



A Community Mental Health / Developmental Disabilities / Addictive Diseases Program

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**NEW HORIZONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2100 Comer Avenue – New Horizons Training Room
Columbus, GA 31906**

Date of Meeting: May 12, 2025

Members Present: Damon Hoyte, Terry Edwards, Nancy Schroeder,
Karen J. Bussey, LaVerne Chaffin, Arcola Scott, Edwina Turner,
Ed Harbison, Linda McElroy, Sandra Gill, and David Ranieri

Members Excused: April Hughes

Staff Present: Andrea Winston, Susan Gallagher, Denise Wade McLeod, Kenyetta Plummer,
Chloe Landreth, Sherry Raya, Jadi Smith, and Molly Jones

CALL TO ORDER: Board Chair Damon Hoyte called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was established during the meeting.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST(S) ATTENDING TODAY'S MEETING: Tom Tebeau, New Horizons Attorney and Valona Baldwin, DBHDD Regional Coordinator.

*** SECRETARY'S MINUTES (Approval of February 10, 2025 & March 10, 2025 minutes):** M/S/P Ed Harbison/LaVerne Chaffin to approve the February and March minutes, Board approved.

FINANCIAL REVIEW: Susan reported that, even though February is a shorter month with only 19 billable days, Medicaid and GIA Fee for Service as well as private insurance were well over monthly budgeted targets. This is attributed to the hard work of the Revenue Acquisition Team. We should be at 75% of budget, but are at 72% overall for revenues. Federal funds and Contract revenue are under budget projections as are Medicaid fees and Client fees. February closed with a net surplus of \$285,364 and a YTD surplus of \$2,089,512. Leadership, managers, and supervisors are doing a great job of containing costs as we are only at 63% of the expenditure budget. Pharmaceuticals, building repairs, maintenance, utilities, and communications are over 75% of the YTD budget. Building repairs are attributable to the fire at Veterans Parkway ITR. The accounting department, in partnership with IT, is in the process of reviewing telecommunications costs to look for cost saving opportunities. As reported in the March Board meeting, the Balance Sheet as well as the Profit and Loss Statement will be presented.

The Balance sheet is presented as Total Assets/Total Liabilities & Fund Balance. In our audited Annual Financial Statements, we present a “Statement of Net Position” as well as a “Balance Sheet.” DBHDD has requested that we move to the Statement of Net Position for our monthly/quarterly reporting and away from the Balance Sheet format. We are working on necessary steps to make that transition. This will involve reporting monthly on Capital Assets, Right of Use Assets, Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements, Other Post Employment Benefits, and Deferred Outflows. This change will require initial work by Finance/Accounting to update the Chart of Accounts, record FY24 ending balances as the baseline, and record monthly accruals, particularly to the Compensated Absences. March is trending very well for reaching budgeted annual revenues. There are a few revenue categories that are below target: Client Fees, Other Local Funds, and Federal Funds. March is trending well for keeping expenses down, at 4% lower than budgeted YTD. There are a few expense categories that are over budget: Motor Vehicle, Pharmaceuticals, Repairs and Maintenance, Utilities, and Telecommunications. Our aging vehicle fleet is more costly to keep road-worthy, pharmaceuticals and utilities are impacted by rising costs, and Repairs & Maintenance have been impacted by the repairs to Veterans ITR offset by insurance proceeds.

Days Cash on Hand as of March 31 is 179.95 with an average daily expense of \$61,410.

DBHDD does not have an approved State Plan Amendment and has delayed the Go Live for the Prospective Payment System (PPS) rate. We have been assured that bridge funding will continue as we provide CCBHC services and activities and are held to CCBHC Key Performance Indicators without a PPS rate to financially support those services, activities, and KPI targets.

IMPACT OF FEDERAL CUTS: Susan reported the New Horizons Finance/Accounting Department is in the process of preparing the FY26 Annual Budget for approval by the Board. We have a fiscally conservative budget philosophy with the goal of creating a balanced budget that does not require the use of Fund Balance to finance a budget deficit. There has been an extreme slow down in discretionary grant funding opportunities related to HHS/SAMHSA funding as the current Administration works to restructure the Department of Health and Human Services. SAMHSA will roll into the new Administration for a Healthy America (AHA) with the goal to increase operational efficiency. AHA will combine multiple agencies to improve coordination of health resources for low-income Americans and will focus on areas including Primary Care, Maternal and Child Health, Mental Health, Environmental Health, HIV/AIDS, and Workforce Development.

ESG GRANTS UPDATE: The current year for the ESG grants will be ending in September and we are working on the application process for the ESG grants for FY25 that will be in effect from October 2025 to September 2026. These will include: ESG Hotel/Motel, ESG Homeless Prevention, ESG Street Outreach, and ESG Rapid Rehousing. Amounts for these grants have not yet been determined. The Shelter Plus Care grant ended March 31, 2025 and we will begin the submission process for the new grant year soon. The Support Service grant will end in June 2025 and we will begin the renewal process soon for the next grant year. Updated information will be provided in future Board meetings.

CCBHC UPDATE: Tabled to June Board meeting.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH QUALITY REVIEW: Tabled to June Board meeting.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: CLINIC RESTRUCTURE: Tabled to June Board meeting.

DEVELOPMENT, MARKETING, AND PUBLIC RELATIONS: Chloe reported on events attended since the last Board meeting including the Morehouse School of Medicine Symposium, Fatherhood Men's Resource Fair, Chattahoochee County Community Day, Health and Wellness Expo, Harris County Health Fair, RVRC AAA Senior Fair, Clay County Parent's Café, SafeHouse Ministries Team Meeting, KIA Employee Wellness Event, and the Girls, Inc., Mental Health Fair. Upcoming events on the calendar are Youth Mental Health First Aid Training, Goodwill Hiring Fair, and the Unity with Pam Business Showcase. Facebook, Instagram, Constant Contact, and Website data was reviewed. Pictures from the I/DD Talent Show highlighted a fun night for individuals and staff to showcase their talent. The Mobile Unit has averaged three events per week over the past month, is currently in the shop for a/c repairs, and will be back on the road soon. Other events "in the works" include Mental Health Month proclamation for May from Columbus City Council, Back-To-School season planning, Recovery on the River/Bus Tour planning, and a Stigma Awareness public service announcement. Board Members and staff were encouraged to cast their vote for New Horizons for the People's Choice Award.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

***RESOLUTION FOR GEORGIA OPIOID ABATEMENT TRUST:** An email for Board approval of the resolution to receive payments under the settlement agreement was sent to Board Members after the March Board meeting and approved by a quorum.

Vanessa Cameron is the new Executive Director of the GACSB.

Recognition of Edwina Turner for the great partnership with Family Connection, UGA Extension Staff, the County Commission, and the Board of Education in Stewart County to create a healthier community. They are improving access to physical activity and fresh produce, needed resources, and literacy materials through a variety of programs.

Molly Jones, Executive Administrative Assistant, has announced her retirement effective June 27, 2025.

Judge David Ranieri submitted his resignation from the Board effective June 30, 2025, the end of his current term.

Valona Baldwin, Region 6 office, announced preparations are being made for a new initiative that will open in Macon, Georgia, the Crisis Service Diagnostic Center.

Mr. Hoyte extended a belated Happy Mother's Day and thanked Terry Edwards for presiding at the March Board Meeting in his absence. He also offered prayers for Susan's Mom who was hospitalized today.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments were made.

***EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 4:15 pm, M/S/P Edwina Turner/Arcola Scott to go into Executive Session to discuss the DBHDD Compliance Internal Audit, Board approved. At 5:24 p.m., M/S/P Edwina Turner/Terry Edwards to end the Executive Session, Board approved.

ADJOURNMENT: At 5:27 p.m., M/S/P Terry Edwards/LaVerne Chaffin to adjourn the meeting, Board approved.

Damon Hoyte
Chairperson