



**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**Wednesday, April 24, 2024**

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Dr. Victor McCarley, Vice Chair  
Kevan Beamon  
Jill Bucaro  
Kathy Emrick  
Sherry Gale  
Margaret Patterson  
Jeffrey Startzman  
Jay Wainscott  
Gregory West  
David White  
S. Tyler Wright

**STAFF PRESENT**

Helen E. Jones-Kelley  
Bonnie Ashley  
Tristyn Ball  
Chandra Hightower  
David Holbrook  
Kimberly Priester  
Tina Rezash Rogal  
Christina Sanders

**TRUSTEES ABSENT**

Verb Washington, Board Chair  
Robert Gurry  
Teresa Russell

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Board Vice Chair Dr. Victor McCarley called the meeting of the Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board of Montgomery County (ADAMHS) to order at 5:41 p.m.

**2. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley acknowledged and welcomed the guests in attendance. Guests introduced themselves and identified their organizations.

**3. BOARD SPOTLIGHTS**

**PLACES, Inc.**

Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley introduced PLACES, Inc. Executive Director Roy Craig and Clinical Director Brian Wlodarczyk for the first Board Spotlight. Executive Director Craig presented a video introducing PLACES, Inc. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=koiFXQNduiQ>). PLACES, Inc. provides three services: residential adult care facilities, supportive living program/case management services, and the Housing First program for the homeless. They provide homes for 62 adults who otherwise would have nowhere to live. Since 2011, PLACES, Inc. has served 341 individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. The supportive living program provides life skills needed to maintain housing and independence.

The Housing First program provides services to people coming out of the shelter or off the street. They have apartments throughout Montgomery County to house individuals and keep them safe. The average length of stay is 10-1/2 years, but some residents have been there as long as 36+ years. They became a Medicaid provider in 2018.

PLACES is an acronym for the following: Personal Care, Life Skills, Advocacy, Community, Education, and Service. These are the pillars of what PLACES, Inc. provides. Under each pillar is a laundry list of things they provide that most others do not. The outcomes and benefits to the community include a decrease in jail contacts, decrease in hospital substance use encounters, decrease in hospital medical encounters, and decrease in hospital psychiatric encounters.

The biggest challenge faced by PLACES, Inc. is funding. They are flat funded so have not seen an increase with the inflation or costs of living increases. Two of the programs are funded by HUD which has not increased in years. Staffing is another issue, as there are regulations that affect the ability to recruit and retain employees. The ideal scenario is adequate funding to provide the same level of services at the residential care facilities so there is no disruption to the residents. Support is also needed for state-level lobbying to allow Class 2 residential care facilities to receive RSS benefits to keep people out of hospitals while also having the ability to bill Medicaid.

RSS is currently funded at a level to only provide the minimum allowable services. PLACES, Inc. provides more services than the minimum and there is not good funding for that. They also would like support to lobby to the state to increase the number of Class 2 residential care facilities and provide more funding from OhioMHAS. PLACES, Inc. currently receives 36% of their funding from ADAMHS. Other funding sources include HUD (39%), RSS/Rent (17%), Medicaid (5%), and miscellaneous funding. PLACES, Inc. fundraisers include an annual holiday party fundraiser and an annual fashion show the residents put on. It is great to see the residents enjoy themselves, so they encourage people to come out to see that show. The sustainability plan includes increasing revenue and decreasing expenses. The current funding level is almost the same as it was at the turn of the century (2000).

### **The National Conference for Community & Justice (NCCJ) of Greater Dayton**

Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley introduced Adriane Miller, Executive Director of The National Conference for Community & Justice (NCCJ) of Greater Dayton for the second Board spotlight. This group has been in Dayton since 1978. The mission is to educate and empower communities to eliminate bias, bigotry, and all forms of discrimination. Executive Director Miller discussed the following NCCJ programs:

- Workforce Professional Development, which brings in revenue to the organization and includes workplace DEI training, DEI Councils, and QPR suicide prevention response training.
- Community Advocacy in Action, which includes the Mobile Opportunity Center, Pride Rocks, and a Diversity and Inclusion podcast. The Mobile Opportunity Center removes barriers to information and services. They park at various locations and share information about different organizations in our community. They bring in community partners, trauma support, and share programs. They have also distributed gun locks and pill disposal bags. Pride Rocks is a suicide prevention program for the LGBTQ+ community. At the pride rocks event scheduled this year for May 18 at Levitt Pavilion, participants can paint pride theme rocks with suicide prevention messaging and enjoy music and food vendors. The rocks will be distributed to different organizations throughout the month of June.

- Youth Leadership Development, which provides programs such as: Anytown Youth, Agents of Change, Teen Summit, Police & Youth Together, and more. These programs involve youth leadership and development along with school-based prevention programming at 30 different schools, in partnership with ADAMHS.

NCCJ gets 1/3 of their funding from ADAMHS, 1/3 from grants, and 1/3 from fundraising. They have two fundraisers per year – October friendship celebration and recognition of humanitarians, and Pride Rocks. The biggest challenges facing NCCJ are time and money. They spend a lot of time in meetings, which is great to meet with the wonderful people in the community, but it challenges them to get other things done. They only have seven full-time staff members in their organization. They do work a lot with volunteers, and they have 15 young people who have participated in the Anytown program who will now be a part of the Anytown counselors.

As far as sustainability, NCCJ just did strategic planning at the end of last year through a grant from The Dayton Foundation and they intend to increase the diversity of their funding. They recently hired a salesperson who can go out and sell their programs. This position was added so the person can be intentionally devoted to building relationships, increasing sponsorships, networking, and connecting with people.

#### 4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

##### a. Approval of Minutes

There being no changes or corrections to the minutes from the March 27, 2024 meeting, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Trustee Jill Bucaro and seconded by Trustee Kevan Beamon. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### 5. **BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

There was no Board Chair report.

#### 6. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley presented her report as noted below.

##### a. Late Agenda Items

Executive Director Jones-Kelley introduced Director & CFO Chrissy Sanders to present the funding recommendations listed on the table below. These resolutions just came through over the past several days.

Director Sanders presented Resolution 24-054 as noted on the contract worksheet below. Trustee Jill Bucaro asked why all of these came in at the last minute. Director Sanders responded that the state and ADAMHS were working to come together on these amounts because of the service rates, so there was some negotiation. The MOU ends May 31 but the services have been provided since January 1. We will be sending through more treatment contracts after we receive the next state allocations. This Resolution is for RI International for the Crisis Call Center, Mobile Response Team, and Crisis Stabilization Center. The Crisis Center is located at St. Elizabeth Place and individuals who are dropped off or come into the center typically stay less than the allowed 23 hours. Executive Director Jones-Kelley introduced guest Janel Lieber of RI International to speak to the number of calls handled by the Call Center. Ms. Lieber stated that they are currently receiving 1200-1500 calls per month and have received up to 1800 calls per month in the last year. The Call Center is different from the 988 number. Trustee McCarley asked what the initial projection was for the number of calls. Ms. Lieber stated that she came in the second year and was not a part of the set up but

noted that they have been getting up to 1500 calls per month over the last year. The 988 provider was not able to handle the number of calls they were receiving from Montgomery County. With their assistance, a process was put into place for those calls to be re-routed, as CrisisNow had capacity through their call center. Trustee Wainscott asked if they could bill insurance. Ms. Lieber responded that they could for the mobile crisis services but not for the receiving center. Executive Director Jones-Kelley noted that the receiving center was a work in progress at the state level because there is not yet a Medicaid code for that service.

There being no additional questions or comments, Trustee Jeffrey Startzman moved and Trustee Kathy Emrick seconded the motion to approve consent agenda item Resolution #24-054 and to also authorize the Executive Director to sign all documents necessary to execute this process. The motion carried unanimously with no abstention.

**TREATMENT & SUPPORT SERVICES**

**Staff recommends to the Board of Montgomery County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services to fund and contract with the following provider not to exceed the amounts identified in the table below for the period of January 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024 for the provision of services. Further the Executive Director or board designee is authorized to sign any document necessary to execute this process.**

<b>Resolution #</b>	<b>Agency &amp; Brief Service Description</b>	<b>CY2024</b>	<b>Source of Funding</b>	<b>Notes</b>
24-054	RI International - Crisis Call Center (\$572,619), Mobile Response Team (\$174,692) and Crisis Stabilization Center (\$763,534)	\$1,510,845	Levy/OhioMHAS	\$510,815 OhioMHAS and \$1,000,030 Levy funded

Director Sanders presented Resolution #23-081 (Amended) as noted on the contract worksheet below. There being no questions or comments, Trustee Jill Bucaro moved and Trustee Greg West seconded the motion to approve consent agenda item Resolution #23-081 (Amended) and to also authorize the Executive Director to sign all documents necessary to execute this process. The motion carried unanimously with no abstention.

**Staff recommends to the Board of Montgomery County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services to fund and contract with the following provider not to exceed the amounts identified in the table below for the period of January 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024 for the provision of services. Further the Executive Director or board designee is authorized to sign any document necessary to execute this process.**

<b>Resolution #</b>	<b>Agency &amp; Brief Service Description</b>	<b>CY2024</b>	<b>Source of Funding</b>	<b>Notes</b>
23-081 Amended	NOVA AoD Adult Residential Treatment, Withdrawal Mgmt., Morningstar	\$1,130,989	Levy	Increase contract by \$306,040 for the mental health room and board cost of treating dual diagnosis patients not covered by Medicaid.

Director Sanders presented Resolution #23-083 (Amended) as noted on the contract worksheet below. There being no questions or comments, Trustee Jeffrey Startzman moved and Trustee S. Tyler Wright seconded the motion to approve consent agenda item Resolution #23-083 (Amended) and to also authorize the Executive Director to sign all documents necessary to execute this process. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

**Staff recommends to the Board of Montgomery County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services to fund and contract with the following providers not to exceed the amounts identified in the table below for the period of January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024 for the provision of services. Further the Executive Director or board designee is authorized to sign any document necessary to execute this process.**

Resolution #	Agency & Brief Service Description	CY2024	Source of Funding	Notes
23-083 Amended	Medicaid Type Services	\$3,595,468	Levy	Decrease of \$1,404,532 to original allocation

Director Kimberly Priester presented Resolution #24-055 as noted on the contract worksheet below. Director Priester advised that we were just notified of additional money ADAMHS is receiving for housing for a landlord incentive program. There are requirements for this program, including that there must be criminal justice involvement and mental health or substance abuse issues. It is also only for landlords who are not currently working with our housing providers. Trustee Kathy Emrick asked if there was a certain number of landlords in mind when coming up with the dollar amount. Director Priester responded that we did not come up with the dollar amount, but that is what was allotted to us from a pot of money. However, we are confident that we are going to be able to service those who are most in need. We are also going to be having landlord mitigation coming soon and we are going to be able to roll them together. Mitigation will be similar to providing insurance in case the individual breaks something or leaves. Executive Director Jones-Kelley stated that this program is coming from the AG's office and Commissioner Ricer sits on that task force, so they are trying this program out. If it is successful, it is the hope that it will grow. Director Priester is working with OhioMHAS and HSPD to roll this program out and you should start seeing publicity around this soon. They will also be working with the landlord committee groups. Trustee Sherry Gale is on the Board of Great Dayton Premier Management and would like to be included in these conversations. Director Priester will reach out to coordinate a meeting to further discuss the program with GDPM.

There being no additional questions or comments, Trustee David White moved and Trustee Greg West seconded the motion to approve consent agenda item Resolution #24-055 and to also authorize the Executive Director to sign all documents necessary to execute this process. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Staff recommends to the Montgomery County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board to accept OhioMHAS Pass Through Funding not to exceed the amounts identified in the table below for the period of April 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 for the provision of services. Further the Executive Director or Board designee is authorized to sign any document necessary to execute this process.

Resolution #	Agency & Brief Service Description	SFY2024-SFY2025	Source of Funding	Notes
24-055	Landlord Incentive Program	\$37,000	OHIO MHAS	To increase number of landlords willing to rent to individuals with a criminal record, those who experience mental illness and/or substance use disorders, or those who are being discharged from a psychiatric hospital. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure permanent housing for individuals with a criminal record, those who experience mental illness and/or substance use disorders, or those who are being discharged from a psychiatric hospital</li> </ul>

Director Kimberly Priester presented Resolution #24-056 as noted on the contract worksheet below. Director Priester advised that they were unable provide money for The Change Agency until their recertification was put in place, so the beginning date is April 1. Trustee Jill Bucaro asked if there were any concerns surrounding their loss of certification. Director Priester responded that they had a lapse in coverage and nothing happened to remove that certification.

There being no additional questions or comments, Trustee Kevan Beamon moved and Trustee Margaret Patterson seconded the motion to approve consent agenda item Resolution #24-056 and to also authorize the Executive Director to sign all documents necessary to execute this process. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Staff recommends to the Montgomery County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board to fund and contract with the following provider not to exceed the amounts identified in the table below for the period of April 1, 2024 to September 29, 2024 for the provision of services. Further the Executive Director or Board designee is authorized to sign any document necessary to execute this process.

Resolution #	Agency & Brief Service Description	SFY2024	Source of Funding	Notes
24-056	The Change Agency	\$68,250	OHIOMHAS	SOS 3.2 funding for Recovery homes

Director Kimberly Priester presented Resolution #24-057 as noted on the contract worksheet below. We were notified right before the Board meeting by OhioMHAS that there was additional money for the recovery housing program. We anticipate using all of the funds by 2025 considering the need in our community, but there is a potential to carry over funding into 2027 if we do not use it all.

There being no questions or comments, Trustee David White moved and Trustee S. Tyler Wright seconded the motion to approve consent agenda item Resolution #24-057 and to also authorize the Executive Director to sign all documents necessary to execute this process. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Staff recommends to the Montgomery County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board to accept OhioMHAS Pass Through Funding not to exceed the amounts identified in the table below for the period of April 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025 for the provision of services. Further the Executive Director or Board designee is authorized to sign any document necessary to execute this process.

Resolution #	Agency & Brief Service Description	SFY24-SFY25	Source of Funding	Notes
24-057	Recovery Housing Program	\$80,000	OHIOMHAS	The Recovery Housing Program (RHP) provides funding for states and the District of Columbia to provide stable, transitional housing for individuals in recovery from a substance use disorder. The funding covers a period of not more than two years or until the individual secures permanent housing, whichever is earlier.

b. Financial Report

Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley introduced Director & CFO Christina Sanders to present the financial report.

Director Sanders reviewed the Levy Revenue and Expenditure Summary for the period ending March 31, 2024. In a sneak peek, we expect to receive carry-over dollars just shy of \$1.8 million. We will bring that at a later date so you can approve the receipt of those funds and distribution to our providers. Our revenues so far this year are \$9,938,952. For expenditures, all of our lines are on target except for Travel & Training and Maintenance & Repair, which are running a little high at 38.7% and 33.1%. Cash reserves are at \$9,577,391, which is 37%. The cash reserve target is 9%.

Trustee Jeffrey Startzman asked why the Maintenance & Repairs line item was so high this year. Director Sanders advised that she would look into what is making up that cost and she will report back to the Trustees.

c. Updates

Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley introduced Director Tina Rezash Rogal to report on the Communications & Strategic Initiatives handouts. Director Rogal reviewed the What's Trending dashboard which shows the death by suicide rate and accidental overdose death rate and how we are tracking comparative to the state. The death by suicide number is rising. In 2021 there were 77 in Montgomery County. In 2022 it went to 92, and in 2023 there were 93. We are tracking to be on pace with that number in 2024. These numbers are concerning. Director Rogal spoke with Susan Herzfeld at Public Health to talk about these numbers and what could be playing into them.

The good news is that overdose deaths are down almost 43%. We are looking at 45417 as it continues to be one of the most troubling areas and is our number one zip code for accidental overdose deaths. Director Rogal also spoke with Susan at Public Health about the overdose death rates, and Susan did caution that it is one of our largest areas so that may be adding to that number. We are particularly watching the overdose death rates for black men. That number is rising and it is higher than it should be within the population. We will be targeting our efforts at prevention to make sure these men are being cared for.

Trustee Jay Wainscott asked about the trend for overdose deaths. Director Rogal will do additional year-by-year analysis and report back. Trustee Jill Bucaro advised that she also spoke with Susan Herzfeld of Public Health and noted that they were seeing an increase in both accidental overdose and suicide among black men. Director Tristyn Bell noted that it is black male youth that has seen the sharpest increase in suicide. The chart is broken down by race but not by gender. Prevention has been doing increased targeting for that group. Director Rogal is pulling the information for this report from the data warehouse so she can go back and pull even more specific information to further this discussion.

Director Rogal reviewed the media report showing the Top 10 stories by impressions. We are grateful for our partnerships with the media. We want to be the main resource for the community and this report shows that we are. There were 60 stories in April, and you can see what people are talking to us about. For example, a part of the Top 10 stories last month included suicide rates climbing for black youth as we earlier discussed, Dry January, and sports



gambling. If we bought this type of coverage, it would cost us \$145k, which we could never afford.

Trustee Jay Wainscott advised those in attendance that the Veterans Administration provides a suicide prevention training called VA S.A.V.E. It is a one-hour training session, and they will come out to your site. Although it is geared toward veterans, it has application to anyone in the community so they will go anywhere. If you are interested in bringing this training to your organization, let Trustee Wainscott know and he will get you scheduled.

Trustee Jill Bucaro advised that she received an update from Brent Barrow that he was longer going to be doing the SOAR program. She asked if we are going to continue that program or whether it was a staffing change since he is only one of two qualified SOAR specialists. Director Kimberly Priester noted that he was under contract with ADAMHS to provide those services. As his contract was being reviewed, it was determined that this was something that could be performed by our providers who could then bill Medicaid for those services. It made sense to do that from a cost-saving perspective and should also expand those services to additional individuals in the community. Trustee Bucaro asked if it would then only be available to individuals who were attached to a provider. Director Priester responded that this was also written into the SOS for those who are not connected to a provider but need help, so they can still receive that assistance and there will be money in place for it. This topic is on the agenda for the next provider's meeting to discuss how it is going to be rolled out. She recognizes the concern about access to services, but the current contractor is only working 15-20 hours per week so the number of people who can be helped each month is limited. It is anticipated that making this change will help reach more people in the community.

Trustee Greg West advised the Board and those in attendance that Felons with a Future will be holding a Violence Prevention Workshop Event on Saturday, April 27 from 10am to 2pm. All are welcome to attend. You can find information on this and upcoming events on the ADMAHS social media pages. You can also contact Trustee West for additional information.

Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley made the following announcements:

- New laminated parking cards will be provided to the Trustees since the old ones had expiration dates.
- Dr. Victor McCarley was recently appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to be a representative on the Human Services Levy Council.
- The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) 2024 Mental Health and Addiction Conference is scheduled for June 3-4, 2024 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus. We have one more spot for a provider and will be letting the providers know at the next meeting. We also have a spot for a board member if anyone is interested. Information will be sent electronically.
- The state is going to be doing additional rounds before the submission to the feds for this coming year. Dr. Lisa Gordon will be at the forensic forum in May. Community partners will also be involved. They will use feedback from this to send to the Governor. Information about this event will be sent electronically along with the conference information.
- The housing rounds will be starting in May in a virtual format. They are looking at things like disparities in our recovery housing. They want to hear from the community. We will give you that date once it has been finalized.

- House Bill 68 legislation relative to gender transition is expected to go through but has been delayed. This is a frightening piece of legislation because of the fears around the interaction that health care has with youngsters. As a young person is thinking about it and wants to talk to someone about what they are thinking or feeling, the worker can face criminal liability just for having the conversation. Currently the position is do nothing and we just had a discussion about the suicide rates and will now have youth who will not be able to even talk to someone when they need or want. Trustee Jill Bucaro noted that the legislation has passed but it was appealed by the ACLU so it has been stayed. It is a ban on Medicaid but they put information in related to mental health services also. This will put an extra burden on those who work in schools and social workers who will have to disclose to parents if students are considering gender affirming care. Trustee Bucaro will pass along the guidelines for mental health providers through Director Priester. Executive Director Jones-Kelley encourages your advocacy on this piece of legislation. There is strong advocacy at the state level and with the hospitals. Trustee Victor McCarley suggested there may be a use in the Board providing a letter advocating against the legislation and will put it on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.
- There is a facilitative discussion with Dr. Michael Gillette taking place this week. Dr. Gillette is a medical ethicist who will be talking about the scarcity of resources. Registration information was provided in the Board member packets today.

Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley distributed a letter that is going to the providers from the Board. This letter provides information on what we and the providers can and cannot do. It provides guidance on the rules to make sure we stay true to our fiscal responsibilities. During COVID, one of the things we did to support the provider system was to give an advance on funding so they could provide for a sudden increased need for services and to adapt their programs to a virtual environment. For example, some of our prevention providers who were in schools were not able to be in schools during that time and had to come up with different ways of connecting with students. We allowed for temporary adaptations that have now ended, so we wanted to review our policies and provide reminders of the rules we must all follow. This letter is going to our providers via e-mail and we will be discussing it at the next provider's meeting. We are bringing this today to make you aware of the letter since it is coming from the Board and you may be asked questions.

**7. BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

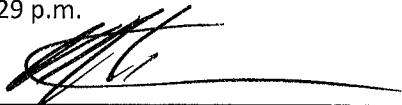
There were no Board member comments.

**8. GUEST COMMENTS**

There were no guest comments.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Trustee Jill Bucaro moved, and Trustee S. Tyler Wright seconded the motion, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.



Dr. Victor McCarley, Board Vice Chair

Prepared by Bonnie Ashley, ADAMHS