

MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY BOARD OF WAYNE-HOLMES COUNTIES

BOARD MEETING

Sept. 20, 2023

Present

M. Brumfield, R. Ling, M. Miller, R. Moore, M. Ogden, J. Pyers, B. Theil, S. Glick, R. Murphy

Excused

G. Questel

Staff

F. Askia, H. Dean, J. Edwards, C Thiemens, K. Howard

Guests

Dan Jackson, executive director, Holmes County Job & Family Services

Dave Hall, Holmes County commissioner

Mark Woods, executive director, Anazao Community Partners

Call to Order & Acceptance of Agenda

The meeting was held at the Holmes County Department of Job and Family Services, located at 85 N. Grant St., Millersburg, Ohio.

Chairperson J. Pyers called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION

A motion to accept the draft minutes of the July 19, 2023 special board meeting was made by R. Ling, seconded by R. Murphy. During discussion, B. Theil requested in the minutes section "Old Business" the phrase "immediate past finance director" be substituted with "WHMHRB". M. Miller moved the draft minutes be approved as amended. M. Theil seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION

A motion to accept the draft minutes of the Aug. 3, 2023 special board meeting was made by M. Miller, seconded by R. Ling. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION

A motion to accept the draft minutes of the Aug. 12, 2023 special board meeting was made by M. Ogden, seconded by M. Brumfield. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION

A motion to accept the draft minutes of the Aug. 23, 2023 special board meeting was made by B. Theil, seconded by M. Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION

A motion to accept the draft minutes of the Sept. 6, 2023 special board meeting was made by M. Miller, seconded by B. Theil. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION

A motion to accept the draft minutes of the Executive Committee special meeting held on Aug. 23 was made by R. Ling, seconded by M. Brumfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Expenditures

MOTION

M. Ogden made a motion, seconded by R. Murphy, to approve the Current Expenditures through July 31, 2023 (pending audit) as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

No September program committee

Finance Committee meeting information was presented by Chair M. Ogden. There was discussion regarding the completion of the financial audit and performance audit. The audits will be completed concurrently and will take nine to 12 months. Dashboards were reviewed as well as the drafting of a letter to agencies to request financial reporting be timely.

MOTION

R. Murphy made a motion, seconded by R. Ling, to approve the minutes of the Sept. 13 Finance Committee meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Action Requested

Resolution #9-9-24

That the Chair of the Finance Committee shall send communication to funded partner agencies reminding them of provision #8 of the base contract "Provide to the Board the following reports:" specifically paragraphs B ("A monthly financial report that includes a balance sheet and revenue/expense statement compared to budget to be submitted to the Board no later than the third Tuesday of each month.") and E ("Other such reports as specified in this Contract or required by the Board or OhioMHAS to carry out their respective statutory responsibilities.").

Motion to approve resolution #9-9-24 was made by B. Theil and passed unanimously.

Old Business

AOT budget update: H. Dean reviewed the approval of \$100,000 in funding authorized by the Board for Assisted Outpatient Treatment program expenses. A total of \$16,000 will be directed toward the cost of legal fees, which has been contracted with attorney Barry Ward.

Juvenile and Probate Court Judge Latecia Wiles has requested \$15,000 to fund the AOT Monitor position from December 2023-June 2024. The balance will be directed to The Counseling Center to fund a case manager position as well as psychiatric services. H. Dean noted that Access to Wellness (formerly known as Multi System Adults) may be applied toward case management services provided to AOT participants who meet Access to Wellness eligibility criteria. This is projected to be approximately \$10,000. There was discussion regarding what data points the Board would like to receive, keeping in mind that “success” may not be able to be measured lineally and might be better assessed on a case-by-case basis.

There are two demographics being identified for AOT: individuals with high levels of interaction with law enforcement/incarceration at the jail (This population is being approached for engagement during a period of incarceration). Dr. Helmuth will be providing psychiatric services in conjunction with The Counseling Center of Wayne and Holmes Counties and will be able to complete the initial evaluation. And for individuals who are experiencing frequent or recurring inpatient psychiatric hospitalizations, the treating psychiatrist will be asked to complete the evaluation for submission to the Wayne County Probate Court.

New Business

Parity: Chairman Pyers brought up the topic of parity between Wayne and Holmes counties, having discussed this with Wayne County Commissioner Jacob Hofstetter.

He distributed a handout sourced from the Wayne County Auditor from Fiscal Year 2018-2019 reflecting levy funding in the first year of the current levy period. Notations on the handouts reflecting Parity Factors were added by him, not the auditor. He distributed copies of the report from FY 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 with parity factors notations. He also provided a handout which summarized the actual funding for youth out-of-home placements in Holmes County in FY 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 and the funding for youth out-of-home placements in Wayne County during those same years. Using the identified parity factor for each funding period, he said, the sum difference identified using this calculation totals \$3,741,453.

J. Pyers identified the Governor’s Office of Faith-Based Initiatives as a possible partner to collaborate to utilize these funds to develop increased programming in Holmes County. He then offered the following resolution:

Resolution #9-10-24

Whereas, the vision of the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes Counties is to promote wellness for all community members while ensuring access to a continuum of high-quality recovery-oriented mental health and addiction prevention treatment and support services and

Whereas, during the past year the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes Counties found a method of more equitably providing resources for all community members and

Whereas, the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes Counties wishes to strive to provide services in a more equitable manner and

Whereas, the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes Counties has established that the life of the current levy is the time frame to be used

Now, therefore be it resolved that there is established a Parity Reserve in the fund balance of the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes Counties. These funds are to be used to promote wellness for all community members and maintain parity for the citizens of Wayne and Holmes Counties. Additionally, these funds could be used in an emergency basis, such as a levy failure.

There is hereby reserved, effective today, \$3,741,453 in the Parity Reserve.

DISCUSSION

M. Brumfield inquired as to the impact of this on the \$1 million reserve that the WHMHRB holds and whether this would be in addition to this amount. J. Pyers explained that the \$1 million reserve for the MHRB is for emergency funding, such as should the levy fail.

B. Theil stated that the Wayne County population is greater than the Holmes County population and asked what adjustment is being made to account for this. J. Pyers responded that the ratio of property tax and population is similar between the two counties.

Dan Jackson, executive director of Holmes County JFS, said Holmes County has had increasing numbers of youth needing services at increasing funding costs. He said that in the current year Holmes County is trending toward \$1.7 million in placement costs. As Holmes County has no Children Services levy, the majority of this funding comes from the county, although some families do qualify for federal and/or state funding.

Commissioner Hall explained that when a partner agency does not have adequate funding to meet the financial obligation for these placements, the responsibility falls to the county commissioners.

Approximately \$236,000 per year is budgeted through Holmes FCFC for out-of-home placements; the difference is covered by the commissioners and other federal, state, and local sources. Holmes County commissioners approved \$500,000 into the pooled fund to assist in covering overages exceeding the available budgeted amount.

Hall said that when the Juvenile Court requests funding, it also comes out of the General Fund, so when JFS requests increased funding, this is considered alongside additional requests. He acknowledged that there was a time several years ago when budget cuts were necessary, but the cuts are no longer financially sustainable.

Commissioner Hall requested ongoing access to data and financials.

D. Jackson reviewed the reserve that is held for pooled funding to accommodate overages. He noted that CY2023 funding is less than what was provided during William Mateer's tenure as executive director of the WHMHRB.

M. Ogden said increases to Wayne County youth out-of-home placements were granted three times within the last year. M. Miller added that having Holmes JFS present at the Board meeting has been helpful and requested continued JFS participation in board meetings.

D. Jackson voiced appreciation for partnerships with provider agencies and explained that services in addition to out-of-home placement (assessments, in-home treatment services) are also needed.

A discussion of how to engage members of the Plain community was held. J. Pyers asked how many Amish families go through the youth out-of-home placement system and D. Jackson explained that this is a difficult question to answer as the Plain community offers services outside of the programs/facilities utilized by the English community.

M. Woods reported that it is more challenging to staff the Millersburg office of Anazao Community Partners and that what amounts to a shift differential is paid out to workers in this service area in order to attract staff to provide this service. He voiced interest in exploring how faith-based initiatives might be integrated in Wayne County to enhance support for families.

B. Theil said the parity information presented was specific to youth out-of-home placements and inquired regarding overall parity. J. Pyers said this as a starting point to progress towards parity. M. Ogden said agency-contracted services to be provided to both counties are for agency directors to manage.

M. Ogden discussed the funding amount provided for Wayne County youth out-of-home placements with appreciation for the conversation with Holmes County stakeholders to identify needs and next steps.

R. Murphy noted that it appeared that Holmes County's youth-serving system has been able to maintain adherence to their budget.

S. Glick proposed an evaluation of comparable cases from Wayne and Holmes Counties to evaluate costs, placements, and outcomes. Discussion regarding the role and scope of the WHMHRB followed.

Discussion regarding requesting and reviewing data from both FCFCs was held. Data metrics such as number of youth in care, length of stay, and supports were discussed as potential points of discussion.

M. Woods of Anazao requested the floor to discuss Youth Resiliency Capital and it relates to Holmes County. He spoke about the Project STAY program, which existed approximately 20 years ago. This program incorporated case management services and supports for students not able to be successful in traditional classroom settings, including vocational services, as well as home-based services. Current discussion is taking place via partnership between Holmes County Juvenile Court, West Holmes School District, and Anazao Community Partners and includes a potential capital project. When the original Project STAY program was in

operation, the WHMHRB provided financial support for programming. Mr. Woods explained that a draft capital project proposal has been crafted and that J. Edwards is in communication with OhioMHAS regarding capital funding.

Motion to adopt Resolution #9-10-24 was made by M. Miller, seconded by M. Ogden.

Roll call: Brumfield, yes, Glick, no; R. Ling, yes; M. Miller, yes; R. Moore, yes; R. Murphy, yes; M. Ogden, no; B. Theil, No; Pyers, yes. Motion carried, 6-3.

Executive Search Committee

Pyers has contacted three professional recruiting organizations: Yunker Group, Ratliff & Taylor, and Beecher Hill. Each of these agencies declined the job. OACBHA is willing to participate in an executive search. M. Brumfield asked when the 60-day window for hiring would begin.

Staff Reports

- J. Bailey said the community capital plan has been submitted
- Mr. Woods gave a presentation on the Youth Resiliency Capital Funds. Holmes County Juvenile Court, Child Protective Services and ACP are looking at renovating a space for education for at-risk youth.
- Wayne Center for the Arts has received funding of a pre-COVID19 grant, \$1 million of which will come to the WHMHRB.
- A Youth Suicide Prevention grant has been designed to be very collaborative with Holmes County.
- J. Pyers reported the Record Retention Policy, last updated in 2007, will be reviewed.

Motion

There being no further business to discuss, B. Theil made a motion to adjourn, seconded by S. Glick

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Thiemens