



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



MEETING MINUTES

In Person meeting: Connecticut Valley Hospital (CVH) Page Hall Boardroom
September 13, 2024

Present Council Members:

Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner; Erik Costa, Chief of Police, City of Middletown; Lakisha Hyatt, CVH Chief Executive Officer; Lawrence McHugh, Chairperson; CVH; Sarah Gadsby, Chief Executive Officer, River Valley Services; Maria Laporto, ASD Division Director, CVH; Kichul Pak MD, Chief Medical Officer, CVH; Justin Sleeper, Chief Quality Office, CVH; Paul Schoening, Chief of Plant Services; Florshein Ben, Mayor of Middletown, Harry Burr, Community Member; Philip Pessina, Community Member

Absent/Excused Council Members:

Davis Richard; Iovene Chris; Magnano Emilio; Semper Dan; Rick Bush, CVH Chief Operating Officer; Chris Iovene, Detective Police (alt), City of Middletown; Dr. Edwin Renaud, General Psychiatry Division Director; Arafah Mehadin

Call to Order: Mr. McHugh called the meeting to order at 8:04am.

Review of Minutes: March 2024 and June 2024 approved by Mr. Burr seconded by Mr. Pessina

Topic	Discussion	Responsible Person
DMHAS Commissioners Update	<u>Office of the DMHAS Commission Updates</u> Attended several events recently, The LT. Governor held a Round Table on The Social Connection of Men and Health. Recognition for DMHAS as the best implemented State in the country. Answer rates for 988 responses in partnership with United Way and DCF. - Ribbon cutting in Bristol -Wheeler Clinic. Torrington Hall Center – toured homes renovated that served the community. Discussed federal opioid dollars and how they are allotted to State of CT. - Social Club in Ansonia has provided artwork and Elsa Ward from OOC is spearheading a series of client’s artwork to be purchased which is be viewed at the lobby of DMHAS in Hartford, CT. - At a recent roundtable with the Governor and DCF focused on Suicide Prevention Month of September. CT has seen an uptick in teen suicide, but CT suicide rate is the fifth lowest in the country. OOC currently has two campaigns to bring awareness Live Loud Campaign Approved Management Contingency Program Opioid Use This is the third year that overdoses are down. However, the black population is higher with cocaine overdose particularly in New Haven and Hartford, CT. Contingency management is the only treatment for cocaine. Recently initiated the DMHAS LPN to RN program. Registration is currently 20 candidates which can lead to a prerequisite to the RN degree. Thirty people on wait list for this program. OPM will start to work on the Governor’s budget to see what was spend and what is left. Discussion related to domestic violence and bullying and the numbers of suicide in children. DCT is the primary agency for those under 18. Data has been reviewed no trends or pattens observed. Discussion related to DMHAS relationship with programs of Mental Health for nursing homes, clients on social security. Reviewed DPH leadership assists with community supporting the elderly and DMHAS older adults’ program. RVS also supports our local soup kitchens twice a week to assist with individuals to be connected with resources.	Ms. Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner

<i>Chief Executive Officer Update</i>	<u>Connecticut Valley Hospital Updates</u> Mayor Florsheim, thank you for joining today. Thank you for your support for Mental Health services. Today's packet contains a hard copy of the CVH report that will be reviewed. The report will be sent electronically to all attendees of today's meeting. This month is Recovery Services Month and Suicide Awareness Month. • CVH Campus will provide client activities that will raise awareness. • Services across CVH campus were reviewed. • Length of Stay numbers were reviewed. Ms. Hyatt clarified to the Council, one of CVH's many goals is for the client not to be hospitalized long term. CVH goal for 2025 is to increase the number of clients who are community ready. • Reviewed many positive responses from patient's survey. • CVH has increased employee professional development to meet the needs of clients. A comprehensive 2025 Training Plan has been developed, DBT, Motivational Interviews Training are a few new trainings to be offered to new hires. Onboarding and orientation are more in depth, employees are equipped with knowledge to succeed. • Listed a few of CVH campus community events • Provided a few accomplishments: Restraint numbers continue to be at all time low, 65% decrease. CVH is below the country's average length of time spent in restraints. 186% lower than national rates. CVH employees have been provided alternative approaches to handle various situations which resorting to restraint is the last option. • CVH is seeing fewer employee injuries which lowers Workers Compensation claims. • Seclusion rates have not risen. There has been a decrease indicator that led to restraint. CVH has exceeded 2024 goals and the 2025 focus is sustainability Lakisha Hyatt announced to the Advisory Council her appointment of Presidency for the Middletown Rotary and how CVH and Rotary can work together to assist the community in building mental health awareness.	Ms. Hyatt, Chief Executive Officer/CVH
Campus Use Report	Reviewed campus building updates. We have 81 buildings on campus a few are not being used, due to not be up to Joint Commission Standards. Security cameras and badge readers have been added to Dutcher for additional security. Woodward has a large painting project completed. Battell Hall painting and renovation of Kitchen and modernizing the elevators. Merritt Hall just updated the elevators; dental clinic is not ADA compliant. Greenhouse is being redesigned due to accommodating wheelchair access. Haviland Hall fire alarm system has been updated. Valley View café is now opened for dining in. Nobel Hall entertaining how we can renovate. Campus landscaping, trees have been maintained and cracked sidewalks have been up updated. Discussion of number of buildings not in use – estimated approximately 10% Yes, some buildings would be very costly to renovate to bring it up to code.	Paul Schoening Chief of Plant Services

	Chief Costa- Offered support and stated there must be legislature to assist with buildings to be renovate. Commissioner Navarretta – Reviewed the millions of dollars to replace our aging infrastructure with priorities such as patient care buildings. RFPs for Life Safety Request for building renovations continue Mayor Florsheim – Reiterated, the City of Middletown would support for any legislative means to procure funding for building renovation. Chairman McHugh – Celebrate CVH & DMHAS for a great report and beautiful! “Looks good, feels good, it is good.”	
Other Business	N/A	Lawrence McHugh, Chairperson
Next Meeting	December 13, 2024	
Adjournment	Mr. McHugh concluded the meeting @8:50am.	

Transcribed by: Marguerite Griffin