

TO: Members of the MH/EI/ID Advisory Board
FROM: Brandon Savochka, Human Services Director
RE: Thursday, September 21, 2023 Board Meeting
LOCATION: Carmine A. Scotece Conference Room #132, 1st Floor
Butler Co. Government Center Annex and via Zoom
TIME: 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order/Welcome
- II. Public Comment for Agenda Items
- III. ✓ Approval of Minutes
- IV. Mental Health Report
- V. Early Intervention Report
- VI. Intellectual Disabilities Report
- VII. Fiscal Report
- VIII. New Business
A. MH/EI/ID Administrator Report
- IX. Board Members Concerns/Comments/Announcements
✓ A. 2024 Meeting Dates
B. Board Reappointment
- X. Public Comment for General Items
- XI. ✓ Adjournment

The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

✓ Indicates voting item

**Mental Health/Early Intervention/Intellectual Disabilities Program
Board Minutes
July 20, 2023
Butler County Human Services Conference Room and via Zoom**

Board Members in Attendance:

Mr. Peter Szura	Ms. Shirley Warburton
Mr. Shawn Pugh	Cathryn Heakins
Dr. Kathy Selvaggi	

MH/EI/ID Administrative Office:

Mr. Brandon Savochka	Ms. Grace Abbruzzese
Ms. Tara Hamilton	Ms. Laura Albright
Ms. Sarah Wearing	Ms. Danielle Hoffer
Mr. Bill Kepple	

Visitors:

Faith Keenan, Center for Community Resources
Bette Peoples, Grapevine Center

Call to Order

Mr. Szura called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. Introductions were made.

Public Comment for Agenda Items

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Szura asked the Board for approval of the minutes from the May meeting. Mr. Pugh made a motion to approve, Ms. Warburton seconded.

In favor:	5
Opposed:	0
Abstentions	0

Fiscal Report

The Fiscal Report was moved to earlier in the meeting. Mr. Kepple reviewed the fiscal report which was through June 30, 2023.

Mental Health Report

Ms. Hamilton gave the Mental Health Report in Ms. Rettig's absence. She gave an update on the two grants that we applied for to enhance the Crisis program in Butler County. We were approved for both grants. We have received the funding for the expansion of team mobiles. We will use the funding from these grants to recruit staff, for technology needed to meet new regulations, and to create visual mapping to analyze trends and patterns to see the impact on community partners such and law enforcement personnel.

The next Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) will be in October. As of June, 48% of officers within Butler County have graduated from our CIT trainings.

Ms. Hamilton reported we are currently collaborating with the Southwest Six Counties and Carelon to develop a short-term adolescent treatment as part of a residential treatment facility. The intention is to stabilize the youth and assist with a successful transition between levels of care. The desired goal is to return the youth to their home community as quickly as possible, diverting the need for inpatient hospitalization and long-term residential care.

Ms. Hamilton reported that we are monitoring the Public Health Emergency and the impact on individuals. Our office receives a list each month of every person who has an active behavioral health claim or authorization in the Carelon system. We have been notifying providers of the individuals who need to complete the reenrollment process. We are also sending letters to individuals to remind them to complete the paperwork.

Ms. Hamilton gave an overview of events including the Grapevine overnight camping trip, Recovery Fest, and Speaker Jam. Ms. Hamilton announced the Suicide Coalition will have the Remembrance Rally on Wednesday, September 6 and she provided flyers for this event. Ms. Hamilton handed out ‘Mental Health Matters’ bookmarks that were created by the Suicide Coalition.

Early Intervention Report

Ms. Wearing reported the Early Intervention numbers for May, and June:
The total number of children enrolled in Early Intervention in May was 509. The total number of children in tracking was 41. The total number of children with an active plan was 468.

The total number of children enrolled in Early Intervention in June was 519. The total number of children in tracking was 43. The total number of children active with a plan was 476.

The total number of referrals for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 was 636. In FY 2018/2019 there were 593 referrals. In FY 2019/2020 there were 505 referrals. Fiscal Year 2020/2021 had 544 referrals. And in FY 2021/2022 there were 662 referrals.

Intellectual Disabilities Report

Ms. Wearing gave an overview of our annual summer picnic that was held in June and she shared an article from the Butler Eagle with the board members. Approximately 200 people attended the picnic which was held at the SUCCOP Conservatory. First Responders and emergency vehicles were at this event including fire, ambulance, the SWAT vehicle, the Sheriff’s deputy canine officer, and the state police. Carelon and the Health Care Quality Unit were there as well.

Ms. Wearing reported the Fall newsletter; The Vision, will come out in August. Upcoming events and activities include; the parent support group meeting which will begin again in September, and the self-advocacy group will start this fall. Events will now be held at the YWCA event room.

Ms. Wearing reported our fiscal year renewals were completed in June. We are in the process of hiring another staff member. Ms. Wearing reported that she attended the IM4Q (Independent Monitoring for Quality) conference in Harrisburg.

New Business

MH/EI/ID Administrator Report

Mr. Savochka reported there is a 20 million dollar increase currently in the state budget. Based on population we would most likely receive \$300,000 of that increase. This increase is agreed upon by both sides of the House, but the budget is currently at an impasse.

Mr. Savochka announced there will be a community listening session at Grace Community Wellness Center on August 1st and August 15th from 5 to 8 p.m. The focus of these sessions is to discuss substance use disorder recovery efforts in Butler County.

Mr. Savochka gave an overview of the Family Connections program at the YWCA. From April 1st through June 30th 12 households have been helped by this program. Eighty-nine percent of the people helped were homeless for the first time. The average length of stay has been 26 days and 95% of the families have been placed into permanent housing.

Presentation

Dr. Kathy Selvaggi of Independence Health System-Butler Memorial Hospital gave a presentation on their Food Institute.

Board Members' Concerns/Comments/Announcements

Officer Election

Ms. Heakins nominated the following board members to serve as officers:

Pete Szura to serve as Board Chairperson
Shirley Warburton to serve as Board Vice-Chairperson
Susan Stover to serve as Board Secretary

Mr. Szura asked if there were any other nominations. There were none.

Mr. Szura asked for approval of the slate of officers as presented. Ms. Heakins made a motion to approve, Mr. Pugh seconded.

In favor:	5
Opposed:	0
Abstentions	0

By-Laws

Mr. Savochka recommended the following change to Section 6.02 of the Butler County Mental Health/Early Intervention/Intellectual Disabilities Services Board By-Laws:

Section 6.02

Members shall be appointed for a period of three (3) years.

~~A member shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive three-year terms. A member serving two (2) consecutive three-year terms shall not again be eligible to serve on the Board until a date of at least three (3) years subsequent to the last day of the prior term of appointment.~~

- (a) A member's term begins on the day of appointment, which shall be defined through written notice to each individual.

Mr. Pugh made a motion to approve the change to the By-Laws, Dr. Selvaggi seconded.

In favor:	5
Opposed:	0
Abstentions	0

Public Comment for General Items

Mr. Szura announced there is a new director at the Mental Health Association. There is also a new Compeer Coordinator.

He also announced the new kitchen at the Grapevine is completed. They also have a new truck.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

APPROVED AS TO FORMAT:

Pete Szura, Chairperson

Susan Stover, Board Secretary

SUBMITTED BY:

Grace B. Abbruzzese

cc: Mr. Richard Latsko, OMHSAS
Ms. Michele O'Toole, Western Regional Program Manager
Advisory Board Members