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**\*\*\* MEETING MINUTES \*\*\***

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*Minutes of the October 15, 2009, Board Meeting*

*Attendance:*

*Leon E. Ashford, Ph.D.*  
*Mary Calzaretta*  
*Robert Franken*  
*Ruby Jones*  
*Philip Minden*  
*Brooke Sehy*

*Don Cuvo, Executive Director*

*The meeting was chaired by Vice-Chair Brooke Sehy.*

**Community Comments** – David Kessel, Employment Connection, updated Trustees on the Back to Work, Back to Health program which prepares individuals with behavioral health limitations to maintain competitive employment. He said that individuals in the program have a good job retention rate. A program participant, who was homeless and living an unhealthy life, spoke about his experiences in the program and how his life has improved as a result.

Amy Bahn, Discovering Options, reviewed their work in the PREP program, a substance abuse prevention program. PREP has been recognized by the federal government as a model program resulting, in part, from its rigorous evaluation. She invited Trustees to a Stakeholders' Appreciation Event where they will demonstrate the PREP approach.

Jo Curran, Voices for Children, updated trustees on the progress children in their program have made.

Julia Ostropolsky, Bi-Lingual International Assistance Services (BIAS), said that they provide services to homebound elderly, including, counseling and assistance with naturalization. She said that the service is especially needed in the City.

**Announcements** – Sue Huelsing, MHB Administrative Assistant for Business and Technology,

said that she and Don Cuvo attended a Showcase demonstrating the projects completed by the Non Public School Mini Grants. The Mini Grants, co-funded by MHB, Incarnate Word and Lutheran Foundations, provided \$500.00 grants for children in 16 parochial schools to plan and implement community service projects.

Jan Ashbrook, MHB Project Director, reviewed the results of the *Better Together* Networking Event. There were 161 participants.

**Minutes** – Minutes of the September meeting were approved as mailed.

**Employee Conflict of Interest Policy** – Don Cuvo said that while MHB has a strong Conflict of Interest Policy for Trustees, a similar policy is needed for employees. A draft policy was reviewed which defined both actual Conflict of Interest and Appearance of Conflict of Interest, and, also, requires a procedure for Disclosure. A motion was moved and seconded to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy. An amendment was moved and seconded to amend the motion to include a provision in the policy for Board notification of employee conflict or appearance of conflict and its resolution to change the language to clarify that consequences available to the Executive Director include “up to and including immediate dismissal”. Some trustees felt that the policy, as written, was sufficient; others supported the amendment. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that Board Counsel would draft some alternate language. A motion was made, seconded and approved to table the motion until the next meeting.

**Orientation and Preparation for Mental Health Fund** – Deputy Director Meg Monti used a PowerPoint presentation to bring everyone on board with the process leading to the two-step application process for the new round of grants funded by the Mental Health Fund. She reviewed the community input process, which will include “Listening Sessions” composed of separate groups of advocates/educators, government/policy makers and funders. She said that over 50 mental health consumers had participated in a similar process two years ago. She said that, in addition to Listening Sessions, epidemiological data will be reviewed as well as interviews with Regional Health Commission, DMH and Missouri Foundation for Health. That data will be distilled into a report for the next meeting with recommended goals or funding priorities.

Carter Whitson, MHB Project Director, introduced representatives of three agencies who highlighted their work implementing the following Goals: Treatment and Support for Co-Occurring Disorders, Engaging Young People under 25 in Treatment and Follow Up and Managing Conditions and Avoiding Crisis.