

Members Present: Dina Douglas, Elaine Harlin, Audrey Kessler, Jeff Langstaff, Iris Meltzer, William Nome, Emily Schmidlin, Jennifer Schumm

Members Not Present for Board Meeting: Albert Barber, Denise DePerro, LaTasha Dukes, Roy Mosley, Valerie Root

Board Staff Present: John Garrity, Karyn Kravetz, George DeBord, Terra Howell-Muth, Rebecca Rood, Joshua Collins, Gina Dufour, Laura Dotts

Guests: *Children's Advantage*: Kathy Regal; *Coleman Health Services*: Hattie Tracy, Bill Russell; *Axess Family Services*: Mark Frisone, Renee Kleric, Greg Musci, Crystal Ashire; *Consultant*: Melissa Celko

The Quorum was met with 8 members present.

William Nome called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Introductions and rollcall
2. Staff reports: Regional/state/local issues
 - a. Director's Report: A Director's Report was included in the Board mailing the week prior to this meeting. A copy of the report is on file with these minutes.

John Garrity reported that the FY26 provider budget for Coleman Health Services will be presented for approval. There is an increase to the Main contract of \$203,235: \$200,000 for help with increasing crisis service costs plus an increase in state funding of \$3,235 for Forensic Monitoring. There is the possibility that the state will reduce funding for the Community Transition Program prison reentry program. If so, we will notify Coleman and reduce the contract accordingly. This contract has been a problem to fulfill due to the lack of referrals from the state according to Coleman.

John introduced consultant Melissa Celko who has begun work on the board's new Strategic Plan. Karyn and John have met with her to share initial information about how our board operates and we will have additional meetings with the rest of the staff on various operations. Over the next several weeks and months she will be reaching out to Board members through surveys and interviews to gather input and guidance. She will also be working with an array of key stakeholders including provider agencies, clients receiving services, NAMI, and other community partners.

OMHAS is conducting a review of Board funding formulas. An initial survey was conducted and a meeting held between OHMHAS and the Boards to gather input. A second meeting was held for the Board Directors. Board Directors appear to agree that a formula that is primarily based on a per capita population funding ratio (approximately 90%) with a base formula of 10% to help assist poorer boards that do not currently have a levy would be the most equitable. More meetings are scheduled.

The Shooting S.T.A.R. Bookshelf (Start, Talking, About, Recovery) is a donation through Family Solution Finder Learning Centers of 1,200 fully vetted Addiction Self-Help books. These books are available to any community agencies interested in obtaining them for free.
 - b. Community Relations Report: A Community Relations report was included in the Board mailing the week prior to this meeting. A copy of the report is on file with these minutes. Karyn Kravetz reported.

RecoveryOhio Director Erin Reed and Deputy Director Sarah Hauck plan to attend our Celebrate Mental Health event on behalf of Governor DeWine. The event is being held on Wednesday, May 14, at Hometown Bank Plaza in downtown Kent from 12pm-2pm.

We also just added a Youth Mental Health First Aid training that will be held on June 3 from 9:30am-4:30pm at the Reed Memorial Library. There are flyers in the Boardroom and information on Facebook. Please help spread the word.
 - c. Director of Quality Improvement, Compliance, and Finance Report: A report was included with the Board mailing the week prior to this meeting. A copy of the report is on file with these minutes. Rebecca Rood reported.

Rebecca compiled and timely submitted agency reports required by the Federal and State governments.

Rebecca has been working on provider contracts for FY26.

The staff met on April 24th to learn about Active Shooter Safety. We had the privilege of Officer Auckland from the Kent police department performing the training. He made great observations about the layout of our building and gave us ideas for responding to possible incidents. He liked our sign-in book that we now have at the front desk for visitors to sign in. He stressed the importance of situational awareness and resistance. Resistance equals time. Time saves lives

No policies will be presented for approval this month.

- d. Clinical Manager's Report: A report was included with the Board mailing the week prior to this meeting. A copy of the report is on file with these minutes. Terra Howell-Muth reported.

Terra worked on a grievance submitted by a family member.

Access to Wellness update: 3 clients have used the funding this FY; still have \$11,647 from previous FY allocation.

Terra has been working with Harmony Court.

Terra distributed 500 flyers to go with meals given out by community agencies.

3. Committee Reports:

- a. Finance Committee: Audrey Kessler reported on the committee meeting that was held just prior to this meeting. A copy of the meeting report, invoice lists, and agenda are on file with these minutes. 9 motions will be presented to the board. There is a typo correction to the date of the grant period for the contract with Pinnacle Health. It should be 7/1/2025-6/30/2026.

- b. CEO/Executive Director Agency Reports:

Children's Advantage: Kathy Regal reported that work on the merger with Axess Family Services continues. The goal is that the merger be completed July 1, 2025.

Axess Family Services: Mark Frisone reported. He concurred with Kathy Regal's timeline for the completion of the merger with Children's Advantage. Mark also said that the medical clinic will move to the Freedom Street location as it is ideal for those services. He expressed his concern that the proposed Republican budget will add work requirements and reapplication every 6 months for Medicaid.

Coleman Health Services: Bill Russell reported that the agency's board of directors did not meet.

Townhall II: John Garrity read the emailed report from Tamera Hunter. The agency has hired a new HR Director who will be starting in a few weeks. They continue to have concerns with overdoses in the KSU area. There is something different about these overdoses as they are testing negative for opiates, but Narcan is working to reverse the effects of whatever drug they ingested suggesting overdose is an opiate-based agent. There has been some discussion questioning if this could be carfentanil.

Hope Town: John Garrity read the emailed report from Ted St. John. Hope Town expects to finish the RCO over the next four weeks and announce a grand opening soon.

- 4. Bill Nome and John Garrity presented flowers and a framed certificate of appreciation to Iris Meltzer for her 12 years of service on the board. Iris is not applying for reappointment to the board at the end of her current term and this is her last meeting.

- 5. Public Comment: None.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1. Approve Agenda

MOTION I Iris Meltzer moved to approve the agenda. Elaine Hanlin seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

2. Minutes

MOTION II Iris Meltzer moved to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2025, board meeting. Dina Douglas seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 3 – not present at April meeting.)

3. Business items

a. Approve Financial Motions

MOTION III Audrey Kessler moved to approve all invoices paid in April 2025. Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION IV Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Townhall II extending the service dates of the Sanctuary Model contract previously approved by the board on February 14, 2022.

Provider/Vendor	Contract	Proposed Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Townhall II	AUD Treatment funding with a SAPT Block Grant COVID Relief Funds	\$67,897.83	7/1/2022-6/30/2026

Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION V Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to create a PO as follows:

Provider/Vendor	PO	Proposed Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Townhall II	Renovations/Repairs at MHRB owned property on N. Chestnut St in Ravenna	\$69,490.00	1/1/2025-12/31/2025

Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION VI Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to create the following contract with Bond Law:

Provider/Vendor	Contract	Proposed Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Bond Law	Contract for services when Prosecutor is unavailable	\$1,500.00	4/1/2025-12/31/2025

Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION VII Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to create a contract as follows:

Provider/Vendor	Contracts	Proposed Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Sunrise Vista	Indigent bed day services	\$50,000.00	1/1/2025-12/31/2025

Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION VIII Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to create a contract as follows:

Provider/Vendor	Contracts	Proposed Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Pinnacle Health Treatment Centers OH-1 LLC	Detox services	\$50,000.00	7/1/2025-6/30/2026

Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION IX Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to create the following contracts with Coleman Health Services for FY26:

Provider/Vendor	Contract	Proposed Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Coleman Health Services	Main Contract for services (Criminal Justice/Star Court, Crisis Flex Outreach, Vocational Quick Placement, CSU, Access, Inpatient & Outpatient, Children's Psychiatry)	\$2,480,851	7/1/2025-6/30/2026
Coleman Health Services	Housing (Group Home, Housing Assistance & Recovery Model, Supportive Living, Transitional Age Youth Housing)	\$738,031	7/1/2025-6/30/2026
Coleman Health Services	Downtown Coordinator, Mental Health Peer Support & Prison Re-entry, Community Transition Prog (CTP)	\$69,490	7/1/2025-6/30/2026

Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

4. Comments by board members:

Iris Meltzer thanked all the board members for their support, involvement and commitment to mental health services in Portage County.

Bill Nome encouraged members to visit Raising Cane's on Wednesday from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM for a fundraiser benefitting Coleman Health Services.



5. Executive Session: Not needed.

6. Adjournment:

MOTION X Jennifer Schumm moved to adjourn. Jeff Langstaff seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Dotts

SIGNATURES
X 
X 
X 