



MINUTES

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC) Division
Broward County Substance Abuse Advisory Board
October 27th, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Brewton, Greg
2. Checke, Christopher
3. Hurt, Kathy
4. Greene, Jeff
5. Hatfield, Matthew
6. Sobelman, Jonathan
7. Rapaglia, Ray
8. Resnick, Charles
9. Smyth, Garry
10. Speiser, Mark, Judge

MEMBERS ABSENT

1. Coberly, Stephanie
2. Cowart, Jodi
3. Frohring, Linda
4. Nelson-Wernick, Eleanor

ALSO PRESENT

Anika Hamilton, Assistant Division Director
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 Vice President Christopher Checke, in the absence of the President, Ms. Stephanie Coberly, at 8:05 am, via TEAMS.

Quorum

It was determined a quorum was present.

Minutes

The minutes from the September 28th, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Jeff Greene moved to accept the minutes from the September 28th, 2021 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Mark Speiser and carried unanimously by all members present.



Division Report

Ms. Anika Hamilton, Assistant Division Director for BARC, delivered the Division Report in the absence of Mr. Jack Feinberg, Division Director.

Ms. Hamilton gave an update on the current census, reporting that Detox is serving 22 clients, Residential serving 41 clients, and Outpatient Programs serving 162 clients. Although these numbers are much reduced from capacity, Ms. Hamilton stated that with COVID restrictions, the concerns of the Delta variant, and related issues- BARC has been able to fulfill its mission and continually serve the people of Broward County.

Ms., Hamilton reported that the completion rate for the Detox Unit is currently at 95%, Residential is at 66% and Outpatient Services at 90%. Residential is at a lower rate due to a number of clients not staying through the entire 60 days.

Ms. Hamilton reported that the Florida Department of Health is currently conducting on-site COVID vaccinations at BARC Central and at Booher Residential for both clients and staff. BARC Central has seen 18 clients and 15 staff sign up and receive their COVID vaccinations. Booher Residential has seen 66 clients and 2 staff receive their vaccination shots. Broward County recently rolled out a vaccination incentive program for employees, which should have successful results in the coming weeks.

Ms. Hamilton announced that BARC has been awarded a National Association of Counties (NACO) Achievement Award. This award was given in the Health category for BARC's innovative 23-hour Triage Hold Bay program. This program extends limited bed capacity and allows medical staff to provide care to those in most need when no beds are available on the Detox Unit. This program has successfully reduced emergency room visits, prevented potential overdose cases and has served over 550 clients over the past year.

Mr. Checke thanked Ms. Hamilton for her report and opened the floor to questions from board members.

Mr. Ray Rapaglia inquired if BARC is seeing an increase in MAT clients. Mr. Rapaglia stated that he is seeing more clients seeking MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) programs and that James Club recovery has become MAT certified. Ms. Hamilton responded that BARC's Medical Director Dr. Fahie seeks to provide education and counseling to improve client knowledge and understanding of MAT programs. Ms. Hamilton did not have data on the numbers involved with BARC's MAT program and would include those numbers at the next meeting.

Mr. Checke inquired if BARC was doing a press release highlighting the good news of the NACO Award. Ms. Hamilton affirmed that the news would be publicized.



Mr. Checke hearing no other questions from the floor, thanked Ms. Hamilton for the report.

Mr. Checke opened the floor for the Members Forum.

Mr. Gary Smyth asked if Ms. Hamilton would share her background and experience with the board. Since Ms. Hamilton is new to the position, this would give board members some awareness and knowledge. Ms. Hamilton gave a brief summary of her tenure of over 18 years with Broward County government, now working with Human Services for the last ten years and at BARC for the last three years. Ms. Hamilton stated to have grown up here in Broward County and proud of her public service career.

Mr. Checke once again thanked Ms. Hamilton and then inquired if the newest board member, Mr. Greg Brewton had a chance to fully introduce himself, since Mr. Checke had missed a few meetings and might have missed the introduction.

Mr. Brewton welcomed the opportunity to introduce himself. Mr. Brewton is a retired government employee after a successful career with the City of Fort Lauderdale. Currently Mr. Brewton has established and opened Detox Centers of America, a licensed inpatient Detox and Residential facility. Similar to Ms., Hamilton's background in the county Mr. Brewton reported that he grew up in Fort Lauderdale since he was 2 yrs. old, over 66 years ago. Educated at Michigan State University and went on to have a brief career as a professional football player with the St. Luis Cardinals. Mr. Brewton has served on various boards with the City of Fort Lauderdale - seeking to serve the citizens of Broward County and proud of his public career as a government employee.

Mr. Checke thanked Mr. Brewton for sharing his background with fellow board members.

Mr. Checke closed the Members Forum and moved on to New Business. The board historically cancels the monthly meetings in November and December due to conflicting holiday season. Mr. Checke asked for a motion to cancel the November and December meetings, Judge mark Speiser motioned, Ms. Kathy Hurt seconded, passed unanimously. The next meeting is currently scheduled for January 26th, 2022. The board will wait till January to evaluate if the meeting will return to in-person meetings held at BARC Central or to continue with a virtual meeting due to on-going health and safety concerns.

Seeing no other business, Ms. Kathy Hurt made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Jeff Green seconded, meeting was adjourned at 8:25am.