Right to get a driver's license. ▪ Right to make all personal decisions.

The establishment and sustainment of the Guardianship Program is a joint effort of Allwell, the MHRS Board, and NAMI Six County.

◆ *The overall goal of ABHS's Guardianship Program is to support and improve client safety, well-being, and quality of life.*

The Guardianship Program Coordinator is Pam Easterly (740.454.9766 or [peasterly@allwell.org](mailto:peasterly@allwell.org)).

***Executive Director***  
Misty Cromwell

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

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William Johnson  
Pamela Kirst  
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### ***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.***



Another presenter at the Partners Workgroup meeting was Bonnie Burns, Director of NAMI Six County, who talked about the affiliate's efforts "To ensure dignity and respect for persons with serious mental illness, improve their quality of life, and support their families."

Members have established a goal of expanding the work of NAMI into other service area counties (Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Noble and Perry). However, the COVID-19 pandemic has hindered efforts to branch out.

***Development and Coordination of Support Groups:*** NAMI Six County, in collaboration with the MHRS Board, is pleased to announce efforts to expand local support groups. Groups to be included are: NAMI's Family Member Support Groups, NAMI's Peer-to-Peer Support Group, the "Home Front" Program for Veterans and their Families, an LBGQT Support Group, Kinship Caregivers and Adoptive Parents, and Survivors of Suicide. Full details will soon be available on the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board's website, [www.mhrs.org](http://www.mhrs.org).

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### ***Funds Received to Help Those with Alcohol Use Disorders***

The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board, in conjunction with Perry Behavioral Health Choices (PBHC), has received a \$302,596.66 grant from the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services to support the use of Synchronized Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (s-TMS) services for helping people struggling with an alcohol use disorder (AUD). Initially, this service will be primarily provided at PBHC in New Lexington; however, it is hoped to expand the program to other counties in the MHRS Board's service area.

The burden of disease and injury attributable to alcohol is considerable, yet AUD remains seriously under-treated. Early results of studies using s-TMS (where stimulations are delivered to the brain) show significant reductions in alcohol cravings and improved decision-making processes, leading to a decrease in alcohol consumption in patients with AUD.

The use of s-TMS treatment at PBHC will continue the delivery of incredible results. Through PBHC's previous work with Veterans, they have been able to offer life-changing relief from conditions like anxiety, depression, chronic pain and stress, sleep disorders, and substance use disorders (specifically AUD) and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Patients undergoing s-TMS treatments have shown vital improvement in their overall quality of life, motivation, mood, capacity to focus, complete tasks, make productive decisions and even reduce cravings for alcohol and other substances.

For more information, contact Misty Cromwell at [mistyc@mhrs.org](mailto:mistyc@mhrs.org).



Under the guidance of Finance/Audit Committee Chair Dr. Dan Scheerer, board members reviewed and approved the December 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 addiction.

<i>Accounts Payable</i>	<i>In-Network Providers</i>	<i>Out-of-Network Partners</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
<b>December 13, 2021</b>	<b>\$435,634.44</b>	<b>\$27,094.28</b>	<b>\$462,728.72</b>
<b>December 16, 2021</b>		<b>\$81,207.30</b>	<b>\$81,207.30</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$435,634.44</b>	<b>\$108,301.58</b>	<b>\$543,936.02</b>

► **Other Financial Reports:** Board members also reviewed: Contract Services Expenses; Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2021; and a Dashboard Report that provides a high-level overview of key fiscal indicators.

► **Approval of State Opioid Response (SOR) Sub-Grant Awards for 2022:**

<i>SUB-GRANT AWARDEE</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>	<i>FUNDS BEING USED TO SUPPORT . . .</i>
<i>Allwell Behavioral Health</i>	<i>\$91,420.00</i>	<i>Peer Recovery Services Coordinator and Peer Recovery Job Coach</i>
<i>Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices</i>	<i>\$77,653.30</i>	<i>Peer Recovery Services Coordinator, Parent Mentor, Medication-Assisted Treatment, and Recovery Housing</i>
<i>Guernsey Health Choices</i>	<i>\$68,850.00</i>	<i>Parent Mentor Coach, Medication-Assisted Treatment, and Recovery Housing</i>
<i>Muskingum Behavioral Health</i>	<i>\$130,604.46</i>	<i>Peer Recovery Supporters, three Parent/Child Coaches, and Recovery Housing</i>
<i>Perry Behavioral Health Choices</i>	<i>\$115,500.00</i>	<i>Three Treatment Navigators and the I-FAST Program for Kids &amp; Families</i>
<i>Muskingum Valley Health Centers</i>	<i>\$35,000.00</i>	<i>Maternal Health Case Manager</i>
<i>Zanesville Treatment Center</i>	<i>\$43,946.53</i>	<i>Medication-Assisted Treatment</i>
<i>Guernsey County Health Dept.</i>	<i>\$60,894.08</i>	<i>Maternal Health Case Manager</i>
<i>Zanesville – Musk. Co. Health Department</i>	<i>\$59,241.63</i>	<i>Maternal Health Case Manager</i>
<i>Cambridge Municipal Court</i>	<i>\$62,192.00</i>	<i>Treatment Navigator</i>
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATED:</b>	<b>\$745,302.00</b>	

## *Special Allocations*

### ► *Mobile Response and Stabilization Services Support Center for Children & Families:*

Board members approved the allocation of \$86,592.00 to Allwell Behavioral Health Services to cover unanticipated renovation cost overages for the Mobile Response & Stabilization Services (MRSS) Support Center for Children and Families. This Support Center will be a place where families in crisis may temporarily separate from each other in order to move forward with de-escalation efforts. The Center will be a safe place where families can take advantage of education, support, and a pathway to other needed resources. Allwell previously received a “Youth Resiliency Capital Grant” to purchase the building to house the Support Center, and the facility is in the process of being renovated.

### ► *Support for Transition of Alcohol/Drug Recovery Services in Noble County:*

Board members approved the allocation of \$27,000.00 to Allwell Behavioral Health Services to support costs associated with assuming responsibility for the provision of drug/alcohol recovery services in Noble County.

Noble Behavioral Health Choices (NBHC) will cease operations effective January 31, 2022. However, addiction recovery services will continue to be available at the former NBHC office site (located at 18003 Woodsfield Road (#2), in Caldwell) under the umbrella of Allwell Behavioral Health Services. Allwell is dually licensed by the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Addiction Services to provide addiction recovery and mental health services. The office will have the same phone number, 740.732.5988. The re-opening date for the resumption of services at the building on Woodsfield Road will soon be announced.

The MHRS Board will continue to closely monitor client issues during the transition process and will do everything possible to ensure the availability of high-quality prevention, treatment, and recovery support services for those struggling with addictions.

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## *Board Member Spotlight — William Johnson*

William Co-Chairs Coshocton County’s Fatherhood Initiative, a special sub-program of the Coshocton County Family & Children First Council. Through William’s leadership, the Fatherhood Initiative is helping to strengthen the family unit through engaging and empowering fathers and father figures to be meaningfully involved in and committed to the well-being of their children.

The Coshocton County Commissioners appointed William to the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board on July 1, 2015, and he is currently serving as Board President. William also is a dedicated and valuable member of the Board’s Finance/Audit Committee. It is obvious that he has a passion for improving the lives of persons/families struggling with mental illness and/or addiction. William is eager to participate in meetings, and he exhibits a delightful “can do” attitude. His fellow board members and MHRS Board employees certainly enjoy his “contagious generous spirit” that manifests itself in all that he does.

