



**BUTLER COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**  
**Executive/Planning & Finance Committee**  
**September 1, 2009**

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The Executive and Planning & Finance Committee of the Butler County Mental Health Board met on Tuesday, September 1, 2009 at 6:00 PM at the Mental Health Board offices located at 5963 Boymel Drive, Fairfield, Ohio.

**I. Call to Order**

Board President Mr. Bob Myron called the meeting to order.

**II. Roll Call**

Board members present were: Laura Amriott, Esq.; Pat Deis-Gleeson; David Delgado, MSW; Barbara Desmond; Bob Myron; Heather Nguyen; Mark O'Hara; and Deborah Stanton.

Staff members present were: Terry D. Royer, PhD; Scott C. Fourman, MS, LPCC-S; Scott Rasmus, PhD, LPCC, IMFT; Marion Rhodus; Ellen F. Harvey, LISW-S; Cassandra Kieseey, Esq.; Lauren Costello; and Amber Reckner.

Guests present were: Kathy Becker, Chief Executive Officer for Transitional Living, Inc.; Chris Connolly, Assistant Vice President for Community Behavioral Health, Inc.; Kim Stricklin, Chief Executive Officer for Butler Behavioral Health Services, Inc; Roy Hardison, Financial Consultant for Transitional Living, Inc.; Valerie Barth, Chief Operating Officer for Forensic and Mental Health Services, Inc.; Sybil Miller, Executive Director for YWCA, Hamilton, Ohio.

**III. Executive/Planning & Finance Committee Agenda**

**1.0 State Hospital Update**

Mr. Fourman provided an update on state hospital usage. For the month of July, 7.6 beds were used. Mr. Fourman shared that the Ohio Department of Mental Health will be paying back the Board \$585,858 for under usage of the state hospital in FY 2009. The Committee commended Mr. Fourman and the agencies for their work in reducing the number of state hospital beds used.

**2.0 Update on New Projects**

Dr. Rasmus provided an update on the three evidence-based practices the Board is in process of implementing. The Board is in process of implementing the **START** (Systemic Therapeutic Assessment Respite Treatment) model, an evidence-based practice for the treatment of individuals with both a mental health disorder and a developmental disability. The implementation of the START model is a collaborative effort between the Butler County Mental Health Board and the Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities made possible through a \$200,000 grant from the Greater Cincinnati Health Foundation. Dr. Rasmus stated the goal of the program, which will begin by mid-October, is to treat 70 dually diagnosed mentally ill, developmentally disabled clients over the three year grant period.

The other two evidenced-based practice models in process of being implemented are the **IMPACT** (Improving Mood: Promoting Access to Collaborative Treatment) and **PEARLS** (Program to Encourage Active and Rewarding Lives for Seniors) programs. These programs

will bring specialized mental health services to seniors living in Butler County. The Butler County Mental Health Board and the Council on Aging which administers the Butler County Senior Service Levy each contributed \$300,000 for the implementation of these two programs. Last year, Community Behavioral Health was awarded the contract to implement these two models after an extensive RFP review process.

Dr. Rasmus shared that IMPACT targets geriatric depression with the treatment setting in a physician's office. PEARLS is a similar program targeting geriatric depression at a lower level with the treatment setting in the client's home. Both programs are slated to see 100 – 150 clients at the end of the fiscal year with the first clients being seen in October. Program Training for both IMPACT and PEARLS is scheduled in Seattle, Washington at the end of the month. Mr. Chris Connolly of Community Behavioral Health shared that they have hired half the staff to support the programs and plan to hire the rest later in the year as they begin to see more clients. Dr. Rasmus noted that the University of Cincinnati, Department of Psychiatry will be providing psychiatric consultation support for both programs.

Dr. Rasmus also noted that no other county in the state has implemented these cutting edge evidenced-based practices. Committee members requested periodic updates on the implementation of the START, IMPACT and PEARLS programs.

### **3.0 Quality Update**

Dr. Rasmus provided the Committee with an update on the Quality Improvement initiative. The FY 2009 Fourth Quarter Quality Improvement report was distributed. Dr. Rasmus noted the data included in the report was submitted by the agencies. The report ranks agencies for each category and shows how they compare to the county norms for each category. The report also compares results from the third and fourth quarters.

Dr. Rasmus also presented data from an Ohio Scales Outcome Extract for Parent, Youth, and Adult Statistics from December 2006 – April, 2009. The data ranks agencies for each category and shows how they compare to the county norms for each category. Dr. Rasmus shared that the Ohio Department of Mental Health has discontinued the requirement that all providers use the Ohio Scales as an outcome measure and due to budget cuts will possibly no longer support the Outcomes Extract process if providers choose to voluntarily use the Ohio Scales anyway. If ODMH discontinues support of the Ohio Scales Outcome Extract altogether, it will be very difficult for Butler County to compare agency outcomes as agencies can use whatever outcome measures they need to support their different accreditation organization requirements.

### **4.0 Subsidy Audit Protocol**

Dr. Royer presented the draft Subsidy Audit Protocol that will be followed to audit agencies that receive Board subsidy funding. In the past, the Board conducted Medicaid audits for all agencies that collected Medicaid funding. The Ohio Department of Mental Health has removed this task from the local Boards and the Medicaid audits will now be conducted by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

Comments were solicited from contract agencies in the development of the Subsidy Audit Protocol. Dr. Royer commended Ms. Harvey and Mr. Fourman's work on this project and requested committee recommendation for its approval.

**Ms. Amriott moved to recommend approval of the Subsidy Audit Protocol as presented. Ms. Deis-Gleeson seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.**

## **5.0 Forensic and Mental Health Services FY 2010 Budget Revision**

Mr. Rhodus noted that Forensic and Mental Health Services did not submit a budget revision in time for the Committee meeting but it will be available at the Board meeting scheduled for September 16, 2009. The request does not involve any additional Board funding, but rather incorporates \$27,000 from the START Implementation Grant the Board received from the Greater Cincinnati Health Foundation into the agency's annual budget. The \$27,000 will go towards hiring specialized case managers for the START program.

## **6.0 June, 2009 Board Operating Report**

Mr. Rhodus presented the June, 2009 Board Operating Report. At the end of the fiscal year, the Board under spent the office budget by 15.64% or \$250,211.

**Ms. Stanton moved to recommend acceptance of the June, 2009 Board Operating Report to the full Board. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.**

## **7.0 Status of Agency Financial Reports**

Mr. Rhodus presented an updated Agency Report Status report which lists the required financial reports and whether or not they've been received. It was noted that many agencies have difficulty turning in their fourth quarter fiscal reports on time due to many year-end duties that must be accomplished. Often, the numbers they report in the fourth quarter report change by the time their audit numbers are submitted.

## **8.0 Financial Forecast/Budget Update**

Dr. Royer presented a funding comparison that shows the funding reductions the Board sustained in state funding between FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010. The Board sustained cuts in state funding of \$2 million in FY 2010 and \$1.1 million reduction in FY 2009 for a total of \$3.1 million. He noted there was a significant reduction in the state funded 408 line item used to pay for the state hospital and other community services for the severely mentally disabled in our community. Additionally, the 505 subsidy line item for general mental health services was eliminated completely.

Dr. Royer presented the updated Financial Forecast. The forecast includes the budgeted revenues and expenses for FY 2009 and FY 2010, and the projected revenues and expenses for FY 2011, FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014. The Board has two property tax levies which account for roughly 1/3 of the Board's total funding. The 1.0 mill levy is a five-year issue that will need to be on the ballot again in November, 2010. Dr. Royer's recommendation is to renew this levy as it may be difficult to solicit any additional funds in the current economic climate. The Board also has a 0.5 mill, ten-year issue levy that has been on the books since 1984. This

levy will need to be on the ballot in November, 2014. The Board may want to replace this levy in order to bring up the millage to current property values.

The Board is currently has a reserve level a 52%. Due to expected cuts in state funding and an expected 8% increase each year in Medicaid billing, the reserve balance will decline exponentially. According to the forecast, the Board can expect to see a dramatic decline in reserves between FY 2013 and FY 2014 which will leave the Board with a projected 4% reserve level. To control for this serious decline in reserves, the forecast shows what would need to happen in order for the Board to end up with a 20% reserve level in FY 2014. In order to get to close to 20% reserve level in FY 2014, the Board would have to start making \$1,000,000 cuts starting in FY 2011.

There are many factors and assumptions taken into consideration when developing a multi-year financial forecast. One assumption made in the forecast is that Medicaid will continue to grow at the rate of 8% and the Board will not do anything to control it. While the Board cannot prevent agencies from billing Medicaid, the Board can reduce subsidy funding to help offset the cost of the increased match. Another factor to consider is the issue of unspent agency funds. Each year, agencies budget for the best case scenario and most do not spend their entire budgets. Ms. Costello presented agency unspent funds analysis for FY 2009. The analysis shows services by agency and how much the agency over or under spent their budget for each service. As a group, agencies did not spend \$1,273,401 that was budgeted in FY 2009. The Board office budget was also under spent by \$250,211. These funds are incorporated in the forecast as revenue carried over from FY 2009. Even though there are often unspent agency and Board office funds that carry over to the next fiscal year, it is a difficult number to project. Therefore, the forecast does not include a projected unspent funds figure for any of the other fiscal years.

Dr. Royer revisited the issue of staff salary increases as requested by the Board. Due to being cut \$2 million in state funding and the current economic and political climate, Dr. Royer did not recommend giving any salary increases this year. Dr. Royer and Board members commended the staff for the quality and quantify of work performed in FY 2009. If the Board's economic situation improves, the Board will revisit this issue.

## **9.0 Agency Funding Requests Discussion**

Dr. Royer noted the Updated Financial Forecast has an additional \$500,000 in expenses included for the Board to spend in FY 2010. There are several requests from agencies for additional funding. Dr. Royer recommended the majority of the additional funding go towards offsetting the cut received in the Residential State Supplement (RSS) program that funds supportive housing for those with mental illness living in Adult Care Facilities. A news article was distributed noting concerns that such a steep cut to the RSS program will cause many Adult Care Facilities to go out of business. Dr. Royer noted that the consumers who receive RSS funds are severely mentally disabled and at risk of being homeless or institutionalized at the state hospital if their supervised living situation was disrupted. Community Behavioral Health, who administers the residential wraparound grant, is requesting \$301,061 to offset the cuts in RSS funding.

Another additional funding consideration would be for the Board to fund a social worker to work at the Juvenile Detention center for the purpose of performing evaluations, creating treatment

plans and facilitating referrals for severely emotionally disturbed children. Currently, Juvenile Court has been dependent on Miami University Psychology doctoral students to perform these services. However, the university is now requesting payment for these services that the heavily cut Juvenile Court cannot afford and the use of doctoral students with limited schedules is an issue. Dr. Royer recommends funding a full time social worker position at the cost of \$65,000 (includes benefits) through Catholic Charities to provide this important service for children that are in our system.

Dr. Royer shared that due to cuts in the Butler County General Fund, Sherriff Jones will have to layoff two social workers that work in the county jail to provide mental health services to inmates. The Board currently funds one social worker in the county jail. Dr. Royer recommends funding at least one additional social worker to maintain the services in the jail as a number of mentally ill inmates are in need of treatment/discharge planning and psychiatric services to prevent expensive hospitalization. Budgeted figures were unavailable at the time of the Committee meeting, but it is estimated it will cost \$71,000 (including benefits) for an additional full-time social worker who would be hired through Community Behavioral Health. Ms. Deis-Gleeson requested information on how much it would cost to fund the second additional social worker so the Board could maintain a total of three social workers at the jail. Ms. Amiott noted that if the Board picks it up the costs of funding the additional social workers, it better plan on funding them indefinitely on because it is not likely the Sherriff will be in a position financially to assume those costs again in the near future.

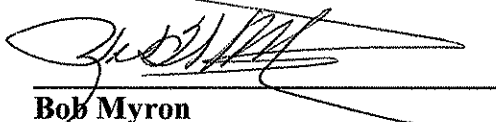
Finally, the YWCA has asked for \$100,000 to help offset costs associated with the residential services they provide for mentally ill women at the Goodman Place. Dr. Royer would like to spend more time with the agency to better understand the need and review the request. Board staff will have a recommendation on this request at the time of the September Board meeting.

## 10.0 Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Rasmus presented an update on the Strategic Plan Suggested Funding Allocations. He reviewed what was funded for FY 2008 and FY 2009 along with proposed projects for FY 2010 and supported but non-funded activities and grants that are ongoing. In FY 2009, the Board slated \$750,000 for various new spending/projects. At the end of FY 2009, \$933,000 was spent to address key aspects of the strategic plan.

**Ms. Amiott motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Deis-Gleeson seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.**

Respectfully submitted,



**Bob Myron**  
Board President