

NORTHEAST DELTA HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY (NEDHSA)

Board Meeting MINUTES

January 10, 2023

Ouachita Parish Health Unit, Community Room, 1650 DeSiard 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 Cynthia Mathes and seconded by Thelma Merrells to approve /accept the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Adopt Minutes of November 15, 2022: A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and seconded by Cynthia Mathes to approve / accept the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Members Present:

Thelma Merrells, Rev. Shawn Hornsby, Cynthia Mathes, Randy Williams, Dr. Tony Young, Yvonne Lewis, Andy Bryan, Tasha Washington and Latanya Whiteside

Board Absent: Dr. Tiffany Bates

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

Ownership Linkage-Recognition of Guests: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – No requests for comment.

BOARD EDUCATION/ ENDS Items for DISCUSSION

Upcoming Events/Community Action

We had a great “All Staff” meeting on December 8th on the campus of Louisiana Tech. We also voluntarily collected \$1000 to give to a single mother with children, one is disabled. Images and video can be found on NEDHSA’s social media platforms.

Dr. Monteic A. Sizer was the keynote speaker at the Louisiana Aging Network Association conference held at the L’Auberge Casino & Hotel Tuesday, December 6, 2022. His theme was Keepers of the Dream: Caring for America’s seniors. Images can be found on NEDHSA’s social media platforms.

NEDHSA has its official ribbon cutting ceremony of its new Developmental Disabilities building Wednesday, December 14, 2022. The new facility is located on the corner of 2324 Armand Connector in Monroe.

NEDHSA continues to produce several videos that describe its various program areas. These videos are designed to further diminish health related stigma and to encourage more proactive health seeking behaviors regionally. Stay tuned for our new fentanyl messaging campaign.

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

- Prioritized Strategic Initiatives for coming year/Updates (Policy Manual p 11)
- The board was asked to read document as written and no changes was made to the document at this time.

Board –

- Welcome new Board Members –
 - Dr. Tony Young (Lincoln Parish)
 - Dr. Tiffany Bates (Lincoln Parish)
- Election of Officers - **Northeast Delta Human Services Authority**
Governing Board
 - **Yvonne Lewis- Chairperson**
 - **Andy Bryan- Vice Chair**
 - **Latanya Whiteside – Secretary**
 - **Cynthia Mathes - Treasurer**

A Motion was made by Thelma Merrells and seconded by Cynthia Mathes to approve / accept the nominations for officers. Motion passed unanimously.

- 2023 Board Meeting Schedule

A Motion was made by Thelma Merrells and seconded by Andy Bryan to approve/accept the schedule for 2023 NEDHSA Board Meetings. Motion passed unanimously.

BOARD MANAGEMENT – Ongoing

- Board Development/ Parish Outreach
- Travel Forms due MONTHLY

A motion was made by Latanya Whiteside and seconded by Andy Bryan to Adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

Next Meeting – **FEBRUARY 22, 2023 - 5:30 pm**
Ouachita Parish Health Unit – Community Room
1650 DeSiard Street, Monroe, LA 71202

NEDHSA has partnered with the Downtown Arts Alliance (DAA) and the Northeast Louisiana Arts Council (NELAC) to support its “Arts as Medicine” initiative. DAA is a community organization and arts advocate for visual and performing artists. NELAC's mission is to nurture a vibrant regional arts culture through support, promotion, and education. Through NEDHSA’s DAA and NELAC collaboration, NEDHSA aims to seek qualified artists and craft-makers to submit qualifications and to design art and craft work on behalf of NEDHSA. This artwork will reflect mental health, addiction, and developmental disability themes. This art will also be presented at NEDHSA’s co-sponsored February 2023 Downtown Gallery Crawl. These pieces of art will also travel to parish museums to help reduce mental health stigma and encourage regional economic development.

NEDHSA hosted several national Great American Smokeout activities on November 17, 2022. Staff conducted activities at Ollie Burns Memorial Library at 10 A.M. and Rolling Hills Ministries from 2 - 4 P.M.

NEDHSA launched its new and improved website last week. New features include read-to-me functionality along with other adaptive technology. NEDHSA's updated version was developed to help vulnerable populations in northeast Louisiana better read and understand how to access competent and quality healthcare services. We are currently establishing the Apple version of the website. A Samsung version currently exists.

NEDHSA launched a Wellness at Work Initiative for all agency staff. The last 2.5 years have been a difficult time for the world due to COVID-19 and related societal issues. And because we understand how stress impacts the body, we are taking time to heal and renew ourselves. Thus, NEDHSA is working with Alexis Cherrell Holistic Wellness Spa to bring Wellness to Work by offering Sauna Detox, Yoga Stretch, Vitamin Cocktail, and Oxygen ‘O2’ Bar at each NEDHSA facility. This is also consistent with our well-spot designation earned due to our agency's commitment to health and wellness. This effort will continue with other community partners in the future.

Northeast Delta and Christal Wheeler Productions present Sour Grapes a PSYCHODRAMA for teens and young adults on January 28, 2023 @ the Monroe Civic Center with two showings 2:30pm and 6:00pm.

GOVERNANCE PROCESS/EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS for DECISIONS

Executive Director – Fiscal Report and Grants and Contracts for Fiscal year 22-23

After the ED’s report was presented, along with monthly Fiscal and Grants and Reports a Motion made by Rev Shawn Hornsby and seconded by Latanya Whiteside 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.*