



Saint Louis Mental Health Board

INVESTING IN PROGRAMS THAT WORK

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*** MEETING MINUTES ***

Minutes of the October 15, 2015, Board Meeting

Attendance:

*Mary Calzaretta
Terrell Carter
Steve Doss
Carolyn Jackson
David Laslo
Nina North Murphy
Carla Rose
Dr. Roy Wilson*

Others Attending:

*William Kuehling, Thompson Coburn
Carl Toler, Anders CPA's + Advisors*

Jama Dodson, Executive Director

Call to Order – The Meeting of the Saint Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:50 p.m. by Chair Nina North Murphy.

Community Comments – Ilene Bloom-Ellis, Director of Clinical Services at Safe Connections, addressed the Board. She thanked the Board for funding two mental health programs and cited the positive effects the funding is having on survivors of domestic violence. She also praised the great working relationship Safe Connections has with MHB Sr. Project Director, Jennifer Rogers, and expressed gratitude for the flexibility MHB has shown over the years.

Approval of September 2015 Board Minutes – The motion was made by Dr. Roy Wilson and seconded by Carla Rose to approve the September 17, 2015 Minutes of the last Trustees meeting as distributed. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution to Approve the Revised FY16 Budget – As a result of the recent notification that MHB will receive two federal grants that were not included in the FY16 budget approved in June, it is necessary to revise the annual agency budget to reflect

these changes. After some discussion, a motion to approve the revised FY16 budget was made by Steve Doss and seconded by Carolyn Jackson. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution to Approve Continuation/New Funding and Sub-Awardee Projects

Funded by Federal Grants – Now that federal grants have been awarded for the coming federal fiscal 2016, Trustees must vote whether to accept the grants and to approve any sub-awardees that are associated with each. After some discussion, a motion to approve the federal grants with associated sub-awardees was made by Steve Doss and seconded by David Laslo. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution to Approve Funds for Permanent Supported Housing Development to Gateway Housing First, Inc. (GHF)

– With the recommendation of the MHB Housing Committee, a resolution was presented to provide a 10 year forgivable loan to Gateway Housing First to complete development of a 12-unit permanent supportive housing project in the Dutchtown neighborhood. After some discussion, a motion to approve the resolution was made by Carolyn Jackson and seconded by Dr. Roy Wilson. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Report – Jama Dodson presented the Executive Director’s report for the period September 18 – October 15, 2015. A written report was distributed as usual. Among other items, the report included the following highlights:

- A group of six Trustees and Staff will be attending the Places for People annual event on October 24, 2015 at which MHB is being presented with an award.
- October 21 from 2-4 PM, MHB will hold the Public Meeting at UMSL at Grand Center to announce the 2016-18 Community Mental Health Fund Grant Cycle. The Adult Behavioral Health Needs Assessment will be presented during the meeting. Over 100 people have indicated their plans to attend. Trustees are also encouraged to attend.
- Preparations continue for an intensive two-day workshop developed specifically for leadership staff of more than 10 St. Louis Foundations and Corporate Giving Offices by the Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE). ABFE is facilitating this in-depth training which will equip funders with the tools and the know-how to apply a racial equity lens to the work of grant making.

Racial Equity Learning Exchange (RELE) Discussion – Jama began by distributing a handout on which was summarized a number of well-known national foundations’ initiatives to improve racial equity in their work. She requested each Trustee who

attended the full day Racial Equity Learning Exchange (RELE) session on September 19 to share their insights or learnings from the day. Several Trustees responded. Next, Jama invited the entire Board to enter into a discussion guided by a number of focus questions that were similar to those that were used in the RELE session. Trustees were engaged and the discussion was frank and lively. Jama closed by urging Trustees to attend the luncheon on the second day of the workshop led by the Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE) at which they would learn more about applying the equity lens to grant making. She suggested that this would be a great way to follow up on the steps MHB has taken so far.

Adjourn – There being no further business, Mary Calzaretta made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Carla Rose. The motion passed and the meeting of the Saint Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees adjourned at 7:05 p.m. The next meeting of the Trustees will be held on **November 19, 2015**.