

**Metropolitan Human Services District   
Board of Directors Meeting  
December 18, 2020 | 12:30pm**

Conference Call information:

United States: **(**[**408) 418-9388**](tel:%2B1-408-418-9388,,*01*962149164%23%23*01*) ; Meeting number (access code): **146 240 0669** Password: **2020**

*MHSD fulfills its statutory role as the planning body for the behavioral health, addiction and intellectual/developmental disability services for the residents of Orleans, Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes by ensuring that eligible residents in these parishes have access to person centered and recovery focused supports designed to optimize their role in the community.*

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| Minutes |

# Introduction and Oath of New Appointed Board Members

Chairman of the Board Gary Mendoza introduced the following appointed Board Members and had Steven J. Farber, JD swear them in.

## Tenisha T. Stevens, M.A., Orleans Parish

## Brian L. Turner, Ph.D., Orleans Parish

# Call to Order

## Meeting was called to order 12:40 p.m. by Chair Gary Mendoza through the Conference call and it was determined that a Quorum was present.

## Mr. Mendoza requested for the new Board members to introduce themselves and then allowed for everyone in attendance to do the same.

# Attendance

## A quorum was present consisting of Gary Mendoza, Michael Pechon, Dr. Cathy Lazarus, Dr. Ariel Lloyd, Leslie Prest, Charlotte Parent, Dr. Sarintha Stricklin, Tenisha T. Stevens and Dr. Brian L. Turner

## Absent from the meeting were Mike Miller, Stanley Simeon, Dr. Joseph Kanter

## Other individuals in attendance from MHSD were Rochelle Head-Dunham, MD, DFAPA, FASAM, Executive Director/Medical Director; Traci Brown, MHSD CFO; Sharon Barnett-Starks, MSW, MHSD Deputy Director of Programs; Steven Farber, MHSD Deputy Director; Karen Canales, MHSD Executive Staff Officer.

# Approval of the November 20, 2020 Minutes

## Minutes were reviewed and approved by motion of Mike Pechon, seconded by Dr. Lazarus, all voted in favor.

# Monitoring Reports

Dr. Dunham welcomed Commissioner Stevens and Dr. Turner to the MHSD Board.

The following monitoring reports were discussed and reviewed during the meeting:

## Monthly Dashboard

### The dashboard and Utilization Report for the month of November and the past two Fiscal years to compare service utilization were reviewed by Dr. Dunham. She noted that crisis calls have increased since the COVID pandemic started.

### Dr. Dunham also reviewed the telehealth utilization report that breaks up the modality of services received by our clients was also reviewed with the Board. Dr. Dunham fielded questions and provided more information RE:

#### preference of persons served in the modality of video v. audio only. All MHSD staff currently have capability for video and the modality is dictated by the comfort and capability of the person served.

#### Telehealth appointment/video being conducted from persons served cell phones. Patients may have a government issued phone and not a smart phone. Sometimes they borrow someone else’s phone and there may be limits to the data plan. There’s a percentage of persons served that may have capability, but do not wish to be on video.

#### Dr. Dunham projected 60% of video/audio services and 40% in person services in the future instead of 100% in person services as pre-COVID. The IT and Quality Data Management (QDM) Divisions are currently the most active making the environment for staff and persons served as efficient as possible.

## Fiscal Report

### Chair Gary Mendoza informed the new members that there’s a Fiscal Committee that meets monthly and all Board members are welcome to join. The meetings occur 30 minutes prior to the regular meeting and anyone interested should contact him or Dr. Dunham to join.

### Mr. Mendoza reviewed the Analysis for FY 21 as of November 30, 2020. CFO Traci Brown introduced herself to the new Board members and noted that the revenue was higher this year due to grants made available to MHSD. Ms. Brown noted that billing of contractors has been slow, and her department is working to reallocate and spend down allocated funding.

## December Reports

Chair Gary Mendoza and Dr. Dunham reviewed the Media Coverage Report. Dr. Dunham reported that MHSD has a robust Communications and Marketing Division. The report numbers are small in comparison what MHSD has previously reported due to COVID. MHSD has converted to virtual platforms but continues to inform the public about the multiple services offered in the reported venues in the report.

Mr. Mendoza requested a motion to accept all reports. Mr. Pechon made a motion and it was seconded by Ms. Parent, all voted in favor.

# Decision Information

## No decision information was presented for review.

# Consent Agenda.

## No consent agenda items were presented

# Self-evaluation: Board Performance Review

# Adjourn

## Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 1:23 PM by Ms. Prest, seconded by Mr. Pechon; all in favor, motion passed.