



**Cuyahoga County Diversion Center Board Meeting**  
**4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Thursday, November 4, 2021**  
**Administrative Headquarters**  
**Conference Room 5-006**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Dr. Akram Boutros (**AB**), Chair for the Cuyahoga County Diversion Center (CCDC) Board, called the meeting to order.

**2. ROLL CALL**

- A. Director of Public Safety and Justice Services Brandy Carney (**BC**) went through roll call for all board members. In addition to **AB** and **BC**, the following board members were also in attendance: William Mason (**WM**) – Chief of Staff for Cuyahoga County, Donna Weinberger (**DW**) – Criminal Justice Project Coordinator for Greater Cleveland Congregations, Joan Englund (**JE**) – Executive Director for Mental Health & Addiction Advocacy Coalition, Chris Julian (**CJ**) – Mental Health Unit Lead for Cuyahoga County Public Defender's Office, Dr. Ted Parran (**TP**) – Case Western University School of Medicine.
- B. The following board members were not in attendance: Crystal Bryant (**CB**) – Executive Director for Cleveland's Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Chief Calvin Williams (**CW**) – Chief of Police for the Cleveland Division of Police.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- A. The following individuals addressed the CCDC Board:
- a. Sam Horne (**SH**) – Cleveland resident and Cuyahoga County Jail Coalition member – addressed the Board regarding admission eligibility expansion and future CCDC site location.
  - b. Rosie Palfy (**RP**) – Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC) member – addressed the Board regarding public information about CCDC updates and community engagement opportunities.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (CCDC Board Meeting – 9/9/21) & NEW PERSONNEL

- A. A motion was made by **BC** to approve the minutes with one change, and seconded by **WM**. All board members in attendance voted to approve.
- B. **BC** introduced Tyler Sinclair (**TS**) as the new communications staff support position for the CCDC Board. **TS** provided brief introduction of background and experience.

#### 5. CUYAHOGA COUNTY DIVERSION CENTER CURRENT ADMISSIONS / USAGE OVERVIEW

- A. **BC** stated that CCDC Contract Monitor Dr. Lanelle Perry (**LP**) will provide a synopsis of the metrics documents per Board's request from last meeting.
- B. Scott Osiecki (**SO**) – Chief Executive Officer for the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County – provided an overview of the long form metrics document dating through September 30th. Discussion ensued throughout **SO's** presentation that highlighted trends, patterns, and areas for improvement regarding CCDC operations.
  - a. **BC** mentioned that Cleveland Police's policy has since been updated to remove the Marsy's Law requirement. **DW** said during a mayoral debate GCC held last month that both candidates stated they would remove the City's roadblocks to maximize use of the CCDC.
  - b. **AB** suggested that the Board should consider sending Mayor-Elect Bibb a letter formally asking him to consider changing the city's CCDC policy when he takes office.

#### 6. METRICS DETAILED REVIEW / DISCUSSION

- A. **LP** provided brief introduction of background and relevant criminal justice experience. **LP** presented responsibilities to ensure all terms required by the County are being met by ADAMHS (e.g. progress, delays, improvements, overall performance, etc.). Further discussion ensued.
  - a. **DW** inquired about the homeless demographic and asked if ways exist to upstream services to these clients in shelters and if a breakdown of data can be obtained. **WM** suggested **CJ** to look into since the Public Defender's Office does a good job at tracking their homeless clients. Further discussion ensued.
  - b. **AB** suggested refining long form of metrics document to a shorter version for the CCDC Diversion Board. **BC** agreed and instructed Board members to email **TS** any/all suggested revisions.

## 7. OLD / NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

### A. Expanding Admissions requirements to the Diversion Center (Ad-Hoc Group)

- a. **BC** mentioned that the Ad-Hoc Admissions Group met and admission criteria was expanded on November 1st. **BC** stated this now includes public safety officials taking individuals who did not first commit a crime, family/friend referrals, self-referrals, and community agencies like Downtown Cleveland Alliance.
- b. Discussion ensued regarding PSAs and other outreach methods for increasing community awareness of the CCDC.

### B. Community Involvement Discussion (JE)

- a. **JE** stated several people are already involved in committees where the CCDC is brought up and discussed, including MHRAC.
- b. **JE** proposed other ideas including information-sharing with other local counties that are moving efforts forward for diversion centers of their own, bringing folks in from the state-level, and/or inviting members from a national organization like NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) to talk.
- c. **JE** suggested the Board consider livestreaming and archiving the recorded meeting on the County's YouTube page. **BC** stated we will look into that moving forward.
- d. **AB** suggested to create a community advisory committee as a way for members of the public to have discussion about CCDC issues and offer input to the Board. **AB** advised **SO** for ADAMHS to figure out a way to move this forward, and said it could be put on the CCDC Board agenda for future meetings.

### C. Any Further Comments?

- a. **AB** asked Oriana to get the exact average or median age of CCDC clients for next meeting (as opposed to the age range that is currently in the metrics)

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Meeting adjourned by **AB**