

NORTHEAST DELTA HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY (NEDHSA)

Board Meeting MINUTES

July 13, 2021

Ouachita Parish Health Unit - Community Room

1650 Desiard Street, Monroe, LA 71201

5:30PM

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

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

Adopt Minutes of June 8: A Motion was made by Rev Shawn Hornsby and seconded by Latanya Whiteside to approve / accept the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Members Present:

Latanya Whiteside, Rev. Shawn Hornsby, Yvonne Lewis and Mike Shipp

Board Absent: Dr. E. H. Baker, Thelma Merrells and Robert Flowers, II

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

Northeast Delta was awarded nearly \$700,000 to conduct its regional Anti-Stigma Campaign. It's one of the first of its kind operating in the state of Louisiana. The campaign is entitled Rise Above Stigma. It will be a grassroots and media campaign aimed at reducing stigma to mental health and addiction services. The funding came in the form of a grant from SAMHSA and the Louisiana Department of Health.

Northeast Delta staff is supporting the US military in Lake Providence, La as they provide free medical care to neighboring residents. Northeast Delta staff are providing an array of clinical, DD, and prevention and wellness resources to residents. Lake Providence is a destination for the agency's mobile clinic in FY22.

We have expanded our school and community-based services across the region. See your Board packets for FY21 Newsletter details and other relevant annual highlights.

Northeast Delta hosted its inaugural Stop the Violence Bike Ride to highlight and address increasing teen violence and death in our region. The event also allowed Northeast Delta to discuss its prevention and wellness initiatives. We connected the region to much-needed mental health and addiction services too. The Bike Ride was on Saturday, June 26, 2021, from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Hub Music Hall, 201 Washington St., Monroe, LA. We will be headed to Ruston and Bastrop, La in FY22.

Northeast Delta's Prevention and Wellness Department hosted a yoga and meditation workshop on June 12, 2021, as part of our WellAHEAD initiative. We were recognized and certified by the state of Louisiana as an organization for our internal and external commitment to staff and overall population health wellness. We have other staff and community activities planned this FY22. More details to come.

Dr. Monteic A. Sizer continues to be asked to join statewide panels as a subject matter expert relative to the state's Covid-19 response. The most recent LDH Office of Community Partnerships and Health Equity panel focused on the disproportionate deaths in the African American community. Mistrust was discussed as well within this population relative to Covid-19 vaccination. Dr. Sizer was asked by the Urban League of Louisiana to discuss trauma and related mental illnesses at its Empowerment and Policy Conference. Upcoming panels Dr. Sizer will participate in include a faith-based response and examining how negative social determinants of health contribute to health care inequities and untimely death outcomes. Dr. Sizer recently completed an interview for the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness ConquerCovid19 statewide media campaign.

All Northeast Delta staff and departments are working full-time at their respective assigned desks and buildings. Clinical and DD staff continue to develop plans for a phased, full reopening model where clients are seen face-to-face. To be noted, some clients are being seen at clinic locations. All plans include universal precaution measures, technology, PPE gear, etc. We have already secured many of the items needed to ensure the safety of staff and clients. We continue to require face coverings in all agency common areas. We also continue to practice social distancing and office screenings before individuals enter our buildings to avoid the community spread of COVID-19.

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.

Our contract to outsource our pharmacy services as a cost saver with GEONOA Pharmacy has been fully executed. Again, we are maintaining our current infrastructure. GEONOA will give us maximum flexibility and improve our overall services to regional clients. We are discussing how they can better serve our DD clients as well.

We are still planning to have GEONOA 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 behavioral health and DD clients. We will do the same for contractors. This is set to begin August 2021.

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 Yvonne Lewis and 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.*

NEDHSA's FY20-21 appropriated budget is \$15,169,624. Our SGF = \$7,730,554. Our IAT = \$6,665,226. Self-generated = \$773,844.

BOARD MANAGEMENT- Ongoing

- Board Member Recruitment
- Parish Outreach
- Travel Forms due Monthly

ADJOURN

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

Next Meeting - **September 14, 2021 – 5:30 pm**
NEDHSA Office, 2513 Ferrand Street, Monroe, LA. 71201