



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MEETING MINUTES

In Person meeting: Connecticut Valley Hospital (CVH) Page Hall Boardroom
December 9, 2022

Present Council Members:

Lawrence McHugh, Chairperson; Lakisha Hyatt, CVH/Chief Executive Officer (CEO); Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (DMHAS); Kevin Elak, Director, Middletown Health Department; Richard Davis, Deputy Chief, Middletown Police Department; LT Dane Semper, Middletown Police Department; Aliza Castro, Division Director Addiction Services; Sarah Gadsby, Acting RVH CEO;

Absent/Excused Council Members:

Edwin Renaud, Division Director General Psychiatry Division;; Phillip Pessina, Councilman; Mehadin Arafteh; David Bauer, Community Member, Richard Bush, CVH Chief Operating Officer, Ben Florshein, Mayor of Middletown, Chris Iovene, Middletown Police Detective; Emilio Magnano, (Alt) Middletown Police Detective; Erik Costa, Middletown Chief of Police

Call to Order: Mr. McHugh called the meeting to order at 8:03am.

Review of Minutes: September 9, 2022 meeting minutes approved

Topic	Discussion	Responsible Person
<i>DMHAS Commissioners Update</i>	<u>Office of the DMHAS Commission Updates</u> - Budget is Stable - Chairman. McHugh questions the impact of the State of Connecticut retirees on DMHAS budget. Response from Commissioner Navarretta,	Ms. Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner

	actual numbers not readily available, however, DMHAS has approximately 800 vacancies which we are slowly filling. • DMHAS is still searching for a Legislature Liaison there will be mentoring and strong onboarding when the transition takes place. DMHAS will be receiving monies from the drug companies' legal settlement, and could be seen as soon as 1st quarter 2023. Discussion about how the payment will be distributed, with an expectation to be over the next five years. • Continued work on addressing the Opioid crisis within strategic plan. • Workforce recruitment remains a priority • Strong Collaboration of CVH and River Valley Services (RVS) with Middletown Community • Discussion about the challenges on Main Street specific to North End of Hartford commitment to get individuals into treatment. RVH is working to expand clinician availability back to 24/day. Will respond to connect services to get individuals into treatment. • Discussion of recent five overdoses in downtown Middletown. An Opioid task force that has been established. Mr. Elak identified missing is more information related to available treatment resources. Information to be provided on treatment. Discussion: the city of New Britain has a similar Task Force Model with a local Hospital Emergency Department involved with the Task Force-how the use of recovery coaches was discussed as very helpful as they are embedded in hospitals including Middlesex Hospital. The end goal is to divert from the Emergency Department, currently there are approximately 200 per day showing at the emergency department and only 1/3 needs hospital care. DMHAS is working to build strategies to intercept and avoid going to the Emergency Department for the 2/3 not needing to be there. • Narcan clinics have been held and continue to be a need for the massive problem. • Chairman McHugh advocated for additional Addictions beds at CVH.	
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	• Banners to capacity increase risk with shortage of staff specifically Registered Nurses and Social Workers beds. • CVH had a 20% in bed capacity since last meeting. Discussion about the importance of mobile methadone clinics and recent advances in how to bill providers.	
Chief Executive Officer Update	<u>Connecticut Valley Hospital Updates:</u> 1. Focus continues on strengthening active treatment through increased services and re-expansion of the type of services offered. Expansion Includes: • Increase co-occurring trauma informed recovery extended services. • Launch of virtual treatment space nine at present. Plan to launch four more within the month. 2. Campus engagement activities, examples include resuming: • Old Lyme Band • Tree Lighting ceremony/ Caroling • Evening of Inspiration/ including Jazz Band and patient/staff poetry • Spring of 2023 Valley view restaurant and Employee Fitness center are planning to reopen for clients • Revitalization of boutique, hair salon, bank, radio station • Outreach Wesleyan and Collaboration for CVH campus volunteers • Community Collaboration w/ MARC Services • United Way collaboration with Middlesex United Way Executive Retreat – November 2022 CVH Executive leaders established a Three year strategic plan	Ms. Hyatt, Chief Executive Officer/CVH
	AWOL Report: Incidents remain low. Reporting all units have double locking system. From January 2022 to present there were 23 AWOL attempts, 20 remained in building, three 3 left from an activity all were returned within hours Chairman Mr. McHugh ask length of time between campus police contacting Middletown police, CEO and Police confirmed response is	

Other Business	Acknowledged that Mr. McHugh has retired from the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce. Please pause and give thanks for his contributions to CVH and the Middletown community. Praised how wonderful a coach, mentor and how he has built other people up, through consistent support and encouragement Mr. McHugh acknowledged: We work as a team, CVH has been and is a economic generator for the Middletown Community.	Ms. Hyatt, CEO
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 8:49am.	Mr. McHugh, Chairperson
Next Meeting	Next meeting: Friday. March 9, 2023 at 8:00am in person.	

Transcribed by: Marguerite Griffin