

NORTHEAST DELTA HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY (NEDHSA)

Board Meeting MINUTES

April 11, 2023

**Northeast Delta Human Services Authority, Conference Room
2513 Ferrand Street, Monroe, LA. 71201**

5:30PM

Call to Order Meeting called to order by Yvonne Lewis and prayer was led by Yvonne Lewis and a quorum was met.

Adopt Agenda: A Motion was made by Latanya Whiteside and seconded by Andy Bryan to approve /accept the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Adopt Minutes of February 22, 2023: A Motion was made by Randy Williams and seconded by Tasha Washington to approve / accept the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Members Present:

Rev. Shawn Hornsby, Randy Williams, Yonne Lewis, Andy Bryan, Tasha Washington and Latanya Whiteside

Board Absent: Thelma Merrells, Cynthia Mathes Dr. Tiffany Bates and Dr. Tony Young

Northeast Delta HSA staff present: Dr. Monteic Sizer and Delores Harris

Ownership Linkage-Recognition of Guests: It was tabled to ask Dr. Avius Carroll to do the Prevention and Wellness Presentation @ the May 9, 2023 NEDHSA Board Meeting due to another obligation.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – No requests for comment.

BOARD EDUCATION/ ENDS Items for DISCUSSION

Upcoming Events/Community Action

We had a great Town Hall meeting in Morehouse Parish on March 8, 2023. We met at the Robinson-Williams Restoration of Hope Community Center. Much thanks to Board Member Randy Williams for his efforts and support. Since March 8th, we have partnered with four nonprofits, signed an MOU and trained hundreds of Head Start children, sponsored another community event, among other things.

Our prevention and wellness team conducted another responsible drinking training with local bar and restaurant owners in Franklin Parish. The goal was to help them prevent serving minors and to help reduce problem drinking.

Our legislative audit has officially started. We have prepared and are expecting a favorable audit.

We have executed our regional opioid messaging campaign. The campaign is entitled Fentanyl is Forever. We are using multiple print, digital, radio, and television strategies to help people understand the dangers of opioids. We will be doing something similar in the future on suicide mitigation.

We chose 5 regional artists to produce artwork that reflects aspects of overcoming mental illness, addiction, and trauma. These pieces of art will be displayed at our upcoming downtown art crawl. The art will also be later displayed at regional museums. The art reveal is scheduled for April 6, 2023. We will be meeting in the Upstairs Gallery at 7 pm.

We received a grant from the state to help identify and build operational capacity in regional nonprofits. These nonprofits will then help us further connect people to our mental health, addiction, developmental disability, and prevention and wellness services. These groups are to then become part of our regional safety-net service offerings.

I have established a regional training and professional development center at our new developmental disability building.

We are still planning a cabaret style show. More details to come.

We are preparing two manuscripts for publication in March. One is about client show vs no show rates, and the other one is about our behavioral and primary healthcare outcomes. Our client show vs no show rates manuscript was submitted to the Journal of the American Medical Association. It's one of the most respected and widely read research medical journals in the world.

We are finishing repairs on our White Street, Ruston building. This facility will house our second peer support center. We are also doing repairs and deferred maintenance improvements at all NEDHSA facilities.

We are hosting an opioid awareness town hall in Ruston, Louisiana Thursday, April 27, 2023. It will take place from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. We will meet at Temple Baptist Church.

NEDHSA's Art is Therapy Festival is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at the River Market in downtown Monroe, Louisiana. It will be a first of its kind event for the entire family. This festival is part of our Art as Medicine Initiative.

NEDHSA Prevention and Wellness staff distributed resources during a spring carnival in Franklin Parish. Specifically, staff members were at Winnsboro Elementary School. Staff also participated in events in Tallulah (Take Down Tobacco and Zombie Walk) and at the Serenity House facility in Ouachita Parish. They also presented on underage drinking at NELA Highway Safety Partnership Coalition.

NEDHSA's 3rd quarter newsletter was recently released. It contains lots of additional information and great pictures of our impactful regional work.

NEDHSA is hosting a National Prescription Take Back Day on Saturday, April 22nd from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Staff and law enforcement will be at the Spring Market in Grambling, Brookshire's in Monroe, and Super 1 Foods in Bastrop.

NEDHSA is the title sponsor of a faith-based conference to be held at the Monroe Civic Center on April 28-30. This conference will examine trauma, sexual assault, community violence, and mental illness. Dr. Sizer is one of the keynote speakers. There will also be panel discussions. There will be entertainment as well.

GOVERNANCE PROCESS/EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS for DECISIONS

Executive Director – E D Report and Fiscal Reports

The ED's report was presented, along with the monthly Fiscal Report a Motion made by Randy Williams and seconded by Andy Bryan to approve / accept as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Planning & Budgeting/Financial Condition and Activities – *With respect to the actual, ongoing financial condition and activities, the ED shall not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy or a material deviation of actual expenditures from board priorities established in Ends policies.*

NEDHSA's FY23 appropriated budget is \$16,618,143. Total excluding SGR= \$15,819,790. Our IAT = \$4,483,420. Self-generated = \$798,353.

BOARD -

- Compensation & Benefits (Governance Manual Page 15) A motion was made by Rev Shawn Hornsby and seconded by Latanya Whiteside to approve / accept the letter from Tina Conley, HR Director @ Northeast Delta Human Services Authority concerning market adjustments for Classified State employees in good standing are approved and will be distributed according to Louisiana State Civil Service policies and procedures on July 15th of each calendar year. Motion passed unanimously

- Board Committee Principles (Governance Manual pp 7-8) No changes was made @ this time per board members discussion.

- Board Member Self Evaluation (Governance Manual pp 3-4) - This item was tabled until the next board meeting. Yvonne Lewis, Board Chair will accept the completed form from each member and tally up the summary as submitted.
- Conflict of Interest Statements – due by May 15, 2023 (page 33)
- Public Official Ethics Training – due by May 15 (page 32)
- Personal Financial Disclosure – due by May 15 (page 32)

BOARD MANAGEMENT

- Board Development/Parish Outreach
- Board Members Terms/Renewal of Appointments
- Travel Forms due MONTHLY

ADJOURN

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Next Meeting – May 9, 2023

Northeast Delta Human Services Authority, Conference Room, 2513 Ferrand Street, Monroe, LA 71201