

Board Update

Mental Health & Recovery Services (MHRS) Board
Serving Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble & Perry Counties
1500 Coal Run Road, Zanesville, Ohio 43701
Phone: 740-454-8557

Regular Board Meeting
Highlights
January 8, 2026

FinancialMatters

Under the guidance of Finance/Audit Committee Chair Dr. Dan Scheerer, board members reviewed and acted upon the following issues:

- **Reconciliation Report:** Approved the December 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:** Reviewed the following December 2025 fiscal reports: 1) Balance Sheet through December 31, 2025; 2) Monthly Report of Funding Reserves; 3) 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.
- **Payment of 2025 Bills in 2026:** Approved the following resolution: It has been requested by the Fiscal Department to pay 2025 bills in 2026. This would include any unknown invoices dated 2025 that are presented for payment in 2026. Any known 2025 expenses have been documented as a carryover expense. It is resolved that 2025 invoices presented for payment in 2026 are approved for payment.
- **Calendar Year 2024 State Audit Report:** Accepted the MHRS Board's Calendar Year 2024 State Audit Report. Dr. Scheerer congratulated Fiscal Director Rhonda Hanes, and all other fiscal department employees for receiving a 'clean' report.
- **Perry County Levy:** Authorized the Executive Director to request the Perry County Commissioners to place a 1-Mill, 10-Year Renewal Levy on the May 5, 2026, ballot.
- **Payments for Services:** Below is a breakdown of December payments for mental health and addiction recovery services.

Accounts Payable	In-Network Providers	Out-of-Network Partners	TOTAL
December 11, 2025	\$424,544.47	\$178,619.34	\$603,163.81
December 18, 2025		\$155,578.70	\$155,578.70
TOTAL	\$424,544.47	\$334,198.04	\$758,742.51

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.

Community Assessment & Plan (CAP) - 2026-2028



Ohio law requires MHRS Boards to submit a Community Assessment & Plan to the Ohio Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) every three years. This plan documents the behavioral health needs of our communities and outlines how the MHRS Board will address them. The plan includes: 1) an assessment of local behavioral health needs; 2) identification of priorities and service gaps; 3) cooperation with community partners; and 4) alignment with state law.

In accordance with an analysis of community strengths and needs, below is an outline of the MHRS Board's goals and priorities over the next three years:

1. Preventing Suicide and Improving Youth Mental Health
2. Addressing High Rates of Adult Mental Distress
3. Reducing Substance Use Disorder and Related Family Impacts
4. Enhancing Community-Wide Health Planning and Resource Integration
5. Addressing Geographic and Infrastructure Gaps in Access to Care in Rural and Appalachian Regions
6. Eliminating Disparities in Care
7. Addressing Disparities in Access to Behavioral Health Diagnosis and Treatment
8. Improving Data Collection and Disaggregation to Better Understand Behavioral Health Burdens
9. **Crisis Services:** In State Fiscal Years 2026-2027, ODBH will directly support standardized and quality crisis services in communities—to appropriately reduce behavioral health related arrests or emergency room visits, and to help meet the needs of individuals and families to prevent or stabilize a substance use or mental health crisis. Your MHRS Board will be collaborating with regional partners and providers to make plans for effective crisis services in our six-county region.

These priorities are intended to guide resource allocation, foster community partnerships, and drive measurable improvements in the overall health and well-being of our six-county region over the next three years.

Planning for Legislative Breakfasts

Your MHRS Board is making plans for meetings with state legislators as follows:

Perry County	Thursday, January 29, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.	Perry Behavioral Health Choices Activity Center – 112 S. Main St., New Lexington
Coshcocton County	Thursday, February 29, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.	Coshcocton County Commissioners' Community Room, 637 Chestnut St., Coshcocton
Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, & Noble Counties	Thursday, March 5, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.	Muskingum County Welcome Center 205 N. 5 th Street - Zanesville

These events are designed to encourage open dialogue, elevate on-the-ground insights, and strengthen partnerships that support community-based care. Please contact Misty Cromwell (mistyc@mhrs.org) or Jamie McGrew (jamiem@mhrs.org) for more information.

Special Community Impact!

MENTAL HEALTH AND
RECOVERY SERVICES BOARD
serving Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum,
Noble, and Perry Counties

Our mission is to distribute federal, state, and local funds to community providers responsible for mental health and recovery services.

Crisis Intervention Training 2025
Public Safety Telecommunications

Congratulations to the graduates of our 2025 Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for Public Safety Telecommunications professionals that was held on December 12. This training is designed to help call-takers recognize and respond effectively to behavioral health emergencies. The training includes:

1. Identifying Mental Health Crisis Calls
2. De-Escalation Techniques for Call-Takers
3. Behavioral Health Basics
4. Collaboration with CIT Officers and Crisis Teams
5. Alternatives to Law Enforcement Response

Why It Matters:

Dispatchers are often the only voice a person in crisis hears. CIT helps them:

- ✓ Keep callers safe until help arrives.
- ✓ Reduce unnecessary law enforcement involvement.
- ✓ Improve communication with responding officers.
- ✓ Increase confidence when handling high-stress, high-risk calls.
- ✓ Support positive community mental health crisis outcomes.

We're grateful for these dispatchers' commitments to learning, collaborating, and showing up when it matters most!