



## **MINUTES**

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC) Division  
Broward County Substance Abuse Advisory Board  
May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Brewton, Greg  
Coberly, Stephanie  
Coward, Jodi  
Checke, Christopher  
Frohring, Linda  
Greene, Jeff  
Hatfield, Matthew  
Hurt, Kathy  
Rapaglia, Ray  
Resnick, Charles  
Sobelman, Jonathan  
Speiser, Judge Mark

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Nelson-Wernick, Eleanor  
Smyth, Gary

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Jack Feinberg, Division Director  
William Card, 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 Ms. Stephanie Coberly, President, at 8:05 am, via TEAMS.

### **Quorum**

It was determined a quorum was present.

### **Minutes**

The minutes from the April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. Judge Mark Speiser moved to accept the minutes from the April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ray Rapaglia and carried unanimously by all members present.



## **Division Report**

Mr. Jack Feinberg reported that Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC) just yesterday, rolled out the Strategic Plan in two virtual presentations to BARC staff. The Strategic Plan has been a collaborated effort between BARC staff, consulting firm *Trainovations*® and Administrative staff. Having this Strategic Plan in place will offer great organizational growth for the division.

Mr. Feinberg informed the board that the Florida Department of Health (DOH) recently partnered with BARC at the Booher residential facility to vaccinate all clients who wanted to receive the COVID vaccine. Board members inquired on the percentage of clients choosing to receive the vaccination – Mr. Feinberg reported that over 70% agreed to participate in the vaccination program, which is above average for various groups in the region.

Mr. Feinberg reviewed the on-going staff challenges at BARC. Currently a very competitive labor market is making the issue more troublesome for the division. Board members inquired about the effects on the level of service, how shift coverage is currently being maintained and if BARC is utilizing temp agencies to fill in the gaps. Mr. Feinberg stated that there is no issue with utilizing temp agencies, however currently they have no candidates to send. Nevertheless, due to lower census levels and a past practice of staffing at a higher level than minimum DCF requirements- BARC has had a buffer to better deal with the labor crisis. Thanks to a dedicated staff, schedule modifications, and overtime, BARC has had the ability to continue with the high level of care to our clients.

Mr. Feinberg stated that the housekeeping duties on the Detox Unit will soon be taken over by a professional hospital level cleaning service. This change has been approved over a year ago and now with secured funding BARC will be able to move ahead with this very vital change. Currently the turn-over of client rooms is being performed by Detox staff along with the general cleaning performed by current housekeeping staff. With current labor shortages, this new service will free up much needed work time for the Detox staff to direct more attention to the therapeutic realm and not the cleaning realm. In addition, a secondary part of this contract is that it partners with OIC-South Florida, resulting in training and job skills development for people right here in our community.

Mr. Feinberg described the very exciting technology of the Real-Time Bed Management System now up and running at both BARC Central and the Booher facility. Clients receive a badge upon entering the facility. The tracking allows staff to identify if clients have entered unauthorized space, are in need of assistance, identify wait times, and most importantly shows immediate bed availability. The system interacts with cleaning staff to show when a person leaves, when the room is cleaned and sanitized and when it becomes available for a new client to be admitted to the unit.

Lastly, Mr. Feinberg announced that at the end of this legislative session, the funding for the Long-Acting Buprenorphine Program passed and now awaits the Governor's signature. This



funding item was not listed on the Florida Tax Watch's annual "Turkey List" at the end of the legislative session, so it stands a very good chance of not being vetoed as it did last year. This program and its expansion will do much to reduce overdose deaths in our community.

President Coberly opened the floor for questions on the Director's Report.

Mr. Ray Rapaglia inquired if Case Managers at BARC have the ability to recommend or make suggestions on facilities that are not Florida Association of Recovery Residences (FARR) certified facilities. Mr. Feinberg stated that such a practice would be unlawful and against Florida Administrative Code 65-30 and open up BARC to significant penalties. Jack stated that it is a constant struggle for Case Managers to find facilities with available space and would welcome Mr. Rapaglia's assistance in developing better communications with area FARR certified facilities.

Seeing no further questions, Ms. Coberly thanked Mr. Feinberg for his report and the commitment of BARC staff.

### **Members Forum**

Ms. Coberly stated that the Presidents Report has now been replaced with the Members Forum section on the agenda. This item is open to all board members to discuss concerns, bring up new topics for discussion and have an open forum amongst board members on topics of concern within the community.

Ms. Coberly inquired about the status of the courts from Judge Speiser. Judge Speiser stated that the courts, both Civil and Criminal, will be back in session beginning in June. This will also include jury trials. Judge Speiser stated that any list or additional information concerning FAR Certified facilities would be a welcome tool for the courts. Judges need more information and qualified choices, and this would be a very useful tool.

Mr. Jeff Greene acknowledged the challenges of the current hiring and job market issues. Noted that pay scales will most likely have to be raised and that the cost of labor will increase.

Ms. Coberly closed the Member's Forum seeing no further questions or concerns from board members.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further issues or discussion. Christopher Checke made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Linda Frohring and carried unanimously by all members present. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and will be conducted via Microsoft Teams.