



MINUTES

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC) Division
Broward County Substance Abuse Advisory Board
January 31st, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Coberly, Stephanie
Hurt, Kathy
Nelson-Wernick, Eleanor
Rapaglia, Ray
Hatfield, Matthew
Sobelman, Jonathan
Speiser, Judge, Mark
Karney, Donald

MEMBERS ABSENT

Checke, Chirstopher
Resnick, Charles
Smyth, Garry

ALSO PRESENT

Bostick, Keith – Deputy Director Human Services
John, Gerard – Director Broward Addiction Recovery Division
Torre, Salvatore, Recording Secretary

Location

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC)
Rocky Rodriguez Community Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Stephanie Coberly at 7:36 am.

Quorum

It was determined a quorum was present.

Minutes

Due to lack of quorum for the scheduled meeting on September 27th, 2023, there are no draft minutes from that date for approval.

The draft minutes from the June 28th, 2023 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Matthew Hatfield moved to accept the minutes from the June 28th, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Eleanor Nelson-Wernick and carried unanimously by all members present.

Meeting

Ms. Coberly informed the board that long-serving board member Ms. Linda Frohring had submitted a letter of resignation. In the letter, Ms. Frohring stated that after many years of



service, it was now time to move in a different direction, one of family obligations and of personal health concerns.

Election of Board Officers- Ms. Coberly stated that the terms of board officers expire this year- and elections for board officers will be held at the next quarterly meeting in April. By-laws state that elections will be held in April of even years and shall be by nomination and vote. Ms. Coberly requested that board liaison Salvatore Torre canvass existing board members before the next meeting, to see if willing to stand for nomination.

Division Report

Ms. Coberly turned the floor over to BARC Director Gerard John to deliver the Division Report.

Director John reviewed the current planning for the use of opioid settlement funds. Expansion of the Detox Unit with the adding of 25 additional beds, expansion of Intensive Outpatient programs, the addition of Outpatient programs here at BARC Central, hiring of additional Behavioral Health Clinicians, and the funding of programs that will bring clinicians out into the community.

Director John discussed current plans to bring the Family Involvement Program to Intensive Outpatient Program services. Currently the program has been successfully initiated at BARC's Residential facility. This program includes Family Therapy, educating family members on substance use disorder, and hosts an interactive group session on Saturdays. This program looks to minimize disfunction in the home so that clients and family will be better equipped in the process of recovery.

BARC continues with community outreach- visiting surrounding university campuses. Recently visited University of Miami – speaking with Nursing students, discussing opioids, the use of Narcan, and on exploring a career in the field of substance use disorder.

Director John discussed the growing number of clients coming in for services that are now being Baker Acted in Triage and on the Detox Unit. Definitely a need on how society treats and deals with mental health concerns. Discussion on possible shift in treatment is needed so to better address the mental health part of the equation.

Director John discussed the following possibilities to better utilize the expertise of the advisory board members- and to receive valuable feedback for members:

1. Saturday Family Meetings- opportunity once a month to speak with families – to educate and offer encouragement.
2. Attend and speak at a BARC Supervisor's meeting.
3. Visit other BARC sites- host a board meeting at BARC Residential.



Member's Forum

Ms. Coberly asked if board members had any topics for discussion under Member's Forum.

Ray Rapaglia discussed the scholarship program, known as the Pay it Forward Program, with the James Club Foundation – that would cover the housing costs for a period of time for those seeking assistance through James Club Recovery.

Mr. Rapaglia stated his willingness to attend one of BARC's Supervisors Meetings as suggested earlier by Director John.

Ms. Kathy Hurt informed board members of the upcoming United Way of Broward County's national Addiction Solutions Summit to be held on February 28th, 2024, at the Riverside Hotel in Fort Lauderdale.

New Business

Discussion was held on holding the next quarterly meeting at BARC's Residential facility.

All in agreement to hold the next quarterly meeting on April 24th, 2024 at BARC's Residential facility in Coral Springs, the Stephen R. Booher Building, beginning at 7:30am.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Kathy Hurt, second by Ray Rapaglia , meeting adjourned 8:33am

Next quarterly meeting will be held on September 27th, 2023, beginning at 7:30am.