



A Community Mental Health / Developmental Disabilities / Addictive Diseases Program

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**NEW HORIZONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

January 14, 2019 Conference Room B – 3:30 p.m.

Members Present: David Ranieri, Joseph Williams, Nancy Schroeder,
April Hughes, Karen Johnson, LaVerne Chaffin,
Edwina Turner, and Sandra Gill

Members Excused: Sherrell Terry, Linda McElroy, and Ed Harbison

Staff Present: Andrea Winston, Valerie Bowden, Randall Newberry,
Stephanie Spear, Latarsha Brown, Terry Edwards,
and Molly Jones

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

WELCOME: Andrea Winston welcomed Board members to the first meeting of 2019 and announced the new Board officers for 2019: New Board Chairman, David Ranieri, Vice Chair, Sherrell Terry, and Secretary (for a second term), Sandra Gill.

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

* **SECRETARY'S MINUTES (Approval of December 10, 2018 minutes):** M/S/P Edwina Turner/Joseph Williams to approve the minutes of December 10, 2018, Board approved.

FINANCIAL REVIEW: New Horizons had a surplus for the month of December 2018 of \$1,827 with a year-to-date surplus of \$12,043. A loss was budgeted for the months of November and December as these are historically reduced revenue months with three holidays in November and two holidays in December. Attendance at programs also tends to be lower around the holidays. We generate approximately \$28,000 per day in Medicaid and GIA FFS revenue, so holidays do reduce the revenue potential. There were no unusual expenditures for the month of December. Overall expenditures were within .20% of the budget for December and year-to-date expenditures are within .41% of the budget. Revenue is slightly over budget for the month (within 1.57% of budget) and slightly under budget year-to-date (within .37% of budget).

Management will be conducting semi-annual budget meetings with program staff to discuss Utilization Management/Programmatic issues, Financial, Compliance, and Performance Improvement as it pertains to each program as we continue to look for ways to reduce agency costs and improve staff productivity.

We have received the FY18 Audit Report and will invite auditors to the February Board meeting to present the report.

*** RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE CONTRACT:**

The resolution provides for Room, Board and Watchful Oversight services through a written contract with the Division of Family and Children Services for the period beginning July 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. M/S/P Joseph Williams/Edwina Turner to approve the contract, Board approved.

NHBH HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION: As has been discussed in previous meetings, during the past few years, we have entertained the possibility of moving our administrative offices to another location. We have recently been approached by an investor regarding a property that has become available, the building formerly occupied by Virginia College. Andrea informed Board members that since touring the building, we have researched the financial and logistical feasibility of relocation. Financial considerations indicate a Year One savings of \$135,152 (rent savings less estimated relocation expenses) and Year Two savings of \$210,152. While significant, this amount reflects 0.76 of our annual budget. Other advantages to relocating include more modern headquarter space, increased efficiency by centralization of administrative functions, and control of security. Disadvantages are that individuals would have to travel further for services as the majority live in closer proximity to the Comer Avenue location, increased transportation costs for individual trips, expenses and downtime for relocation, increased utility and security costs, transfer of licenses, provider numbers, accreditation and costs, and expenses for IT/Data wiring, renovations, and furnishings. Board members asked if any decisions had been made or if there was a timeline for a decision. With nothing set in stone, notice would be required 60 days prior to June 30, 2019 to vacate this building. Andrea stated the next steps would be to draft a design of needed space renovations and the cost, followed by a final analysis of cost and risk/benefits. Doubling the amount of savings on our rent or a tiered lease option would make relocating more feasible. All agreed this would be a momentous event in the history of the agency if we decided to relocate. Board members asked if more information/discussion could be presented at the February Board meeting or, if necessary, a meeting called or Board members polled prior to then to discuss more details and vote, if necessary.

PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT: This annual event to assist homeless individuals will be held January 25th from 9 to 2 at Open Door on 2nd Avenue. Latarsha Brown reported 30 or more vendors will participate, with Waffle House providing a grits bar breakfast, and Home for Good furnishing lunch. Haircuts, clothing, shoes, and hygiene kits will be distributed along with resource and referral information to assist the homeless population. A flyer and vendor information was handed out to Board members along with an invitation to attend this special event.

2019 POINT IN TIME/HOUSING INVENTORY COUNT: The annual Point in Time Count will take place Tuesday and Wednesday, January 22 & 23. New Horizons will participate in the count along with other agencies in the area. Latarsha Brown presented the 2017 Balance of State Continuum of Care Point in Time Homeless Count Report to Board members to better illustrate the purpose and focus of the count.

PRESENTATION: COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS: Terry Edwards presented information on the Rapid Re-Housing program that provides short-term rental assistance and services in Chattahoochee, Clay, Harris, Quitman, Randolph, Stewart, and Talbot counties. The goals are to help people obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency, and stay housed. It is offered without preconditions (such as employment, income, absence of criminal record, or sobriety) and the resources and services provided are typically tailored to the needs of the person. Through collaborative efforts with rural community partners, a number of beneficial outcomes have been achieved including: Reduced homelessness, improved access to social services, increased housing stability and food security, improved health outcomes, mental health, and income. Individuals must be literally homeless to be eligible and priority is given to families and individuals who are homeless with a disability and veterans, but anyone who is homeless can qualify for the program. Core components are: 1) Housing Identification, 2) Rent and Move-In Assistance, and 3) Case Management. Recently New Horizons met and exceeded the 100 days challenge and received a Gold Star Medal and Terry was presented a Rockstar Award for tenacity, perseverance, and collaborations that took her program from struggling to flourishing in remote rural areas.

2019 DEVELOPMENT/MARKETING REVIEW: A handout was presented outlining Development, Marketing, and Community Relation plans and several current grant applications. The Development Advisory Board held their first meeting of 2019 on January 8 and reviewed a calendar of events for the year. Ranging from Project Homeless Connect in January, to "I Heart my Job" in February, events in March, April, and May focused around DD Awareness Month, Public Health Awareness Month, Mental Health Awareness Month, and the 4th Annual Run4Recovery in September, a busy schedule is indicated. For December 2018, Facebook fan reach was at 2878 with 302 fans engaged. Opportunities to expand our Social Media and Marketing footprint are being considered. A robust and consistent presence at Family Connection Meetings throughout our eight county area will continue in 2019 as will participation in Community Outreach Events.

TEAM MEMBER SUPPORT SPECIALIST: Stephanie Spear, the new Team Member Support Specialist, was introduced to Board Members. Her role is to enhance both internal and external customer service. She will also teach Customer Service Training and work to improve the Organizational Climate Initiative. Stephanie's responsibilities include supporting and encouraging team members (employees), developing an employee recognition program, and support and development of 2019 CEO goals for new programs and services.

HOLIDAY SITE VISITS: During December, the leadership team visited all New Horizons program sites, including day treatment, service centers, and residential/ group homes, to extend holiday wishes to employees and their families, and to thank employees face to face for their hard work and the great job they do in taking care of our individuals. Cookies and/or popcorn were presented for staff to enjoy. The team also attended a Christmas lunch at Andrew College in Randolph County hosted by our Service Centers in Cuthbert and Lumpkin and enjoyed a Christmas craft project with the children attending SKY Clubhouse.

GACSB 2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA: A number of items on the agenda for the 2019/2020 Legislative Term that could impact behavioral health services are: 1) EMT/1013, 2) Enhancing Mental Health Treatment of Ga.Act 2017-SB4, 3) SR188 Senate Committee on Barriers to Georgians' Access to Adequate Health Care-2017, 4) Department of Justice Settlement, as well as Funding, State Opioid Plan, Psychiatric Advanced Directives, Governor's Commission on Children's Mental Health (Deal Administration), and Medicaid/Suspension of Benefits for Prisoners (House Study Committee 240-2018). Updates will be forthcoming on the status of these bills in the legislature.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: We are in our final year of the 3-year CARF accreditation that began in 2016. Our next CARF Survey will take place in the fall of this year. The Intent to Survey will be submitted in the next few months and a survey date will follow. More information on the survey will be presented during the February Board meeting.

A flyer announcing CSB Day at the Capitol was included in Board member packets. The date is Wednesday, February 13th from 9 to 4.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments were presented.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, M/S/P Joseph Williams/Edwina Turner to adjourn the meeting at 4:47 p.m., Board approved.



David Ranieri
Chairperson