

Members Present: Albert Barber, Denise DePerro, Dina Douglas, Audrey Kessler, Jeff Langstaff, Iris Meltzer, William Nome, Valerie Root, Jennifer Schumm

Members Not Present for Board Meeting: LaTasha Dukes, Roy Mosley, Emily Schmidlin

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

Guests: *Children's Advantage*: Kathy Regal, Beatrice Florida; *Coleman Health Services*: Bill Russell; *Axess Family Services*: Mark Frisone, Greg Musci, Renee Klaric, Angela DeJulius, Crystal Alshire; *Townhall II*: Tamera Hunter, Bob King; *Hope Town*: Terri Dean

The Quorum was met with 9 members present.

William Nome called the meeting to order at 6:33 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 reviewed and updated the report.

We are finalizing details on our contract with Turner Construction Company of Cleveland, Ohio to be the Contractor Manager at Risk for the Crisis Center project. Our goal is to break ground this fall of 2024 and have a completed project in fall of 2025. The Project budget is currently \$7,491,802.

The newly created Ohio Department of Children and Youth held a 2024 Kids Summit in Columbus on Thursday, September 5 to bring together everyone across the state who is involved with serving children. The Summit included local county breakout planning sessions on improving access to services for children. I attended as executive director of our board and chair of the Portage County Families and Children First Council.

We are still in need of additional board members as we have had several retirements in the last few months. Al Barber has joined the Finance Committee. We still need additional Board members to join the Finance Committee.
  - 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.

The Portage County Recovery Walk will be held on Sunday, September 29 at the Kent Free Library in the conference room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Starting at 1:30, we will have refreshments, information tables, and offer free T-shirts and prizes for participants. We'll begin walking at 2pm and walk to the Wick Poetry Garden. The Poetry Center is working with individuals at Coleman Options on poetry readings. We are also asking people at our recovery houses if they would like to prepare anything to read. After the readings we'll walk back around downtown Kent and return to the library. We hope many of our Board members will join us!

The NAACP will be recognizing the Board with an Impact Award October 12 at the NEW Center.

Oct 31: Portage Substance Abuse & Mental Health Conference, NEW Center

The fall Crisis Intervention Team training class will begin in September on consecutive Tuesdays.
  - c. Director of Compliance and Quality Improvement 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.

I continued to work with our various agencies regarding semiannual and quarterly reports required by the State.

The Auditor of State now requires training on Fraud Reporting to the Auditor of State. I worked with the staff to take the required online training. Going forward, each staff member will be required to take training every 4 years.

In response to the new requirement for fraud training from the Auditor of State, I have been working on updating our personnel policy to incorporate this requirement.

I began reviewing our current cash advance policy to determine the changes needed to better reflect the Board's recent use of cash advances to agencies.

- 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.

With the help of Rebecca, I created a grievance reporting form for year-end tracking for all contracted agencies. I received FY24 year-end reports from Coleman, Townhall II, Family and Community Services, Children's Advantage, and Hope Town.

I created tracking spreadsheets for community events and community contacts.

I'm working with Judge Smith and Magistrate Gyekenyesi to launch an AOT Court in Portage County. Judge Smith selected one of the names I suggested for AOT Court – Harmony Court. I will be presenting information on the differences between Civil Commitment and Harmony Court. I've worked with Magistrate Gyekenyesi to revise multiple forms for Harmony Court, created a new status update report for agencies to utilize regarding level of care change, we revised flowcharts for Harmony Court; we created a participant handbook and participant agreement. We are in the process of creating a pamphlet, and a Harmony Court logo with the help of Michelle Hartman (Project Manager/Judicial Assistant).

I completely revised the CIT Mental Health Awareness training and will be providing the training on 9/10/2024. The training now includes multiple videos, and ways to be interactive versus just talking to participants; material is also updated.

I will be taking over as Chair of the Suicide Prevention Coalition in October. The next meeting will be held on 10/24/2024 at 1pm. We will be working with the Portage County Health Commissioner to start a Suicide Fatality Review Board; I am a certified Psychological Autopsy Investigator and will be able to utilize this certification to review cases on a quarterly basis.

I am working with John, Karyn, and Gina, to review Farm Stress materials to start to disseminate/utilize to reach the farming community in Portage County (e.g., resources).

I am working with Karyn to plan the Survivors of Suicide Loss Day. It will be held on 11/23/2024 at the Sue Hetrick building at Coleman in Ravenna, from 1pm-3pm.

I completed QPR instructor training.

### 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.
- b. CEO/Executive Director Agency Reports:

*Children's Advantage:* Kathy Regal reported that the agency board held their August meeting. Reports were reviewed and they are working on their conflict-of-interest policy.

*Coleman Health Services:* Bill Russell reported.

The agency board met in August. 2 new board members were appointed. The problems with the electronic records are improving, hopefully, it will be resolved by the end of the year.

*Axess Family Services:* Mark Frisone reported.

Mark shared that he got a call from Washington DC inviting the agency to apply for a grant from the Jeff Bezos Foundation to relieve homelessness.

*Townhall II:* Tammy Hunter reported.

- BOD last met on 8/26.
- We had BOD retreat on 8/17 to discuss Strategic Planning.
- Our VOCA Manager passed away at the age of 27.
- We received a 3-year CARF accreditation.

- We received a 3-year AAS accreditation for our helpline.
- Just hired a site manager for our new Ravenna office
- Launching an Overdose Response Team with Kent EMS on 10/1/24
- DEA expanded our grant funding to run basketball in both the Fall and Spring (the baseball program continues to grow as well).
- Implementing a new phone system so there have been some hiccups.
- At the end of this week, we will have 2 additional therapists who have completed all the required Problem Gambling training with the state.

*Hope Town:* Terri Dean reported.

- The grand opening for their new facility is scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- They are in the process of converting the level 2 women’s house into a level 1 men’s house. They are working with the community to address the loss of the women’s house. For the agency, the women’s house was consistently very low in residency.

4. Public Comment:

Angela DeJulius spoke about the benefits of harm reduction, highlighting the importance of the syringe services at Axesspointe. She said there has been an increase in cases of HIV in Portage County.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approve Agenda

MOTION I Iris Meltzer moved to approve the agenda. Denise DePerro seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

2. Minutes

MOTION II Albert Barber moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2024, board meeting. Jennifer Schumm seconded. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 1 – not present at August meeting)

3. Business items

a. Approve Financial Motions

MOTION III Audrey Kessler moved to approve all invoices paid in August 2024. Denise DePerro seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION IV Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Children’s Advantage to provide Criminal Justice Linkage Juvenile Detention Services utilizing Levy dollars:

Vendor	Contract	New Proposed Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Children’s Advantage	Criminal Justice Linkage Juvenile Detention Services	\$3,000.00	7/1/2024-6/30/2025

Al Barber seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION V Audrey Kessler moved allow the Executive Director to contract with Coleman Health Services to provide Criminal Justice Linkage, Jail Diversion and Star Court Services utilizing Levy & State dollars:

Vendor	Contract	New Proposed Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Coleman Health Services	Criminal Justice Linkage, Jail Diversion and Star Court Services	\$101,097.00	7/1/2024-6/30/2025

Iris Meltzer seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION VI Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Axess Family Services to provide Criminal Justice Jail Assessments with Levy dollars.

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Axess Family Services	Criminal Justice Jail Assessments	\$9,648.00	7/1/2024-6/30/2025

Albert Barber seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION VII Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Townhall II to provide Criminal Justice Wrap Services with Levy & State\_dollars.

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Townhall II	Criminal Justice Wrap services	\$35,792.00	7/1/2024-6/30/2025

Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 1 Denise DePerro)

MOTION VIII Audrey Kessler moved to amend the AxessPointe FFY24 SOS 3.2 contract and increase it by up to \$120,360. This is the FFY24 SOS amount of contract under spending by Children's Advantage invoices received as of today. The new Not to Exceed AxessPointe contract amount will be up to \$457,416.00. Children's Advantage will be reimbursed for all related expenses submitted, and AxessPointe will only be reimbursed for the final unused portion of dollars left on the Children's Advantage contract. Children's Advantage still has the entire month of September to bill. Both providers combined will only be paid \$120,360 in total.

Vendor	Contract	NEW Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
AxessPointe	FFY24 SOS 3.2 services	\$457,416.00	9/30/2023-9/29/2024

Jeff Langstaff seconded. Discussion: The state money needs to be spent. The state will not carry over unspent funds. The board will be updated in October. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

b. Designated MH Officer appointment

MOTION X Iris Meltzer moved to remove the persons listed below as a Portage County Designated Health Officer: Michelle Furbee, Emily Hudak, Donnie Atherton, Alexis McClung, Phil Smith, Katelyn Heintzelman, Susan Novak, NaBria Beasley, Andra Johnson. Jeff Langstaff seconded. Discussion: It was clarified that all the individuals being removed from the list either no longer work for Coleman Health Services or no longer work in Portage County. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION XI Iris Meltzer moved to appoint the following employees of Coleman Professional Services as Portage County Designated Health Officers: Aundrea Lang. Denise DePerro seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

4. Comments by board members: None.

5. Executive Session: Not needed.



6. Adjournment:

MOTION XIII Albert Barber moved to adjourn. Jeff Langstaff seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Laura Dotts

SIGNATURES

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 X   
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