How to Become a Board Member

Fulfilling Duties Under a Recovery-Oriented System of Care
Mental Health and Recovery Services Board serving Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble and Perry Counties

Desireaux Smock – Board Member

Vickie Hare – Executive Director
Today’s Goals

- What is a Mental Health and Recovery Services Board
- Board Member Responsibilities
- What Makes a Good Board Member
- Legal and Ethical Obligations
- Process to Become a Board Member
- The Value of Client’s Input is Priceless
- The Value of being on a Board for the Client and/or Family Member
What is a Mental Health and Addiction Board?

- According to Ohio law, the Board is responsible for seeing that public mental health and alcohol/drug recovery services are available to the residents in the counties it serves.
Mission

- To facilitate a Recovery-Oriented System of Care that promotes mental health and supports the recovery of those who need treatment for mental illness and/or addiction.
Purpose

- We are dedicated to helping community residents of all ages find the right places to turn for affordable, quality mental health and alcohol/drug recovery services.
Focus on a Recovery-Oriented System of Care (ROSC)

- Focusing on clients and families.
- Ensuring timely access to care.
- Promoting healthy, safe, and drug-free communities.
- Prioritizing accountable and outcome-driven financing.
- Locally managing systems of care.
Who Does It?

- **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**
  14-member or 18-member Board made up of consumers, family members, professionals, and other community advocates.

- **STAFF:**
  Professionals hired to advise the Board on policy issues and to implement board policies under the direction of the Executive Director.
Board of Directors’ Responsibilities

✓ Approving strategic direction and policy.
✓ Ensuring policy is being implemented.
✓ Reviewing current policies periodically.
✓ Reviewing and evaluating programs/services data.
✓ Employing and appraising the Executive Director.
✓ Testing proposals: “Does this make sense to me as a representative of the community?”
✓ Communicating with peers about behavioral health needs and the Board’s important role in meeting those needs.
The Look of Success – Recovery-Oriented System of Care

- Stigma and social isolation decrease.
- Prevention, early identification, treatment, and recovery are understood, valued, and utilized.
- Services, supports, and decisions are client-centered and client-driven.
- Contracts and payments are based on outcomes, assuring that resources used are justified by the outcomes achieved.
- The system will move toward a model of long-term recovery for individuals and their families—away from a model focused on acute care.
- The Board of Directors will continue to maximize the use of public funds by improving the cost efficiency and quality of publicly-funded mental health and addiction services.
All service area residents struggling with mental illness and/or addiction will have the opportunity to recover and, as a result, our communities will be healthier and safer.

Recovery rates will increase and be sustained through improved system access, engagement, and retention in services.

_Treatment Works and People Can Recover_
What makes a good Board Member?

- Reliable
- Ask questions
- Share your opinions
- Interested/passionate
- Advocacy
Board Members’ Legal/Ethical Obligations

- It is the policy of Boards to carry out its mission in accordance with the strictest ethical guidelines and to ensure that Board members and employees conduct themselves in a manner that fosters public confidence in the integrity of the Board, its processes, and its accomplishments.
Process of Becoming a Board Member

- Complete an application
- Submit to Board Director
- The Director submits to OhioMHAS
- OhioMHAS reviews and conducts phone interview with perspective Board Member
- OhioMHAS must approve and notify
- Term expectation/limits
The Value of Consumer & Family Member Representation (Priceless!)

- Experience Counts!
- You become an unofficial “liaison”
- A fresh perspective
- We challenge the “norm”
The Value of Being on a Board for the Consumer/Family Member

- Helps to build Confidence
- Helps provide new ways to advocate
- Helps to network within the community
Questions