



MINUTES

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC) Division
Broward County Substance Abuse Advisory Board
January 26th, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Coberly, Stephanie
2. Frohring, Linda
3. Hurt, Kathy
4. Greene, Jeff
5. Hatfield, Matthew
6. Nelson-Wernick, Eleanor
7. Rapaglia, Ray
8. Resnick, Charles
9. Speiser, Mark, Judge

MEMBERS ABSENT

1. Checke, Christopher
2. Brewton, Greg
3. Smyth, Garry
4. Sobelman, Jonathan

ALSO PRESENT

Jack Feinberg Division Director
Keith Bostick, Deputy Director Human Services
Patricia Bailey, Recording Secretary
Salvatore Torre, Recording Secretary

Location

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC)
Via Microsoft TEAMS

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Stephanie Coberly, at 8:05 am, via TEAMS.

Quorum

It was determined a quorum was present.

Minutes

The minutes from the October 27th, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Matthew Hatfield moved to accept the minutes from the October 27th, 2021 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded Mr. Ray Rapaglia and carried unanimously by all members present.

President Coberly informed the board of the recent passing of fellow board member Ms. Jodi Cowart and requested a moment of silence. Ms. Cowart passed away in early November 2021. Ms. Coberly stated that a card would be sent to the family on behalf of the board expressing condolences. Ms. Coberly requested that the contact information be sent to all board members in case members wished to reach out on their own.



Ms. Coberly informed the board that elections for officers are held in February of even number years, which will be at the next scheduled meeting on February 23rd, 2022. Nominations for officers will be made at that meeting and voted on – for two-year terms.

Before moving to the Division Report – Mr. Keith Bostick, Deputy Director at Broward County Human Services requested to address the board.

Mr. Bostick informed the board that Broward County Human Services now has a new Director, a Ms. Tara Gaudin. Ms. Gaudin comes to Broward County from a long and distinguished career in the Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Bostick stated that meetings have taken place between Ms. Gaudin, Mr. Feinberg and himself- so that Ms. Gaudin has a full understanding of the services provided by the Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC) and of the important role of the Substance Abuse Advisory Board. Director Gaudin will hopefully attend the next meeting of the board in February.

Mr. Bostick reported on the tremendous effect that the recent COVID wave has had on staff, the delivery of services, and on staff retention. Through this challenging period, Human Services has continued to operate and keep doors open to the community.

Division Report

Director Jack Feinberg thanked Deputy Director Bostick along with Director Gaudin for their leadership, describing both as transformative and humanistic.

Mr. Feinberg reported on the horrendous impact over the last month from the omicron variant of COVID. Staffing has been an enormous challenge- with many testing positive, some hospitalized. BARC has had to adjust capacity in relation to staffing levels.

Mr. Feinberg was happy to announce that a national search for a new Nursing Director had begun this week by county HR. BARC has been without a Nursing Director for some time and looking forward to securing a strong and effective Director as a result of this search.

Mr. Feinberg announced that Broward County stands a good chance of receiving a sizeable portion of a possible settlement with major pharmaceutical companies. Municipalities within Broward County will need to agree on directing settlement dollars to the County, and at such time would be an opportunity for board members to advocate on behalf of the county and for BARC.

BARC's current position as the only public provider of needed services- means that BARC runs at or near capacity on a regular basis. The need for additional capacity – especially for Detox services, is huge. Right now, BARC detox beds are strictly for medical detox. Seeking to add 25 additional beds aimed at treatment not requiring medical detox. Treatment for



those who might not be actively using, not in danger of withdrawal, but need observation and follow-up treatment. This program will also include treatment for pregnant women and those suffering from persistent trauma.

Mr. Feinberg will update board members as the details from the settlement become available and on the exact requirements for use of the funding.

Mr. Feinberg announced the upcoming retirement of Jasmine Bascombe, BARC's Clinical Director, after a 30 year career with Broward County. Ms. Bascombe will retire on February 4th, 2022. BARC's Human Services Administrator Gerard John has been tasked to take over as the new Clinical Director.

Ms. Coberly thanked both Mr. Bostick and Mr. Feinberg for their reports and opened the floor for any questions.

Seeing no questions, Ms. Coberly announced that the next meeting of the board will be February 23rd, 2022 at 8am via Teams and asked for a motion to adjourn.

Ms. Kathy Hurt motioned to adjourn. Ms. Linda Frohring seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 am.