

Avita Community Partners
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

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| DATE: March 27, 2024 | TIME: 6:00 PM |
| PLACE: Avita Administrative Offices and Zoom | PRESIDING: Kent Woerner, Chair |

Attendance

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|-----------------|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|---|
| Barbara Bosanko | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Brenda Hochmuth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Kim Stephens | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Angie Brown | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | Terry Hawkins | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | Samantha Turner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Sharon Bucek | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Rachel Mathis | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Angela Whidby | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Kathy Cooper | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | Bruce Palmer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Carol Williams | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Alton Fry | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | Penny Penn | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Kent Woerner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Bo Garrison | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | Shanna Prather | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | Alice Worthan | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

Executive Team Member Attendance

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| Greg Ball | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Lori Holbrook | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Don Reimer | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Cathy Ganter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Cindy Levi | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| Allan Harden | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Hannah Quinn | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |

| Agenda Items | Key Discussion Points/Outcomes/Decisions/Action Items |
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| Call to Order | The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by Kent Woerner. |
| Determine Quorum | A quorum was present with 11 out of 18 members. |
| Approval of Agenda | Motion to approve the agenda made by Barbara Bosanko, seconded by Kathy Cooper, passed unanimously. |
| Approval of Minutes | Motion to approve the February 28 th , 2024 minutes by Samantha Turner, seconded by Shron Bucek, passed unanimously. |
| Board Chair Report | Kent welcomed everyone and shared that Charlie Woerner signed with the Atlanta Falcon, shared a new program that his daughter participates in, updated about the HealthIE GA MAT bus, the opioid settlement meeting in Dawsonville, and progress on the Rabun County Jail In program. |
| Oath of Office | Bruce Palmer was sworn in for the term of 1/1/2024 through 12/31/26. |
| CEO Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Night to Shine celebrated the 10th year anniversary last month. Avita’s Blairsville Center has participated in nine of the ten years. For the past seven years First United Methodist of Blairsville has supported the dance with several of their community partners. Eight years ago, some of our individuals went to the church and advocated to the pastor for sponsorship of the event and of course he couldn’t say no! Before that we had to cross Blood Mountain to attend or go down to Woodstock. This year there were 96 guests and over 245 volunteers. They even had volunteers at the center of town holding up signs and cheering as the “Go-Go Bus drove guests around the town square.” This Night to Shine had guests from North Carolina, Towns, Union, and Fannin Counties. Our individuals attended this year’s event without staff assistance as they have made community connections no longer needed staff to work with and communicate for them. This freed up a few of our staff to volunteer this year. • Many of our IDD clients also enjoyed the “Love Him, Love Them” Valentine Party which was held at Royston Baptist Church, in Hartwell. • Jeremy Merritt and Hannah Quinn attended the Region 2 Family Connection Resource Fair. They got to meet several interesting people, both professionals and community members, and share information about Avita services within the region. • A busy month for Hall County Behavioral Health including creating a nice interactive board with clients entitled “Change Our Heart.” Our Chief Clinical Officer, Lori Holbrook, attended 18 different meetings throughout the month of February including a new partnership with HealthIE Georgia. A retreat was held with our HealthIE Georgia partners on March 21st – 22nd at Glen Ella Springs in Clarkesville. We finalized plans for training at the BHCC to educate our staff on Medication Assisted Treatment Training which will be held on April 11th. Following that training, we will move forward with implementation of MAT with the MAT Bus coming to our outpatient Centers in Rabun, |

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| | <p>Union, Habersham, and Stephens counties initially. The individuals receiving MAT services will also receive counseling and other services from Avita. We look forward to the implementation of this new service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grace Allen and I conducted Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Trainings for 9th grade students in 2 school districts this month. There were 90 students trained in Franklin County and 237 in Habersham County. The students were engaged in the trainings and learned what to do in the event they have thoughts of suicide, or a friend shares such thoughts with them. • The job recruitment fair spring season is finishing up with 6 additional job fairs attended in the last month. • On March 21st a meeting of all delegates representing local government was held in Dawson County to elect members to the Region 1 Opioid Settlement Regional Advisory Council (RAC). Region 1 encompasses the 31 counties of north Georgia. Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw from Towns County and Commissioner Kent Woerner of Rabun County were both delegates. I was elected to serve on this 7-member Council. Other members of the RAC include: Dr. Antonio Rios the Chief of Population Health for Northeast Georgia Health System, Sheriff Jimmy Davenport from Murray County, Dr.Carolynn DeSandre the Dean of the College of Health Sciences at the University of North Georgia, Valynda Early Administrator of Harbor Springs Counseling Services, and Brittany Galvanauskas the Executive Director of Living Proof Recovery. The primary responsibility of the RAC will be to review proposals submitted for the use of \$191.6 million of Opioid Settlement funds made available to Georgia from the Pharmaceutical Companies over the next 18 years and make recommendations to the Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission (GOSAC). The GOSAC will then make final recommendations to Commissioner Kevin Tanner, Trustee of these funds. • The final report of the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Workgroup was released on March 15th. This 49-page document includes recommendations from the workgroup regarding the IDD Planning List, the backlog of individuals with IDD stuck in hospital Emergency Departments awaiting placement, and the IDD Provider Workforce. This report should be uploaded to the DBHDD website for public review soon. • The Department of Community Health (DCH) Board approved for initial adoption several Waiver submissions during their meeting on March 14th. These submissions include the increased NOW and COMP Waiver rates based on the 2023 IDD rate study and implementation of 3 new residential levels of care for IDD services to include specialized transitional, behavior focused, and intensive residential services. We are now in the public comment period and awaiting the signing of the Fiscal Year 2025 Governor’s Budget. Following, the next step will be final adoption by the DCH Board and submission to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid for anticipated approval with an effective date of July 1, 2024. Additionally, the Medicaid State Plan Amendment was also approved for initial adoption. This includes the behavioral health increased rates based on the rate study conducted in 2023. It will go through the same process as the IDD waivers. • The future of the Forsyth County Whole Health Center is still uncertain. Mental health advocates, providers, and school personnel met several times with the Forsyth County Manager, Commissioner Mills and Commissioner Hill to discuss the mental health needs of the county and make recommendations regarding mental health service expansion in Forsyth County. At the Forsyth Board of Commissioners Work Session on March 12th, it was recommended that another committee be formed to discuss the county’s mental health needs. We continue to advocate for service expansion in the county. • Avita’s service offerings were presented during a regional meeting of Adult Protective Services and to the Leadership Forsyth group over the past month. We continue to get the word out to various interested parties. • Don Reimer facilitated a meeting with the Hall County Sheriff’s Office and Hall County Emergency Management at the BHCC on March 15th. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss expectations of all parties involved when staff at the BHCC call 9-1-1. It is not our intent to press charges on our guests. Many of the calls seem to be made prematurely when an incident begins instead of waiting to see if our staff can resolve it first. We will also be looking into other means of transporting individuals in need of medical attention to the |

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| | <p>hospital when it is not a life-threatening emergency. It was reported that over seventy 9-1-1 calls have been placed from the BHCC already this calendar year. We want to ensure we are utilizing our first responders appropriately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BHCC staff also had 2 days of specialized training on March 18th and 19th conducted by an expert in the dual diagnosis of behavioral health and intellectual/developmental disabilities, Robin Van Eerden. The training topics included: Autism, Trauma Informed Care, and Emotional Regulation. To ensure that staff on the second shift had an opportunity to participate in the training, Robin trained until midnight on March 18th. • Over the last month, Miracle D. Adkins, Jennie Joiner, Marci Forney, Jennie Joiner, Jazmine Whitaker, Astrid Torres, Mollian Nurse, Maria Hadvia was recognized for going above and beyond. We thank all these employees for their dedication to Avita and for living out its mission. • A Chief Administrative Officer has been hired and will start on July 1st. This is a new position created and his name is Michael Foust. • Lastly, Cindy shared the 3 upcoming events in April. |
| Financial Update | <p>Greg Ball reviewed the following in his report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February saw a \$152,000 surplus. • Current year revenues are \$1.8 million above prior year revenues which is a 8.2% increase over last year. • Current year expenses are \$1.9 million (or 8.8%) above prior year expenses. • Current surplus fiscal year to date is \$287,000. • Our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) continued to exceed the targets established by DBHDD: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cash on Hand is 81 days—well above the 30-day minimum ○ Current Ratio – 10:1 ○ Days of Covered Expenses – 79 days –well above the minimum of 60 days ○ Long Term Debt Ratio – .15:1 – well below the maximum of 2.5:1 • Board members asked about our lease vehicle fleet and Greg and Cindy updated them on the increased maintenance costs of the aging fleet. They also updated the board on the new 39 vehicles that will soon be replacing many of them. |
| County Funding Requests | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed the FY25 County Funding request spreadsheet. Barbara Bosanko asked numerous questions about what counties provide buildings. We currently have requested contributions from 8 counties and plan to request 2 additional counties in the fall since those counties use a calendar year. We do not request funds from the other 3 counties and shared those reasons with the Board. |
| Nominating Committee for FY 25 Officers | <p>Kent appointed/formed a committee comprising of Angela Whidby, Sharon Bucek, and Brenda Hochmuth to recommend a new Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Parliamentarian.</p> |
| Board of Governance Review of Bylaws | <p>Kent requested that the Governance Committee review the bylaws and suggest any changes for the July meeting.</p> |
| Adjourn at 7:00 pm | <p>Barbara Bosanko made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Angela Whidby, and they adjourned unanimously.</p> |

Kent Woerner

4/24/24

Presiding Officer Signature

Date Approved

Respectfully submitted,

Hariah Hutkowski

Hariah Hutkowski, Recording Clerk