



**Advantage Behavioral Health Systems
Community Service Board Meeting
Training Room, Pavilion
Tuesday, March 26, 2024**

Board members Present:

David Kidd (Oglethorpe), David Sweat (Clarke), Laura Evans (Elbert), Jesse Houle (Clarke), Reginald Hunter (Madison), Amber Simms (Greene), Kelly Mendiola (Oconee)

Board members attending virtually:

Frankie Hill (Barrow), Patti Knick (Jackson)

Board Member Absent:

Penny Shirley (Walton), John Pilgrim (Walton), Kevin Poe (Jackson), Fru Hayes (Morgan),

Advantage Staff, Guests, and Public Present:

Tammy Conlin, Shannon Kelly, Evan Mills(virtually), Mo Creech, Laura Alexander, Anthony Long, and Tammy Dalton

Public:

N/A

Call to Order

Chairman David Kidd called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Opening:

David Kidd welcomed all Board members, Advantage staff.

David Kidd welcomed the new board member representing Oconee County, Kelly Mendiola. He read the oath and swore her in as an active member of the Advantage Community Service Board of Directors.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

Chairman Kidd asked the Board to review the agenda for the March 26, 2024, meeting. The agenda was amended to reflect the swearing-in of Kelly Mendiola as a new board member. Jesse Houle made a motion to accept the amended agenda, Reginald Hunter seconded the motion. All who were present approved unanimously.

Chairman Kidd asked the Board to review the minutes from the January 23, 2024, meeting. Jesse Houle made a motion to accept the minutes, David Sweat seconded the motion. All who were present approved unanimously.

Agency Reports:

Chief Executive Officer Report: Tammy Conlin presented the report. Tammy welcomed our new CFO, Trey Allgood.

Finance:

- Please welcome Trey Allgood, Chief Financial Officer. Trey joined Advantage in February. He has a Master's in accounting and has extensive Hospital accounting experience.
- Robert Hardell has approved our credit line renewal of \$1mm.
- The Earned Retention Credit (ERC) payments will be assigned to an IRS processor; however, no further information has been provided.

CCBHC Update:

- The CCBHC Certification site visit by DBHDD was completed.
- The National Association of Dually diagnosed (NAAD) certified site visit completed.
- The final Costing report, anticipated costs and Needs Assessment was submitted on March 1, 2024, to DBHDD. They will be reviewing and submitting to DCH actuary to review.

Department of Behavioral Health & Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD):

- The Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission (GOSAC) and Regional Advisory Council (RAC) are being established to help assess and allocate the regional funding from Georgia's Opioid Settlement. The Georgia Association of Community Service Boards (GACSB) has nominated Tammy Conlin, for the Region 2, Regional Advisory Council (RAC). The Voting Delegate Committee for Region 2 will be held Monday, March 25, at 2:00 p.m. at the Greene County Administration Building.
- The FY24 BHCC Contract Extension approved to spend the remainder of funds in contract. The increased contract increase allowed us to increase wages for Clinicians, Health Service Techs, Behavioral Intervention Specialists and Program Associates.
- The FY25 BHCC Contract is fully executed and will be drawn down after the previous contract is expended.
- We submitted a budget for the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) to Robert Dorr, CCCBHC Consultant for DBHDD. The budget exceeded the current BHCC contract. We have concerns that DBHDD will decrease the contract amount because the Temporary Observation Unit and Crisis Walk-In will be included in the Perspective Payment System (PPS) rate.
- On March 14th, the Department of Community Health Board of Directors passed the initial adoption of the Behavioral Health and I/DD Rate Increases. As a reminder, the regulatory requirements are that the DCH Board does the step passed today (Initial Adoption), then the Board moves to a Public Hearing process (these are slated between March 20-24), and then the DCH Board will vote on a Final Adoption.

FY25-FY28 Strategic Planning Session:

- Advantage contracted Kristin Woodlock, former Commissioner of Behavioral Health in New York State. Kristin facilitated the GACSB Strategic plan this year and has been a keynote speaker at the Educational Exchange.
- The Strategic Plan Session for FY25-FY28 will be held on April 26, 2024, at Synovus Bank Conference Room from 9am-4pm. Lunch will be provided.

SPLOST Update:

Proposed project completion timeline is as follows:

- Design Development Deadline March 1, 2024
- Owner Review Period March 4 through March 28
- Civil LDP Submission April 30
- Construction Document Deadline June 3
- Building Permits (local and state) June 5 to July 22
- GC Bid Phase July 22 to August 22
- GC contract negotiation August 26 to September 26

Current Project Funding

- a. \$5,218,500 SPLOST 2020 Project 28
- b. \$4,000,000 Proposed ARPA Funding
- c. \$1,200,000 Solar Funding
- d. Available for Phase I Construction: \$5,508.836 + solar funding.

- a. Phase I main Level conditioned square footage is 11,341 GSF.
- b. Phase I Lower-level conditioned square footage is 8,121 GSF.

Status of Home ARP funds was discussed with Evan Mills. He spoke with the DCA representative last week. We anticipate we will receive the funds, but it will take until June until they can get anything back from HUD. The funds have been verbally committed to us. We have another grant that is in review locally in the amount of \$1.3 million that goes to the commission for a vote on May 8th. Contract and activities do need to start within 12 months of notice of award from the state.

David Kidd stated all bills regarding loan forgiveness have passed for this year. This should help with the hiring of clinicians.

Financial Report: Trey Allgood presented report.

- Listed on the P&L sheet under Other Earnings – Incentives, shows the money the state gave Advantage the money for the \$1000 bonus (\$337,175). We did not have to pay state health benefits with this money.
- There was a loss of \$102K loss for the month.
- Under Other Local Funds, the P&L shows a large increase of \$242,853 in February which reflects the SPLOST funds. We will add a line item to the GL to show these funds.
- Under line items, PTO/fringe Used, it is much lower than most months due to most people taking leave in December/January.
- Facilities and fleet: there were multiple vehicles needing maintenance, which is reflected in February's budget compared to prior months.
- Equipment purchases less than \$5000 line item reflects the purchase of washers and dryers for the Day Center.
- We ended February with a \$11,205 profit and for the year to date a profit of \$9657.
- Our budget for February was only off by 1% from what we budgeted.
- Revenue is staying around \$4 million. Billed Services coming through MyAvatar are doing well. Due to clients' authorizations not yet being reauthorized with the Medicaid Waiver has caused some issues with revenue. Some clients were dropped and had to reenroll.
- The Contract Service Providers line items show 42.55% over budget. This is due to our Salveo contract that is bringing nursing for Temp Ops and CSU. Under line item, Client Expenses and Services, we are 21% over budget due to client rents and utilities paid through our housing programs.
- Currently we have 23 days of cash on hand.

- We added almost \$800K to cash this month. Cash flow projections will be done once Trey reviews how they have been done in the past.
- Tammy mentioned that The State Benefit Health Plan is behind again. We pay the employee portion monthly but get behind in the employer portion. The employer portion would be around \$450K per month. Hopefully, we will receive the ERC payments to catch up once the moratorium is lifted.
- We added \$800K to the ending cash at \$2,922,052.00, due to the BHCC contract being able to draw down the 10% overhead of the contract.

Approval of Financials:

Chairman David Kidd stated the Finance Committee reviewed the January/ February 2024 Financials and voted to recommend they be approved by the Board. All present approved unanimously.

Chief Clinical Officer Report: Dr. Shannon Kelly presented report.

- Shannon presented the Community Needs Assessment document.
- The documents are broken down between each county's needs and every staff position that is here with Advantage shows a justification and anticipated cost.
- She did a general overview of Advantage, what we have done to date with the federal funding we have received.
- Data points we were interested in looking at for this needs assessment for the whole catchment area. These will show how counties compare to each other.
- Included is data that shows our clients are getting better in our CCBHC programs over time.
- Priority needs by county are listed. Data was looked at by catchment area and county by county and compared it to state and federal metrics to see where we fall. Georgia ranks last for mental health care.
- Community needs were prioritized and coded issues into themes. In the county level data set, there is a matrix grid that gives you what the priorities for your county for behavioral health needs.
- Looked mostly at issues with socio-economic status, financial and housing situation and physical health markers in addition to behavioral health metrics.
- Each county level section looks at Advantage specific services and issues have within that county to meet these needs. Some counties that don't have sites show what is the impact of not having a behavioral health clinic in relation to overdose deaths or emergency department utilization.
- For counties where Advantage does have a clinic, they looked at what are the processes to bring someone in for care, what is the staffing at each location and some plans were put together to help make these processes more successful.
- The staffing plan for the agency looks at what the research suggests as to what is an adequate staffing ratio for an outpatient mental health program. Suggested are 7 providers for 1000 clients. The staffing plan shows Advantage is highly understaffed at every site.
- Shannon recognized Laura Alexander and her team for help with all the data gathered.
- Walton County is the most understaffed county.
- This document may be shared.
- The contract with Salveo has been initiated to staff our Temp Ops and CSU. Temp Ops has been open for two weeks.

Friends of Advantage Report: Tammy Dalton presented report:

- The Granite City Cares for Elbert will be held Sunday, May 5th, 2024 at McWilliams Park, 1041 Mobley Hill Rd., Elberton 30635 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- The Health Meets Hope 5K Run + Walk will be held Sunday, May 19, 2024 at Virginia Walker Park in Athens from 3:00 pm to 5:00 p.m.

Board Operations

New Business: N/A

Old Business: N/A

Announcements:

- Board meeting will be held March 26, 2024, in the Training Room at the Pavilion
- Strategic Planning meeting will be held February 27, 2024, via Zoom
-

Chairman Kidd adjourned the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

Public Comments: N/A

Date _____

Approved by: _____

David Kidd, Chairman

Submitted by Kathleen Carter