



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: January 9, 2023

Members Present: Damon Hoyte, Joseph Williams, April Hughes,
Karen Johnson, LaVerne Chaffin, and Linda McElroy

Members Excused: David Ranieri, Nancy Schroeder, Sandra Gill, Edwina Turner,
and Ed Harbison

Staff Present: Andrea Winston, Denise Wade McLeod, Susan Gallagher,
Desire' Elliott, Karen Cotton-Everett, Randall Newberry,
Sherry Raya, and Molly Jones

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Damon Hoyte at 3:34 p.m. A quorum was not established at that time, but was established later in the meeting.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST(S) ATTENDING TODAY'S MEETING: Mac Moye, Stewart County Manager.

*** SECRETARY'S MINUTES (Approval of December 12, 2022 minutes):** M/S/P Joseph Williams/Karen Johnson to approve the December 12, 2022 minutes, Board approved.

FINANCIAL REVIEW: Susan reported New Horizons closed the month of November with a surplus of \$315,896 and a Year to Date surplus of \$1,377,754. Medicaid Waiver Revenue was higher than budgeted for the month, but has not reached our Year to Date target. Medicaid fees increased for the month and exceed the Year to Date budget. Grant in Aid - Fee for Service has a Year to Date deficit of \$79,195. Personnel expenses continue to be lower than budgeted due to the number of open positions across the agency. Motor vehicle expenses, excluding leases, are higher than budgeted which reflects the age of the fleet. Equipment costs are \$98,256 over budget. Days Cash on Hand at the end of November was 124.43 days. We have received the draft Audited Financial Statements and the Finance Department is currently working on the Management Discussion and Analysis (MDA) letter. The draft report indicates we received an unmodified opinion, meaning the auditor concludes that the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The auditors will

electronically submit the single audit report to the Federal Clearing House once they receive the MDA letter. Additionally, the auditors will electronically file our Tax Form 990 by the May 15th deadline. The Finance Department will be in discussion with the auditors to address the DBHDD requirement to report CCBHC activity in the audited Financial Statements.

Mr. Hoyte asked if there were any concerns with CSBs having too much Cash on Hand. Susan reported the average among CSBs is 50 days. Andrea indicated having over 120 days COH is a wonderful problem to have, but added that the transitions to CareLogic and CCBHC will definitely have a financial impact. We are meeting with a realtor for options to relocate the Clinic or possibly all the programs at 2100 Comer Avenue as more space is needed. Purchasing a building and paying it off, rather than continuing to rent, could greatly impact the agency's future financially and allow us to increase/improve our office/clinic space. Vehicle expenses are also being reviewed and a new electronic Human Resources system will be implemented soon that will improve efficiency in that department.

Our Board Chair will receive a copy of the Annual Financial Audit by mail and a member of the Audit Firm will be invited to attend a future Board meeting to discuss audit findings.

***ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS:** As announced in the December Board meeting, it is time to elect officers for 2023. Our current slate of officers are: Damon Hoyte, Chair, Nancy Schroeder, Vice Chair, and Sandra Gill, Secretary. M/S/P Joseph Williams/LaVerne Chaffin to re-elect Damon Hoyte as Board Chair, Board Approved. M/S/P Joseph Williams/Karen Johnson to re-elect Nancy Schroeder as Vice Chair, Board Approved. M/S/P Joseph Williams/Karen Johnson to re-elect Sandra Gill as Secretary, Board Approved. Mr. Hoyte expressed his thanks and gratitude to the Board for their approval and support as Board Chair. Nancy Schroeder and Sandra Gill will be notified of their re-election as Vice Chair and Secretary respectively.

***BOARD MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2023:** The 2023 Board meeting calendar was sent to Board members prior to the meeting. With no recommendations for changes or concerns from members, M/S/P Joseph Williams/Karen Johnson to approve the 2023 Board meeting calendar, Board approved.

Andrea reminded members that Board meetings can be held virtually, in-person, or hybrid.

CERTIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER (CCBHC) UPDATE:

Karen provided the following CCBHC updates as of January 2023: The 2nd year of the CCBHC grant began December 1, 2022, 1st quarter key performance indicator data with enhanced criteria for CCBHCs was submitted, increased use of the PHQ-9 Depression Screening Tool, began using the Audit-C Alcohol Use Screening Tool, and Satisfaction Surveys were completed. In preparation for the Prospective Payment System (PPS) that will begin July 2023, the initial cost study has been completed and submitted and we are currently working to identify additional cost items, i.e. transportation, increased staffing, and additional facilities, that will adjust our rates. More information on the certification process is expected soon.

***NEW HORIZONS BYLAWS:** The Bylaws were mailed to members prior to the meeting for review. With no revisions or additions recommended, M/S/P Joseph Williams/Karen Johnson to approve New Horizons Bylaws, Board approved.

CARELOGIC – GO LIVE REPORT: Sherry reported that the Goal of CareLogic implementation is to 1) Increase accuracy of the General Ledger, 2) Streamline Clinical Documentation, 3) Implement eMar for Developmental Disability homes and Behavioral Health group homes, 4) Streamline billing and collections, 5) Increase access to reporting and data analytics, and 6) Increase compliance and audit management. Additional CareLogic capabilities allow Electronic Health Record access via the browser with no special setup, easier training of staff with the workflow concept, electronic forms for each program, change healthcare eligibility on demand, Wiley Treatment planning, and Docusign. Advanced technologies with CareLogic include enhanced analytics, off-line access, Updax patient portal, Mobile app, eLab, quality outcomes platform, MaxMD Secure messaging, data sharing and communication, tablets in the waiting room for individuals to sign documents, and appointment reminders. A timeline for organizations (programs) going live was reviewed with the outpatient clinics last on the list. The transition to CareLogic has been a massive undertaking for the agency, our IT Department, and many staff. We look forward to full implementation to CareLogic in a few months and thank everyone who has worked so hard on this transition.

PROGRAM PRESENTATION - EMERGE L.I.G.H.T. - E.T.P. : L.I.G.H.T. (Listening, Inspiring, and Guiding Healthy Transitions) E.T.P. (Early Treatment Program) was started in 2015 by DBHDD to bring Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) services to Georgia's youth and young adults ages 16-30 in the early stages of severe mental illness. CSC is an evidence-based approach to providing team-based, integrated treatment to young people in the early stages of severe mental illness, with the goal of reducing disability and promoting long-term recovery. Services include Primary Care Coordination, Medication Management, Case Management, Supported Education and Employment, Peer Support, Family Support and Education, Psychotherapy (Individual and Group) and 24/7 Crisis Line. Other services are medication assistance and transportation to appointments/community services. Eligible individuals must live in one of the eight counties served by New Horizons, not have a Developmental Disability, have a diagnosis of psychotic-spectrum illness or mood disorder with psychotic features, and have experienced symptoms of psychotic-spectrum illness for at least one week and no more than 24 months. EMERGE program goals are to detect psychosis in the early stages, provide rapid access to coordinated team-based specialty care, and to offer a recovery-focused intervention. Intended outcomes include reduction in the direction of untreated symptoms and illness, reduction in unnecessary hospitalizations, and improved clinical, social, and academic/occupational functioning. Individuals have choices and input in their treatment planning, family members are encouraged to participate, and a more "laid back" approach is taken to enhance treatment compliance and outcomes. Program Director Desire' Elliott presented an overview of the program and provided handouts, gift bags, and brochures to Board members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Andrea thanked Board Members who attended the CARF orientation meeting and participated in interviews with the surveyors during the November survey and proudly announced that New Horizons was awarded a three year CARF accreditation.

Andrea presented highlights of the GACSB 2023 Legislative Term Agenda focused on some appointment changes anticipated with the Georgia Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission, engaging the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Department of Community Health, and the Office of Planning, Budget, and Administration on the budget process, and advocating for Medicaid Managed Care Re-Procurement. I/DD and Behavioral Health Rate Studies are also on the agenda.

DBHDD announced that Monica Johnson, the Interim Commissioner of DBHDD tendered her resignation effective December 31, 2022. Ms. Johnson accepted a high level leadership position with SAMHSA. Kevin Tanner was appointed the new Commissioner of DBHDD effective December 16, 2022.

Mr. Hoyte congratulated David Ranieri who was recently sworn in as Chief Judge of Recorder's Court.

Andrea asked Board members to keep Nancy Schroeder in their thoughts and prayers as she recovers from her recent hospitalization/rehab stay.

Mr. Hoyte made a request to visit New Horizons Behavioral Health program sites. A schedule of monthly visits will be planned.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT: M/S/P Joseph Williams/Linda McElroy to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 p.m., Board approved.

Damon Hoyte
Chairperson