

TO: Members of the MH/EI/ID Advisory Board
FROM: Brandon Savochka, Human Services Director
RE: Thursday, November 17, 2022 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
- X. Public Comment for General Items
- XI. ✓ Adjournment

The next Board Meeting will be held on Friday, December 16, 2022,
at 3:00 p.m.

✓ Indicates voting item

**Mental Health/Early Intervention/Intellectual Disabilities Program
Board Minutes
September 15, 2022
Butler County Human Services Conference Room and via Zoom**

Board Members in Attendance:

Mr. Peter Szura	Ms. Shirley Warburton
Ms. Elaine Callihan	Dr. Kathy Selvaggi

MH/EI/ID Administrative Office:

Mr. Brandon Savochka	Ms. Danielle Hoffer
Ms. Marni Rettig	Ms. Grace Abbruzzese
Ms. Sarah Wearing	

Visitors:

Faith Keenan, Center for Community Resources

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 July meeting. Ms. Callihan made a motion to approve, Dr. Selvaggi seconded.

In favor:	4*
Opposed:	0
Abstentions	0

*Due to the lack of a quorum, additional votes will be obtained on all business presented at this meeting.

Mental Health Report

Ms. Rettig reported on the various suicide prevention activities that took place as part of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month including: a display in the Government Center, radio spots, articles in the Butler Eagle, and a remembrance rally that was held in Diamond Park. She announced that the documentary about Kevin Hines: “The Ripple Effect” would be shown at Butler County Community College on September 20th and Kevin Hines would be coming to the college on October 17th to present his story. Ms. Rettig also announced that the Butler County Community Support Program would have their Speaker Jam on September 28 to promote recovery.

Ms. Rettig gave an update on MST Psychiatric for youth ages 9 to 17, and on Social Determinants of Health. She reported that she and Mr. Savochka met with Butler County Schools to talk about using the Center for Community Resources Information and Referral staff in order to help meet the basic needs of students and their families.

Ms. Rettig reported that they viewed a presentation given by OMHSAS regarding ARPA-American Rescue Plan Act funds for planning grants for crisis services to meet the federal SAMHSA requirements. These funds would be time limited; they would not be sustained in our Block Grant, but we will look at ways that we can enhance our crisis program.

Ms. Rettig reported that we submitted a forensic proposal to the state to enhance residential supports.

She announced that the “Meet Little Monster” coloring book had been released and is being distributed into the community through our providers. A list of Butler County resources is included in the coloring book.

Early Intervention Report

Ms. Wearing reported that through the end of August, the total number of children within the Early Intervention program is 519. There are 43 children in tracking, 476 children with active plans, and there were 60 referrals.

Jill McDonald, along with Ashlee Hershberger from CCR, submitted an application for a workforce development grant through OCDEL. This would be used for retention incentives for current supports coordinators for Early Intervention.

At the end of August OCDEL indicated that they were giving all Early Intervention service providers a 3% rate increase. We are currently amending all of our Early Intervention provider contracts to reflect this increase.

Intellectual Disabilities Report

Ms. Wearing introduced Danielle Hoffer, our new ID Specialist II. Part of her responsibilities will be quality management, risk management, and incident management.

Ms. Wearing announced that we received eight new community living waivers which are capped at \$85,000 dollars. She reported that she completed and submitted our Quality Assessment and Improvement self-assessment at the end of August. The Office of Developmental Programs will come here to do a full review on November 1st.

Ms. Wearing provided copies and reviewed our new fall newsletter “The Vision” for the board members. She reported that Melissa Vettori, our Family Liaison Specialist through ANR, drafts this newsletter. Through her efforts we now have a parent support group up and running. Meetings are held in Butler and in Cranberry Twp. Ms. Wearing reviewed the five activities that Ms. Vettori has scheduled for the fall. She also reviewed the article on IM4Q-Independent Monitoring for Quality which is run through the Mental Health Association. She also reviewed the “IM4Q Butler AE Summary 2021” handout.

Fiscal Report

Mr. Savochka reviewed the fiscal report which was through June 30, 2022.

New Business

MH/EI/ID Administrator Report

Mr. Savochka announced that the combined Holiday Breakfast that was scheduled for December 1st has been rescheduled for December 16, 2022.

Mr. Savochka reported that the Medical Assistance re-enrollment decreases, projected from 10% to 25%, will have a significant impact on our funding. Individuals that fall off of the Medical Assistance roles most likely will have to be supported through base funding. We continue to reach out to providers to remind people re-enroll.

Mr. Savochka announced that the majority of our providers will be getting increases of 6.5%. These increases will be backdated to July 1st.

Mr. Savochka gave an overview of the SAMSHA requirements for crisis services, and the monies needed for Butler County to meet these requirements. We are further ahead than other counties our size and we will be able to meet these requirements but we will need significant assistance from State and Federal funding.

Mr. Savochka gave an update on housing our homeless population. We have been using the Super 8 for emergency shelter. Currently we are working on six apartments for short-term shelter for families. The six apartments should be ready between October 1st and the 15th. We will continue use the Super 8 for individuals.

Board Members' Concerns/Comments/Announcements

2023 meeting dates

Mr. Szura asked for a motion to approve the 2023 meeting dates as presented. Ms. Callihan made a motion to approve, Ms. Warburton seconded.

In favor:	4*
Opposed:	0

Public Comment for General Items

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:58 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