

JUNIATA VALLEY BEHAVIORAL & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Local Authorities: Boards of Commissioners of Huntingdon, Mifflin & Juniata Counties

399 Green Avenue Extended • Lewistown, PA 17044 • (717) 242-6467 • Fax: (717) 242-6471 • Website: jvbds.org



CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD

Public Meeting June 28, 2022 Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS: PRESENT

Cory Sisto
Valerie Postal
Wendy Melius
Commissioner Robert Postal
Commissioner Alice Gray
Chuck Culbertson

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Kathy Whalen, Administrator
Lisa Bollinger, Administrative Assistant

BOARD MEMBERS: ABSENT

Brenda Stayrook
Stacey Leach
Commissioner Scott Walls
Tom Weyandt
James Drayer

The meeting of the Citizens Advisory Board (C.A.B.) was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Kathy Whalen-Administrator. The meeting was properly advertised and posted as per regulations. A hybrid meeting format allowed for in person attendance in the JVBDS-Small Conference Room and virtual access via the Zoom Meeting Platform and the Zoom Meeting conference line. At this time, it was determined there was a quorum. Mrs. Whalen reminded all attendees the meeting is being recorded for public record.

2. **Public Comment** - none

3. **March 28, 2022 Minutes**

Motion to approve by Commissioner Gray; seconded by Valerie Postal. Motion adopted unanimously.

4. **Membership**

Cory Sisto accepted the interim position of Chair.

Cory Sisto will be offering suggestions for both Mifflin and Huntingdon County board membership. Additional discussion was an individual within Community Services Group-Psych Rehab and to reach out to Megan Neugebauer-CASSP Coordinator for Juniata County suggestions.

5. **Committee Reports**

Commissioner Robert Postal reported for the **Mental Health Committee** sharing the a round table discussion with the State Secretary of Drug & Alcohol and many providers sharing procedures, preventative measures and financial concerns.

Mrs. Whalen added the agency has not yet received State budget numbers for the new fiscal year and the discussion of suggested additional funding for social workers in school districts and how the funding would be distributed either through County Behavioral Health or each school district.

She added the roll out of the nationwide 988 number as a suicide call/text number is struggling and under discussions is the area code that directs to your location does not always match the physical location of a person making the call.

Chuck Culbertson reported for the **Intellectual Disabilities/Autism Committee** noting the continued concern for staff shortages among many of the providers in the area; sharing a day program in Centre County had to be closed. Mrs. Whalen added a BHARP Committee looking into recruiting and retaining DSP(s); as well as marketing strategies for the various age groups. A suggestion was made for a focus group to include Provider HR staff and the relevant CareerLinks to address the needs.

Valerie Postal reported for the **Early Intervention Committee** sharing opportunities for services are improvements of providers' availability; coaching continues to grow with another staff reaching fidelity; EITA continues to want to partner and offer outcomes training; referrals are increasing across the state; and the re-allocation of travel dollars to purchase Evaluators test kits.

6. Fiscal Update

- a. Ms. Kathy Whalen, Administrator presented the FY 22/23 Contracts, noting additional monies provided by the State (available thru 2024) would be used to fund an additional HMJ Certified Investigator through Advocacy Alliance.
- b. JVBDS completed a five-year fiscal review of contact allocations in comparison to actual expenditures to provide realistic allocations as presented. JVBDS will also continue to seek to budget for additional services and/or new programs pending the passing of the State Budget. Increases of note include YAP for additional funding to support a larger number of students enrolled in SAP and PRIDE who has increased their EI caseload.

7. Program Reports

MENTAL HEALTH:

- The 2022 current Mental Health Commitment Data presented shows CRISIS services are diverting the majority of calls.
- JVBDS continues to work with the Huntingdon Borough Police Department on the installation of the Co-Responder; however, due to an illness, the position start date has been delayed 2-3 months.

INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES/AUTISM:

- Current MAY 2022 report provided, noting less than 60 plans need rolled over.
- JVBDS expects to use all existing WAIVERS by end of June as clients are in need of funding when services exceeded their budget cap.

EARLY INTERVENTION:

- EI intakes continue to increase.

8. Old Business

None at this time.

9. New Business

None at this time.

Motion to adjourn made by Cory Sisto; seconded by Wendy Melius. Motion adopted unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting via the hybrid model: in-person at the JVBDS Large Conference Room or via the Zoom Meeting Platform on September 26, 2022 at 4:00pm