

**SCA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 11, 2021
CONFERENCE CALL VIA LIFESIZE**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ken Ralph
Kim Long
Ken Marzinko
Brian Frey
Brian Klugh
Commissioner Craig Lehman

STAFF PRESENT:

Rick Kastner
Ashley Reese

A. Welcome and Introductions

Rick welcomed the participants.

B. Minutes

The minutes of the September 28, 2020 SCA Advisory Board meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

C. State Budget

Rick informed the Board that the State Budget was passed for December 1st through June 30th. The State legislators approved a budget with one-time only revenue sources. The revenue sources will not be available beginning July 1st, in the new fiscal year. Even though there were not cuts in December, there still might be budget cuts in July. The State of PA was in a projected five-billion-dollar deficit in the current fiscal year, but there was only a two-billion-dollar deficit, since revenue was better than expected.

D. Beth's Replacement

Rick informed the Board that Beth Bulat retired. Becky Sayeg received a promotion as the new Case Manager Supervisor. Becky has been working for the Drug and Alcohol Commission Office for 14 years. Becky's old position will stay vacant for approximately ten months, until the D&A Commission Office knows what the state budget will look like in the new fiscal year. If the state budget has cuts, then the position will stay vacant.

SCA Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2021
Page Two

E. Overdose Deaths

Rick provided an update on the overdose deaths in Lancaster County. Overdose deaths are still expected to be 140 deaths in the year 2020 however, no new information have been released. That would be an increase from 104 in 2019. An article stated that from May 1st, 2019 to May 1st, 2020 there is a record-breaking number of overdose deaths within the United States, with a total of 83,000 deaths.

F. New House Grant

Rick provided an update on the new grant for the Gate House Project. The grant will fund employees at Gate House who will focus solely on helping clients get jobs and housing. The D&A Commission Office has received the grant. The grant is for two hundred fifty thousand dollars and will be available soon. Gate House is planning on hiring case managers and use the funding to place clients into recovery houses. Gate House has two male halfway house programs in Lititz and Mountville and one woman's program in Marietta. They also own and operate eight recovery houses.

G. 2019-2020 Annual Report

Rick reviewed the handout and stated that the Annual Report is no longer required by the state. However, the Lancaster Drug and Alcohol Commissions Office likes to continue the report, to show the public how we spend the dollars. The report shows the services that were provided in the fiscal year. Rick stated that on page 4 of the Annual Report is the Organizational chart of our Office. The Executive Director is Rick Kastner, Administrative Assistant is Ashley Reese, Case Manager Supervisor is Becky Sayeg, and we also have a chief Fiscal Officer and Prevention Supervisor. Rick announced that the report also reviews the highlights of the services and programs provided in Administration, Case Management, Recovery Support, Prevention and Treatment. Rick continued that on page 8, the report states the primary substance of abuse from 2010-2020. The report also shows the Client Demographics and the Net Expenditures by Service Category. Brian Klugh asked if he could receive the percentages and number of clients on the Primary Substance of Abuse chart, on page 8. Rick stated that he will email the SCA Advisory Board the number of clients and percentages. Brian Frey asked if our case managers supervise the cases within the treatment centers. Rick stated that the Drug and Alcohol Commissions office case managers do not work one on one with clients and are more there if a client needs help getting into treatment. However, some treatment facilities have case managers that work one on

SCA Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2021
Page Three

one with clients in the facility.

H. Operation of the Office

Rick informed the Board that there was one positive covid-19 case in the office. The D&A Commission staff have been put into three different groups. For example, Ashley and her group work remotely Monday, Thursday and Fridays, and works in the office Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Each group has about three or four employees coming into the office on specific days and having staff in those groups allows staff to social distance. When the office had the one COVID-19 case, it only affected that one staff member and not the others in the group. Once staff can get the COVID-19 Vaccination available to them, staff will work in the office full time. Fiscal will work remotely from home two days out of the week and three days in the office.

I. Health Choices Update

Rick informed the Board that Health Choices Project has enough surplus to handle the four-million-dollar deficit from the previous fiscal year. Once the deficit is paid, the Health Choice Project will have enough surplus left over to create new reinvestment projects and new services.

J. Old Computers

Rick informed the Board Members that when the pandemic hit, the counties computers were not accessible to take home. The county then upgraded to laptops and Rick now has twelve four-year-old computers. Rick reached out to the nonprofit Lancaster County D&A facilities to see if anyone would like new computers. All twelve computers will be given to a nonprofit D&A facility.

K. Manos House

Rick informed the Board that he is working with the Manos House, an adolescent male rehab program, to see if they can expand their services. All of Manos House placements currently come from Juvenal Probation and Parole. Rick is speaking with Manos in trying to consider creating a component for young men who are not involved with the court system. Ken Marzinko asked if there would be a problem mixing adjudicated delinquents with none adjudicated delinquent. Rick stated that Manos House is already allowing admissions for young men who are not involved in the court system. Rick is having a virtual meeting, with the Manos Director, to ask if Manos can keep the young men separate. If they cannot keep the young men separate, then Manos needs to clarify to parents and the community that the young men are mixed.

SCA Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2021
Page Four

L. Meeting Outpatient Clinics

Rick informed the Board that he is going to start meeting with the Lancaster Outpatient clinics on a quarterly basis, since they are the doors of entry into treatment in Lancaster County. Since the Drug and Alcohol Commission has a new five-year contract with DDAP, our office updated the policies and procedures, and we are going to present them at the next Outpatient meeting February 9th.

M. Other Business

Rick informed the Board that our next SCA Advisory Board meeting will be held virtually on March 22, 2021 at 6PM. In the future when the Board can meet in person, we will still have the option to show up virtually. This is so that if a Board member has a hard time coming into the office, they can still be present for the meeting. Brian Frye agreed to the idea since he works in Berks County and lives in Ephrata. Rick also suggested that since there would be only a few people to show in person, the meetings could be held in the D&A conference room. Rick continued and stated that at the next meeting he will invite someone from the RASE Project to review their services that they delivered in the previous fiscal year. Ken Marzinko suggested to also have Manos join a meeting and talk about their program as well.

N. Adjournment

With no other business presented by the members, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ashley Reese, Administrative Assistant

**THE NEXT SCA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY,
MARCH 22, 2021 AT 6:00 PM.**