

MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY BOARD OF ASHLAND COUNTY
Board Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2024

PRESENT: Mary Deeter David Ross, Executive Director
Cindy Kyser Patty Walton, Associate Director
Tanya Mounts Sandy Hoffman, Community Relations Coordinator
Nancy Udolph Ashley Ackerman, Director of Programs, Training, and Education
Connie Butler
Dennis Dyer
Katie Wright
Chad Brown
Tom Gaus
Andrew Kinney
Ben Key

ABSENT: Shari Shafer*
Ed Kieper*
Sara Battison*
*Provided notice

GUESTS: Sheryl Villegas, CCS Stacy Merryweather, Appleseed
Rick Ford, ACCADA Tiffany Massie, Appleseed
Jerry Strausbaugh, Appleseed Emy-Lyn Marh
Bri Buckley, Leadership Ashland

Mary Deeter called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Martha Jordan room, 1605 Co. Rd. 1095, Ashland.

Mary reminded Board members to complete the Executive Director's evaluation if they haven't already, as we want everyone's feedback. Evaluations are due by the end of the month. She indicated bad weather is expected tonight, and we will monitor that.

I. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

Roll Call -Secretary Katie Wright took the roll call and noted that a quorum was present.

Pass Warrants- There was a quorum to pass the warrants.

II. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY MINUTES

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Tom Gaus to recommend approval of the January 23, 2024
24-02-01 meeting minutes. Cindy Kyser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. NEW BUSINESS

PLANNING, Sara Battison, Chair

- I. Agency Application Guidelines – Priorities (Second Look)
David Ross, Executive Director, pointed out that he didn't get any additional feedback on the guidelines since the last meeting; if the guidelines look good to everyone, they will be recommended for approval.

Andrew Kinney is overseeing the planning section of the meeting tonight in the absence of Sara Battison. He noted the only change in the guidelines is the Covid language was removed.

RESOLUTION: 24-02-02 A motion was made by Connie Butler to recommend approval of the Agency Application Guidelines- Priorities. Cindy Kyser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- II. Appleseed- 1st and 2nd Quarter Juvenile Court Liaison Report
The report is included in the Board Packet. Jerry Strausbaugh explained that Tiffany Massie was hired at Appleseed to provide services to youth on probation and assist in the Juvenile Court intake process.

Tiffany indicated she sits down with the family to determine the needs and completes the juvenile court intake packet, which is an assessment put together and approved by the juvenile court. The assessment is done for new youths in the court system or youths not known to the judge.

Tiffany discussed attendance. She explained that court-ordered attendance is required. However, that is different than participating in the program.

Currently, there are 3 Ashland County youth in the Erie County Juvenile detention center.

Tiffany does provide services for the Substance Use Disorder Juvenile Probation Group. Tiffany indicated that she is no longer running the group component due to changes in programming.

- III. CCS- HKSF Mid-Year Report- This parenting program builds resiliency and skills. Sheryl Villegas pointed out many parents struggle economically, often with housing and employment. Diana Sharp was going to the schools but is not doing that now. This is one of several board-funded programs supporting parents and strengthening our families.

- IV. ACCADA – MAT Mid-Year Report
David explained that a few years ago, there were over 100 people served in the Medication Assisted Program (MAT). This was when heroin was the primary substance being used. The number of people in the program is fewer, and there has been a downward trend in the last few years. The total served from January to June 2023 is 17, and from July to December 2023 is 11. Methamphetamine and Fentanyl are some of the issues right now, which are much different and much more devastating than heroin.

Rick Ford, ACCADA Director, indicated they are monitoring this situation weekly. He noted that clients in the program are engaged and staying longer than their court-ordered time, so we are seeing good results. The problem is synthetic drugs are more potent.

Mary Detter, Board Chair, indicated that we discussed getting the crisis number out to the community at our last Board meeting. She explained that in front of each Board member, there are some Crisis Cards for them to have and distribute. A card was sent out for printing and will be available at the next meeting. However, these will get us started. Cards will be given to churches and other organizations in the community.

IV. FINANCE, Chad Brown, Chair

- I. February Warrants

RESOLUTION: 24-02-03 A motion was made by Connie Butler to recommend approval of the February 2024 warrants for payment. Tanya Mounts seconded the motion. The motion carried.

II. January Financials

Patty reviewed the January financials, reporting a target of 58%. She reported a cash balance of \$3,328,532, YTD Receipts of \$2,725,909, and Expenses of \$2,447,625 for a YTD Cash Flow of \$278,284. The percentage of income received is 61%, and YTD expenditures are 56%. Referring to YTD Receipts, she reported State \$1,263,400, Federal \$783,358, and Local \$679,151 Expenditures: Appleseed 56%, ACCADA 62%, and CCS 57% of budget overall. Patty indicated the Non-Medicaid billings for all three agencies should be on track now.

RESOLUTION: 24-02-04 A motion was made by Tom Gaus to recommend approval of the January Financials. Connie Butler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. Agency Application Guidelines – Fiscal Parameters (Second Look)
Chad Brown, Finance Chair, indicated this is the second look at the fiscal parameters of the Agency Application Guideline and asked if anyone had questions.

RESOLUTION: 24-02-05 A motion was made by Tom Gaus to recommend approval of the Agency Application Guidelines- Fiscal Parameters. Connie Butler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

How Fentanyl is Killing Good KIDS: David showed a short video by Jeremy and Kim Harrison, who lost their son from Fentanyl while vaping. Kim was a past Board member, and Jeremy owns SPIRE. They want to help other people. Although vaping is legal, it is hazardous. The video tells how easy it is for our youth to get hooked on THC and Fentanyl and potentially lose their life. It's important for parents to be educated and spread the word.

V. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT,** David Ross, Executive Director.
David Ross reviewed the Director's Report provided in the Board Packet.

Overdose and Suicide Fatality Review Meeting- We will be participating in this meeting. There are ten suicide deaths and ten drug overdose deaths in the County that will be reviewed. Fentanyl likely causes the overdoses. Fentanyl is so challenging because it's a powerful addiction and a powerful drug that wears off quicker than Heroin. The review aims to look for opportunities to reduce these deaths through community awareness/education, law enforcement/interdiction, and increased treatment/prevention services.

Three Legs in the News -There are three articles in the news about "The Three Legs" saying 1) get exercise, 2) get sleep, and 3) limit screen time.

OACBHA One-Pager: Marijuana Prevention for Teens- The one-pager talks about the dangers of marijuana on growing brains. David explained the difference between marijuana now and in the past. In the 70's, for example, the levels of THC in marijuana were 3 percent; today, the THC levels are 28 percent.

Director Evaluation - David reminded Board members to complete and submit the Director's Evaluation to Sandy. Andrew Kinney will review the results with the Director.

Agency 120-Day Notices- Ohio Revised Code ([ORC 340.036\(D\)](#)) requires Boards to issue a notice to currently contracted entities at least 120 days before the contract ends. Please be advised that this has been completed.

David explained the new meeting schedule has allowed us to do more events and training in the community. **This is a list of community events done in February:**

February/March- Podcast series with Board members and agency directors – Thank you all!

Feb 15 – Access’ Annual Meeting- David represented the Board.

Feb 21 & 22: 93 law enforcement in attendance at the Officer Wellness and QPR Training

Feb 21 AU Coaches, Faculty, and Staff QPR Training – David and Ashley provided training.

Feb 22- AU Basketball Game- Ashley and Sandy had a table and stress basketballs thrown at the game!

Feb 24 – Farm Bureau Appreciation Breakfast- Connie Butler, David, and Ashley represented the Board.

Thank you to all the Board members for your community efforts!

Upcoming Events & Training

March 19 – Mandatory Board Training on QPR/the Three Legs Overview- 4 to 5 pm

March 19 – Ashland University Math Night

March 21 – Symposium Against Indifference – Screening of “What I Want You to Know” at the Hawkins-Conard Student Center Auditorium (7 pm)

March 27 – 15th Annual RSVP Conference at Mount Vernon Estates

VI. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

Bri Buckley, Leadership Ashland, Optometrist at Ashland Eyecare

Jerry Strausbaugh, Appleseed- Announced they have extended Kinship services into Loudonville.

Sheryl Villegas, CCS

Rick Ford, ACCADA

Tiffany Massie, Appleseed

Emy-Lyn Marh

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandy Hoffman, Community Relations Coordinator



David Ross, Executive Director



Mary Deeter, Board Chair