

THE HIGHLIGHTER

Volume 23, Issue 1

Board Members

Carolyn Copus, Chair
OhioMHAS Appointment

Dr. William Kose, Vice-Chair
OhioMHAS Appointment

County Commissioner Appointments

Dennis Bash
Michael Brand
Thomas Buis
Carl Etta Capes
Brian Clark
Jane Heminger
John Kissh
Ginny Williams

Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

Appointments
Todd Coffman
Nancy Hutchinson
Jim Martin
David Scruggs

Staff Members

Precia Stuby,
Executive Director

Rob Verhoff,
Fiscal Director

Cheryl Preston,
Office Manager/
Executive Assistant

Zachary Thomas,
Director of Wellness and
Education

Clara Harrod,
Property Manager

Amber Wolfrom,
Director of Planning and
Accountability Systems

Community Mental Health Fund is Established

"The Community Mental Health Fund was established through a collaborative effort of local mental health agencies to support programs and operations of non-profit agencies providing services to improve emotional and mental health, including substance abuse prevention and services, to residents of Findlay and Hancock County."

It is estimated that one in five adults in Hancock County suffer from a diagnosable mental health disorder and one in ten adults in Hancock County struggle with substance abuse.¹

Undoubtedly, each of us living in Hancock County has been touched in one way or another by someone struggling with mental illness and/or substance abuse. Whether it is ourselves or someone we know that faces these challenges, we are all affected and all connected by this issue.

In 2009, a group of concerned community members who are passionate about this issue, came together to design a way for anyone to help those affected by mental illness. After many months of meetings, planning, and deliberation, the **Community Mental Health Fund** was established to provide our community with a vehicle to give to the cause of providing support for mental health and substance abuse services in Hancock County.

"Just as someone that has been affected by cancer may give financial support to the American Cancer Society, due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, we now have an opportunity for anyone to support the issue of mental health. After much work, we are thrilled that a fund is in

place for our community," said Precia Stuby, Executive Director of the Hancock County ADAMHS Board.

The **Community Mental Health Fund** allows for any community agency providing mental health and/or substance abuse services, programming, and prevention to be eligible to apply for funding. This fund will be under the stewardship of The Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation and the distribution of these funds will follow the grant making procedures of the Community Foundation.

In order for the **Community Mental Health Fund** to become a successful vehicle for financial support to our community, sustained contribution is necessary. If you would like to contribute to, or know of someone who might interested in, the **Community Mental Health Fund** please contact the Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation at 419-425-1100 or visit their website at www.community-foundation.com.

¹2013 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Mental Health Findings, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Welcome Our Newest Board Members



DENNIS BASH

Retired

Why are mental health and substance abuse issues close to your heart? "I have family members who have been affected by these issues and I want to serve in a way to help others also affected by similar experiences."

About Dennis:

"I am blessed with two adult children, two grandchildren, one great-grandchild and two teenage step-children. I have a wonderful wife, Anne, and together we have a very rich and interesting family life. I enjoy golf, reading, Civil War reenacting, model ship building, and archeology. I also serve on the Hancock Regional Planning Commission Board and the Hancock Historical Museum Association Board."



GINNY WILLIAMS

**Assistant Director of Counseling Services,
The University of Findlay**

Why are mental health and substance abuse issues close to your heart? "I have always loved learning about the mental health and substance abuse field and like the opportunity to combine my professional experience with my personal passion and desire to give back."

About Ginny:

"I am an only child who married an only child but wanted my two kids to know what it was like to have a sibling. I enjoy reading a good book at a coffee house, time with family and friends, and especially holiday baking."



*Wishing you and
your loved ones
the very best in
2014!*

Welcome Our Newest Staff Members



CLARA HARROD
Properties Manager

Originally from Fairfax, Virginia, Clara earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology from ONU. Prior to joining the Board, she worked at the City Mission where she created and developed the Day Center program which offers positive opportunities to empower and equip individuals to change their life situation.

Clara's Favorite Childhood Memory:

"Growing up in Virginia, I had the wonderful opportunity of visiting many historical Civil War sites, including Gettysburg, Antietam, and Bull Run. I loved learning about the Civil War...especially Stonewall Jackson who was a man of such importance that even his amputated arm received its own burial place! At the time, I just thought it was so neat!"



AMBER WOLFROM
Director of Planning & Accountability Systems

Amber is a native of Fostoria, Ohio but has lived in Findlay for the past sixteen years. She attended The University of Toledo, earning an Associate's degree in Social Service Technology and a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) degree. Amber also attended The University of Findlay, earning a Master of Liberal Arts degree. Prior to returning to the Board (she served as the Prevention and Education Coordinator from 1999-2007), Amber worked as the Bereavement Coordinator for Bridge Home Health and Hospice.

Amber's Favorite Childhood Memory:

"I most remember spending the entire summer outside in my playhouse or riding bikes with my friends. My mom would whistle when the street lights came on and we knew it was time to get back home"

**Happy
Holidays**