

Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services

FY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Address: 13244 Ravenna Road, Chardon, OH 44024

Phone: 440-285-2282 Fax: 440-285-9617 Email: mhrs@geauga.org www.geauga.org

Note from Christine

Welcome to the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services FY 2023 annual report. As required under O.R.C. 340.03(A)(9), it is meant to provide and make available to the public, a report of the services under the jurisdiction of the Board, and to specify how the Board used funds allocated to establish a continuum of care for behavioral health services. The Board:

- Allocates funds received from Federal, State, and Local sources to seven nonprofit agencies, as well as annual or one-time grants to other agencies for a wide variety of individualized services.
- Provides education and outreach services to the community.
- Assures quality and cost-effective programming by monitoring all aspects of services provided to the community.

"My sincere appreciation and respect for those who stand with individuals and families in times of crisis, acknowledge those in times of achievement, and also provide hope to those maintaining and thriving, trusting they can reach out to you if needed." Christine Lakomiak, Executive Director

Message from the Board Chair

In February 2023 the Board hired a new Executive Director, Christine Lakomiak, who came to us with a superb background from the Lake County ADAMHS Board. In her short tenure, Christine has already made impressive improvements and set the Board on a pathway to producing measurable and tangible improvements to serving our County residents.

Prior to Ms. Lakomiak's arrival, Leila Vidmar served as our interim Executive Director. Leila's experience as a former Board member along with her professional knowledge in business and mental health provided the Board with familiar, stable, and caring leadership in a unique time of transition. Her expertise, guidance, attention to detail, and compassionate nature have been assets to this organization.

Another success of great importance was the passage of our Mental Health Renewal levy in November 2022; it was overwhelmingly passed by the citizens of Geauga County. In fact, it had the highest passage percentage in the history of the renewal levy.

In closing, the 2022-2023 year was marked by tremendous success that has bolstered the Board's ability to positively impact and serve the needs of our County. We will continue this trajectory into the 2023-2024 year.

Dr. Steven Oluic, Ph.D.
Board Chair

Board Members



We welcomed two and said goodbye to three Board members in SFY 2023. The Board of Directors are volunteer residents of Geauga County and are essential in designing an effective and efficient behavioral health system in our community. Our Board members reflect on personal and professional experiences and are able to identify changing local needs and make decisions to meet those needs of Geauga County.

Doug Lundblad is retired from the Army National Guard, owner of a certified veteran owned small business and a member of the Geauga County Veterans Services Commission. He is also a volunteer for the Leader for Veterans Visiting Veterans Program. Doug's role will help the Board identify gaps in services and create new solutions for our behavioral health system. Making an impact on Veterans' health is critical to Doug.

Patricia Varanese works in the behavioral health field as the Executive Director of the Epilepsy Association and has over 30 years of social service experience. Her expertise in program evaluation, planning, budgeting along with collaborations between private and public systems will bring even more strength to our Board of Directors. Patty has lived in Geauga County most of her life, has raised her children here, and is excited to give back to the community she loves.

Linda Miller served from 2010 to 2023 and has participated in all Board committees including Board Chair during her tenure. Using her knowledge and passion for behavioral health she consistently works for the good of Geauga County. Linda has shown her heart for those in need and advocated to establish a solid system for mental health and recovery services in Geauga County. Although Linda termed off the Board, she continues to provide support and advocacy for our mission.

Walter “Skip” Claypool served from 2019 to 2023 and has a strong interest in local political and fiscal matters and has served our county and community in a number of elected and appointed roles. Skip understands the system of county government and has brought the same diligence and energy to the Board that he has contributed in all of his involvements.

Ryan Mekota served from 2022 to 2023 and has brought professional expertise and personal wisdom to the Board. Ryan’s kind and steady demeanor along with his thoughtful approach blended to bring meaningful insight into discussions. He quickly earned the respect of fellow Board Members and will continue to be an outstanding resource in our community.

988 Awarded to Geauga County

In 2022 Ohio launched the 988 suicide and crisis lifeline, a 911-style support number for people who are suicidal or are suffering from other mental health or addiction issues. People who call or text 988, or send a message via 988lifeline.org/chat, will be connected to a trained professional who is able to provide them with assistance and/or guide people to additional care as necessary. The 988 counselors make follow-up calls the next day to check on the callers. Ravenwood Health, a long-time provider of the Geauga COPELINE, was awarded a contract making them one of nineteen 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Programs in Ohio.

100% of Geauga’s 988 staff completed the comprehensive training required by Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services.

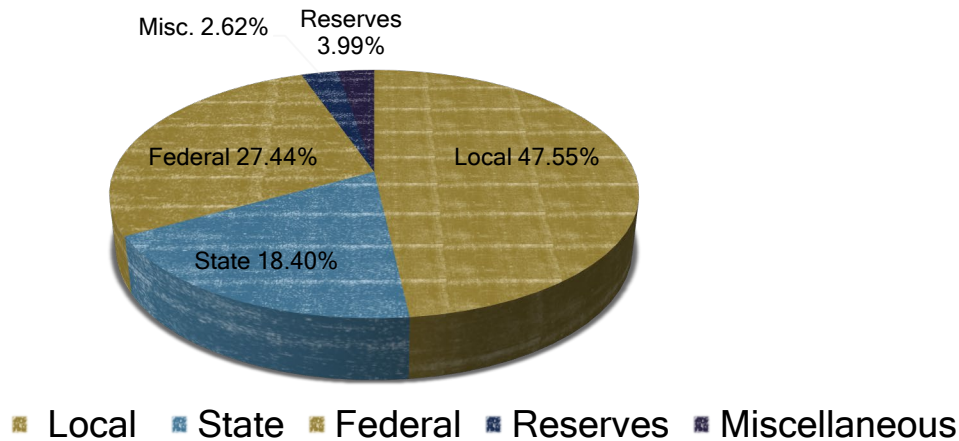
100% of callers determined to be at “imminent risk” of suicide were routed to Emergency Service clinicians within 15 minutes.

100% of Geauga’s 988 staff are trained to collaborate and develop comprehensive safety plans with at-risk callers.



Programs funded by the Geauga County Board of Mental Health & Recovery Services

SFY2023 REVENUE SOURCES



Federal	\$1,935,894
State	\$1,298,428
Local	\$3,355,136
Miscellaneous	\$ 185,054
Reserves	\$ 281,682
TOTAL	\$7,056,194

Emergency Services

COPELINE / 988
Crisis Intervention
Emergency Services Walk-In Clinic
Mobile Crisis Intervention (youth & adults)
Crisis Beds

Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Use Services

Assessment, Evaluation & Testing
Counseling (Individual & Group)
Psychiatric Services
Medication Monitoring
Community Based Services
Day Treatment
Early Childhood

Employment Services

Employment & Vocational Support
Job Coaching & Job Placement

Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Use Services

Psychiatric Hospitalization
Residential Crisis Stabilization youth and adults

Prevention, Outreach, and Education

Youth Led Prevention
Torchlight Youth Mentoring
HIV/AIDS Education
Suicide Prevention
Gambling Prevention
Family First
LOSS Team

Housing

Residential Treatment	Gauga Youth Center
Residential Support	Therapeutic Foster Care
Community Residence	Transitional Living Center

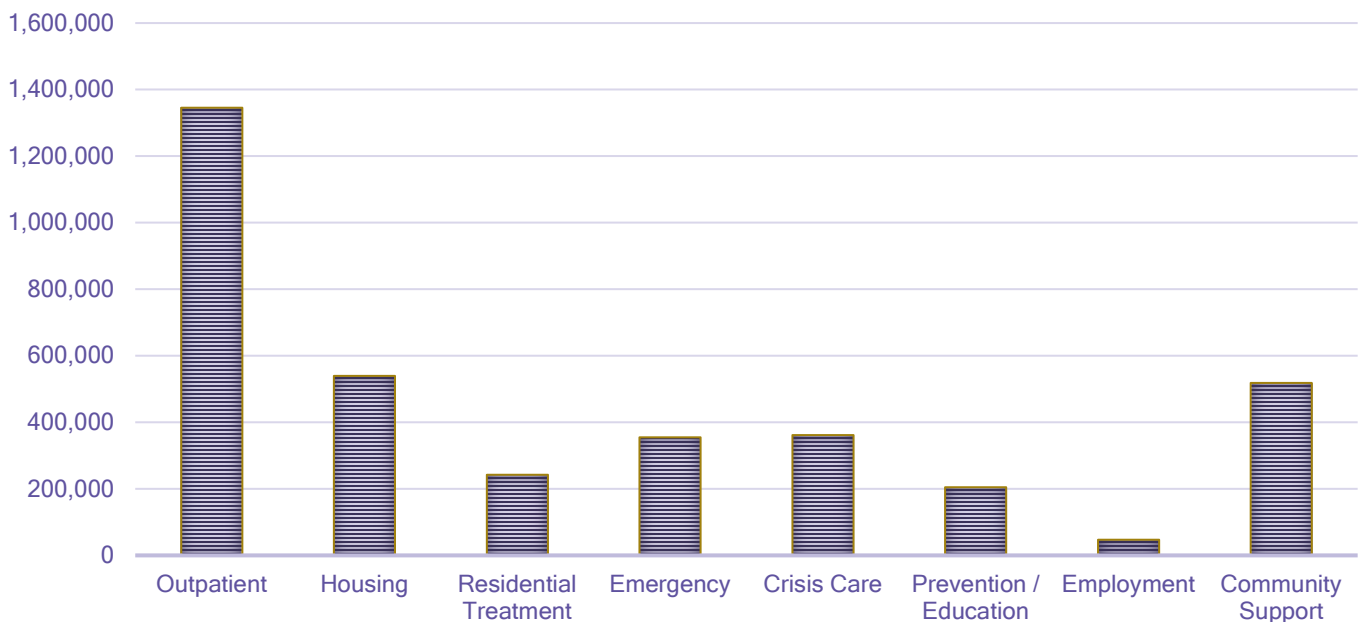
MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY SERVICES DETAIL

SFY 2023 EXPENSES

Support	\$ 714,577
Mental Health Inpatient	\$ 7,725
Mental Health Community Services	\$ 3,614,901
Capital	\$ 9,265
Recovery Services	\$ 2,311,895
Family & Children First	\$ 275,000
Medication	\$ 97,815
Board Services to Agencies	\$ 25,016
Total	\$ 7,056,194

SFY 2023 Federal Revenue	\$ 1,935,894
SFY 2023 State Revenue	\$ 1,298,428
SFY 2023 Local Levy Revenue	\$ 3,355,136
SFY 2023 Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 185,054
Reserves (Carry Over)	\$ 281,682
Total	\$7,056,194

COMMUNITY SERVICES DETAIL



2024 Board Members

Dr. Steven Oluic, Ph.D., Chair

Michael Petruziello, Treasurer

Ann Bagley

Martin Fay

Dr. Carolee Lesyk, Ph.D.

Gregory O'Brien

Patricia Varanese

Alberta Chokshi, Vice Chair

Jimmy Lee Holden, Secretary

Reba Dykes

Kathy Johnson

Douglas Lundblad

Mary Ruth Shumway

Agencies

Catholic Charities

Phone: 440.285.3537

Family Pride of Northeast Ohio

Phone: 440.286.1553

Geauga County Sheriff LOSS Team

Phone: 440.279.2009

Geauga Family First Council

Phone: 440.285.1201

Lake Geauga Recovery Centers

Phone: 440.255.0678

NAMI Geauga County

Phone: 440.286.6264

Ravenwood Health

Phone: 440.285.3568

Signature Health

Phone: 440.352.0608

Torchlight Youth Mentoring Alliance

Phone: 440.352.2526

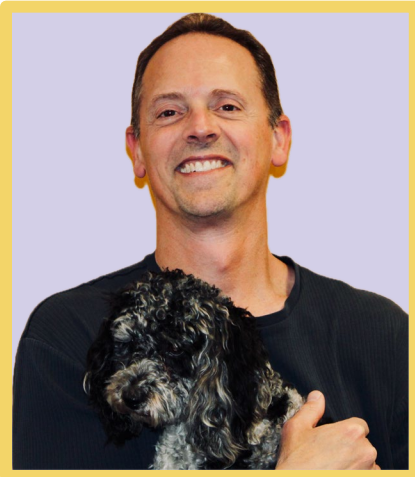
WomenSafe, Inc.

Phone: 440.286.7154

Board Staff



Christine Lakomiak, Executive Director



Jim Mausser, Finance Manager
Luna, Office Mascot



Teresa Slater, Admin/Office Manager



Michelle Maneage, Clinical/Compliance Manager