

Members Present: Albert Barber, Dina Douglas, Audrey Kessler, Jeff Langstaff, Iris Meltzer, Roy Mosley, William Nome, Valerie Root, Emily Schmidlin

Members Not Present for Board Meeting: Denise DePerro, LaTasha Dukes, Jennifer Schumm

Board Staff Present: Karyn Kravetz, George DeBord, Terra Howell-Muth, Rebecca Rood, Laura Dotts

Guests: *Children's Advantage*: Kathy Regal; *Coleman Health Services*: Bill Russell; *Axess Family Services*: Mark Frisone, Greg Musci; *Townhall II*: Tamera Hunter, Bob King; *Hope Town*: Ted St. John

The Quorum was met with 10 members present.

William Nome called the meeting to order at 6:30 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. There were no questions regarding the report.

- 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 Mental Health & Recovery Walk was a great success! Local partners and organizations had tables. Participants were rewarded for stopping by each table with raffle items, and John welcomed everyone before we began the walk through the light rain to the Wick Poetry Center. There, several walk participants read inspirational writing or poetry that they either wrote themselves or shared ones that were meaningful to them. We had positive feedback and plan to hold the event again next year.

The Portage Substance Abuse and Mental Health Conference will be held on October 31 from 8:00am-4pm at the NEW Center.

- 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.

Rebecca worked with the pertinent agencies regarding SOS3 semiannual and quarterly reports required by Federal government, created the various board approved contracts, worked with John and George on the SOS4 grant application. She is researching a new training for the Governing Board to be in compliance with training requirements. She is also working with the County Prosecutor to complete a revision of our personnel policy to incorporate the new requirement from the Auditor of State.

- 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 continues to work with Judge Smith and Magistrate Heather on AOT/Harmony Court. She is working with UH and the Probate Court to improve the process for when someone is probated and brought in by police for evaluation. She created a Mental Health in the Workplace presentation for the Portage County District Library; Karyn facilitated the Mental Health in the Workplace presentation that Terra created at NEOMED for their staff. Terra facilitated CIT training on Mental Health on 9/10/2024 at Streetsboro Police Department. She attended the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation conference on 10/17-10/18. Terra completed Mental Health First Aid instructor training. The International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day will be on 11/23/2024 at Sue Hetrick building.

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 September meeting. The agency board reviewed the August financials, reviewed school based services and presented data regarding

services. There is currently no waiting list for regular services. 10 individuals are waiting for specific needs services.

Coleman Health Services: Bill Russell reported. The agency board met last month. They reviewed the pension audit, the timing of the cash advance repayment, and housing services. The last billing went out successfully.

Axess Family Services: Mark Frisone reported. They have been approved to receive and \$1.1 million national grant. The grant has the possibility of being annualized. Work has begun to convert The Rock to the Axess Health Clinic. They are hoping to open additional clinics in other counties. All the current Axess clinics provide MAT services. There is a very significant need for mobile medical and dental services. They are still waiting to hear if they will be receiving the Jeff Bezos grant.

Townhall II: Tammy Hunter reported.

- The BOD met on 9/23/24 and are working to finalize an updated Strategic Plan
- As of 10/1/24 we started 24/7 on call overdose outreach work with Kent EMS.
- Our Community Picnic on 10/3/24 had an excellent turnout.
- We hired a N. Chestnut Ravenna site supervisor who will begin an active caseload next Monday.
- We hired a N. Chestnut front desk/admin support late last week for her to start in November.
- Sent Amanda Perrin to Crisis Con in Arizona for National Crisis Intervention training.

Hope Town: Ted St. John reported. The auto clinic is expected to open in November. They have already secured several auto servicing accounts. They will have 10 mechanics, one will be certified.

They have made the decision to convert the women's level 2 home into a men's level 1 home. The census for the women's level 2 was always very low.

They will be making their first licensing deal for "Hope on Wheels."

4. Public Comment: None.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approve Agenda

MOTION I Iris Meltzer moved to approve the agenda. Roy Mosley seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 10 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

2. Minutes

MOTION II Albert Barber moved to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2024, board meeting. Iris Meltzer seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 2 – not present at September meeting.)

3. Business items

a. Approve Financial Motions

MOTION III Audrey Kessler moved to approve all invoices paid in September 2024. Roy Mosley seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 10 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION IV Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Kent State University to continue the SAMHSA contract for year four of the five-year award utilizing SAMHSA dollars:

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Kent State University	Mental Health Awareness Grant	\$125,000.00	10/1/2024-9/30/2025

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

MOTION V Audrey Kessler moved to approve spending an increased amount up to \$8,500,000.00 to build a new Portage County Crisis Center utilizing up to \$2,000,000.00 of board levy dollars combined with another \$6,500,000.00 of other funding. The additional \$1,000,000.00 in funding for this will

be \$500,000.00 in state capital dollars and a \$500,000.00 match from Coleman Health Services. This \$8,500,000.00 is for various vendors. Iris Meltzer seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 1)

MOTION VI Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Sam & Martin, Inc. dba Villa Maria to provide a Temporary Therapeutic Placement utilizing state dollars supplemented with Levy dollars if state dollars run out:

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Sam & Martin, Inc. dba Villa Maria	Temporary Therapeutic placement	\$18,000.00	10/1/2024-12/31/2025

Total funding is \$2,800.00 per month, with MHRB paying \$1,200.00; Social Security Disability & Residential State Supplemental paying the balance of \$1,600.00. This is for fifteen months due to when it is starting.

Roy Mosley seconded. Discussion: This facility has been used in the past for a specialized need case. It is located in Stark County. Motion carried. (Aye: 10 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)



- Comments by board members: Iris Meltzer asked for members to join the Personnel Committee. The committee needs to meet in November. There is still a need for members to join the Finance Committee. Al Barber shared that weight loss drugs are showing some effectiveness in the treatment of addiction disorders.
- Executive Session: Not needed.
- Adjournment:

MOTION VII Albert Barber moved to adjourn. Jeff Langstaff seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 10 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Dotts

SIGNATURES

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