

NORTHEAST DELTA HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY (NEDHSA)

Board Meeting MINUTES

January 12, 2021

Remote meeting held via ZOOM format

5:30PM

Call to Order Meeting called to order by Mike Shipp and prayer was led by Mike Shipp and a quorum was met.

Adopt Agenda: A Motion was made by Latanya Whiteside and seconded by Dr. E H Baker to approve /accept the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Adopt Minutes of December 8: A Motion was made by Latanya Whiteside and seconded by Yvonne Lewis to approve / accept the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Members Present:

Dr. E. H. Baker, Latanya Whiteside, Rev. Shawn Hornsby, Yvonne Lewis and Mike Shipp

Board Absent: Thelma Merrells

Mike Shipp

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

Ownership Linkage-Recognition of Guests: None

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – No requests for comment.

BOARD EDUCATION/ ENDS Items for DISCUSSION

Upcoming Events/Community Action

Dr. Monteic A. Sizer was asked to join a panel of statewide subject matter experts to discuss the state's Covid-19 response. There will be a specific focus on the disproportionate deaths happening in the African American community. Mistrust issues will be discussed as well within this population relative to Covid-19 vaccination. This event will take place on January 22, 2021, at 11:00 am.

Northeast Delta departments continue to develop plans for a phased, full reopening model where clients are seen face-to-face. All plans include universal precaution measures, technology, PPE gear, etc. Planning is being done following the Governor's recent phase 3 announcement. We have already secured many of the items needed to ensure the safety of staff and clients.

We were fully accredited by CARF. CARF will reevaluate for extended years in the coming months. CARF is the premier leader in certifying behavioral health and administrative excellence. We have also completed LDH's AIP clinical, administrative, and developmental disabilities audits. We scored 100% in almost every evaluated category.

We continue to participate in many social media campaigns, including suicide prevention and various addiction ones. We have also started a massive digital public awareness campaign about our programs and various services. This digital campaign includes Google, website, news banners, various social media outlets, etc. One commercial features our agency, and the other discusses opioids and what we are doing about it.

We continue to streamline agency contracts and program services to be more outcome- driven and more impactful with the resources available to us.

We are getting closer to outsourcing our pharmacy services as a cost saver with GEONOA Pharmacy. Again, we would maintain our current infrastructure. GEONOA would give us maximum flexibility and improve our services to regional clients.

We are partnering with LSU Ochsner Conway to administer Northeast Delta staff the Covid-19 Pfizer vaccine. Additionally, we are planning to have our soon to be pharmacy offer the Covid-19 vaccine to Northeast Delta staff who prefer the Moderna vaccine. We will be offering the vaccine to our outpatient and inpatient clients. We will do the same for contractors as well.

QUARTERLY BOARD TRAINING – Behavioral Health

Northeast Delta Human Services Authority has hired 2 APRN's these positions will cover duties of four people without this certification.

The state is still in Phase 2 of COVID 19 due to an increase in infections and more deaths associated with the spread of the virus. The Governor is asking for people to continue to wear their masks to help stop the spread. PPE gear has been purchased to protect our staff when we can begin to see clients face to face. We are now doing tele-psychiatry to be able to still service the client and keep our staff safe.

We are also working on finishing up the project of providing services from our mobile unit to provide treatment in the parishes we cover that need access to services and have no transportation.

We are getting closer to outsourcing our pharmacy services as a cost saver with GEONOA Pharmacy. Again, we would maintain our current infrastructure. GEONOA would give us maximum flexibility and improve our services to regional clients.

We are also working on opening a Children and Family Services office will be located @ 2525 Ferrand Street next door the Administration offices.

The CARF accreditation went well we are awaiting the results. We believe we will receive another three-year accreditation. CARF is a premier leader in certifying behavioral health and administrative excellence. We have received full three-year accreditations in the past.

Dr. Sizer has been asked to be a panel member for the COVID-19 VACCINES: A Conversation with the African American Community webinar that will take place on January 22, 2021 from 12pm – 1pm via ZOOM.

GOVERNANCE PROCESS/EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS for DECISIONS

Executive Director – Monthly Activity and Fiscal Reports

After the ED's report was presented, along with monthly Fiscal data a Motion made by Thelma Merrells and Yvonne Lewis 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 FY20-21 appropriated budget is \$15,169,624. Our SGF = \$7,730,554. Our IAT = \$6,665,226. Self-generated = \$773,844.

- Prioritized Strategic Initiatives for coming year/Updates (Policy Manual Page 11)

The current Board approved 5-year strategic plan is still the focus of Northeast Delta. FY20-21 and FY21-22 budgets have been allocated to help meet strategic objectives. Additionally, agency data have been provided to members of the Board that show we are meeting and exceeding expectations in route to fulfilling our agency's vision, mission, and tenets. Specifically, and as a point of emphasis, we will continue to focus on the following things:

1. Expand our behavioral and primary healthcare integration model into additional clinics.
2. Further, establish greater continuity between our prevention and clinical services divisions.
3. Expand access to services by opening a new child and family services clinic. We will roll out a new mobile clinic to help reach hard to serve areas across the region.
4. We will continue to build and expand our addiction treatment services.
5. Build external partnerships with faith and business leaders.
6. Continue to build and improve internal staff professional development infrastructure and training opportunities.
7. Look for ways to become even more efficient and effective at what we do.

A Motion was made by Latanya Whiteside and seconded by Yvonne Lewis to approve / accept the Prioritized Strategic Initiatives for 2021-2022 fiscal years as presented by Dr. Sizer in his ED report.

- BOARD MANAGEMENT- Ongoing**
Board Development Parish Outreach
- Travel Forms

ADJOURN

Next Meeting- February 9, 2021 – 5:30 pm

Remote Meeting to be held via ZOOM format

A motion was made by Latanya Whiteside and seconded by Yvonne Lewis to Adjourn. Motion passed unanimously