

Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital
Board of Trustees Meeting
November 2024 Meeting Minutes



FOR YOUR INFORMATION These minutes will not become official until they are formally acted upon at the next Board meeting

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GREYSTONE PARK PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL**

- I. The Board of Trustees Meeting at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital (GPPH) was held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Thursday, November 21, 2024, pursuant to the notice duly given. In conformance with the Public Open Meetings law, notices for the meeting were sent to Daily Record and the Star-Ledger.

Board Member Attendance:

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Chairman, James (Jim) DiGiulio, Esq.	
Vice Chairman, Sheriff James M. Gannon	
Louis Modugno, Esq.	
Tomika Carter, MSW	
Christine Dahlgren	

Hospital Administrators Attendance:

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Joshua Belsky, Chief Executive Officer	
Eric Madurki, Deputy Chief Executive Officer	
Quinzell McKenzie, Chief Operating Officer	
Julie VanHouten, Chief Nursing Officer	
Christopher Dorian, Chief Clinical Officer	
Dr. Harlan Mellk, MD, Acting Medical Director	X
Jack Frey, Business Manager	
Dorothea Josephs-Spaulding, Director of Quality Assurance	
Timothy Dimitrios, Administrative Analyst 4	
Dr. Laura Romano, Director of Nursing	
David Hutchinson, Director of Nursing	
Maria Jazenback, Secretary to the Board	
Stephanie Gabelmann, GPA Liaison	

CALL TO ORDER at 3:15pm by Chairman, James DiGiulio. It was discussed that public comment and questions will occur at the end of the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The September 19, 2024, GPPH Board Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Tomika Carter gave the 1st motion to approve the minutes. Christine Dahlgren gave the 2nd motion to approve the minutes. All in favor. The September 19, 2024, GPPH Board Meeting Minutes were adopted. There was no meeting held in October 2024.



III. CEO REPORT:

Mr. Joshua Belsky, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital (GPPH) presented the CEO Report during this meeting.

A letter written to the CEO from a patient who had recently been discharged was read aloud to all at the meeting as a reminder of the great work we do here at Greystone.

September: The average census was 376. There was a total of twenty-one (21) admissions and thirteen (13) discharged for the month of September. There were sixty-three (63) patients on CEPP status in September which is about 16.8% of the patient population. There were seventy-three (73) KROL patients in September. The violence data was reviewed during this meeting. It was presented that for patient-to-patient incidents there were thirty-nine (39) assaults in September. Of the thirty-nine (39) incidents, one (1) was moderate injury, twelve (12) was minor injury, and twenty-one (21) was no injury. There was a total of fourteen (14) patient-to-staff assault incidents in September. Of the fourteen (14) incidents, five (5) had minor injuries and nine (9) had no injury. It was also presented that for patient-to-patient assault incidents there were 3.55/1000 patient days (year to date is 4.17, down a total of 10% from 2023 which was 4.64). It was also presented that for patient-to-staff incidents there were 1.27/1000 patient days (year to date is 1.45, up 20% from 2023 which was 1.18). There was a total of ten (10) seclusions, twelve (12) restraints, twelve (12) holds, and three (3) contraband incidents.

Departmental Reports: Human Resources attended three (3) job fairs however, had a number of staff leave whether via retirement, resignation or termination. We are currently at 106 staff vacancies however a year ago we were at 200 vacancies. Rehabilitation began planning to start migration as well as increase park place hours for patients and planned a field day event. Social Services attended training by DMHAS on discharge resources along with the doctors. A new psychiatrist began (Dr. Elfar) and two (2) additional psychiatrists are scheduled to start within the next few months.

Major Happenings/Events/Projects: Started the Honeywell Project on all units. Also began planning for the ceiling project.

CEO Activities. Attending PAC meetings, developing position controls, developed emergency trainings with the Deputy CEO and Training Department and connected with outside agencies which will be presented at the next Health and Safety Committee Meeting with Vice Chairman, Sheriff Gannon. Metal detectors/x-ray machines are not yet implemented but will be a primary focus in upcoming months.

Concerning Issues: Increase in census and decrease in discharges is a concerning issue at this time.

October: The average census was 382. There was a total of fifteen (15) admissions and seven (7) discharges for the month of October. There were sixty-four (64) patients on CEPP status in October which is about 16.7% of the patient population. There were seventy-four (74) KROL patients in October. The violence data was reviewed during the meeting. It was presented that for patient-to-patient incidents there were forty (40) assaults in October. Of the forty (40) incidents, thirty (30) were no injury, nine (9) were minor injury, and one (1) was moderate injury. There was a total of seventeen (17) patient-to-staff assault incidents. Of the seventeen (17), there were ten (10) with no injury and seven (7) with minor injuries. It was also presented that for patient-to-patient assault incidents there were 3.41/1000 patient days (2023 average was 4.64) and for patient-to-staff assault incidents there were 1.45/1000 patient days (2023 average was 1.81). There was a total of 92% of the patients at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital that did not have any incidents and 4.6% that had one (1) incident. In October, there were twelve (12) seclusions, thirteen (13) restraints, sixteen (16) holds and one (1) contraband incident related to tobacco.

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Departmental Reports: Human Resources did not have a New Employee Orientation in October due to Octoberfest however there were thirty (30) Human Services Assistant/Human Services Technician positions approved. There were 107 vacancies as of October 31, 2024, and three (3) resignations. A Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee will be established in 2025 at GPPH. For Rehabilitation Services, migration started on October 21st and there have been 258 more patient contacts in October than September. There have also been seventeen (17) more groups held in the J-Wing due to migration being reinstated. There are two (2) new staff that accepted positions within the Social Services Department. All psychiatry and medicine positions are filled with either state or agency doctors with the newest psychiatrist having begun in September. Medical Security Officers number of staff have increased and are meeting with areas and treatment teams for challenging cases. Medical Security Officers are also in their new uniforms as of October.

Major Happenings/Events/Projects: Trauma Informed Care Training is 86% complete for all staff. Securing PIC ceilings began along with other unit upgrades. Octoberfest occurred in October and for the 2nd year in a row is now at 98% compliance for staff. The ID Badge Performance Improvement Project is currently underway, and staff are gradually getting new IDs if they have an ID badge older than five (5) years or a change in title. There are 837 staff that have received flu shots so far. The CEO also welcomed Julie VanHouten to the leadership team as the Chief Nursing Officer.

CEO Activities: On October 29th the CEO held a Town Hall to discuss Safety regarding statistics, metal detectors, and PIC updates. Community outreach continues by attending PAC meetings as well as attendance at conferences held by the Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris and continued outreach to Partnership. The Physician Order Entry System version 2 meetings have started to begin the creation/implementation process. We have identified two (2) potential new Board of Trustees Members that have been referred to the Governor's Office.

Concerning Issues. Concerns in regard to the rising census at GPPH was discussed as well as there will be a three (3) phase project in regard to updating the UPS system at GPPH.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT:

The patient welfare fund information for September 2024 was reviewed by the Board of Trustees prior to this meeting. The beginning balance for September 2024 was reviewed as \$68,606.21 with \$14,643.66 deposited and \$4,033 in disbursements. The ending balance was \$79,216.87. Balance of cash management fund was \$534,624.55 and the total patient welfare fund available balance ended at \$613,841.42.

The patient welfare fund information for October 2024 was reviewed by the Board of Trustees prior to this meeting. The beginning balance for October 2024 was reviewed as \$79,216.87 with \$7,949.38 deposited and \$10,959.68 in disbursements. The ending balance was \$76,206.57. Balance of cash management fund was \$537,607.65 and the total patient welfare fund available balance ended at \$613,814.22.

V. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT:

John Verney from the Office of Community Services presented the following report:

1. Funding Opportunities:

CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR ADULT INDIVIDUALS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER IN TEMPORARY SHELTER BED HOUSING

To provide case management services for adult individuals with a substance use disorder (SUD) placed in temporary shelter housing and in need of long-term housing. Total annualized funding is \$960,000, subject to New Jersey's Opioid Settlement State appropriations. The total funding for each individual in one shelter bed or placed with a division subsidy receiving case management is \$12,000 per year, times the number of individuals served annually (80 individuals). It is anticipated that individuals will obtain permanent housing within four months of initial engagement.



The Division anticipates making up to three (3) regional awards in the amount of up to \$320,000 each; one for each of the following three (3) regions, depending on the number of anticipated awards made in response to the companion RFP "Temporary Shelter Housing Services for Adults Who Use Substances" and the shelter bed assigned locations. Northern Region: Hudson, Essex, Bergen, Unions, Morris, Passaic, Sussex and Warren Counties Central Region: Hunterdon, Mercer, Somerset, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean Counties Southern Region: Burlington, Camden, Atlantic, Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland and Cape May Counties.

The primary objective of this initiative is to address the housing needs within communities of color. As a result, the following cities will be given priority for the award selection process to better serve the populations in need: Newark, Camden, East Orange, Atlantic City, Trenton, Ewing, Paterson, Irvington, Plainfield, and Jersey City.

Deadline for receipt of proposals - no later than 4:00 p.m. is December 3, 2024

TEMPORARY SHELTER HOUSING SERVICES FOR ADULTS WHO USE SUBSTANCES

To develop temporary housing services for adults with substance use disorders (SUD). Bidders must be licensed by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) as a Class I - Adult Individuals 24 hour a day Emergency Shelter for the Homeless.

Total annualized funding is \$2,737,500, subject to New Jersey's Opioid Settlement State appropriations. The total funding for each temporary shelter housing bed is \$18,250 per year multiplied by the number of beds being offered. The minimum number of beds in a shelter that will be accepted for a proposal is ten (10) beds. The primary objective of this initiative is to address the housing needs within communities of color. As a result, the following cities will be given priority in the selection process: Newark, Camden, East Orange, Atlantic City, Trenton, Ewing, Paterson, Irvington, Plainfield, and Jersey City.

The successful bidders will provide temporary shelter beds. Bidders should demonstrate a safe and temporary shelter housing environment. Up to 150 beds will be dedicated to serve approximately 450 individuals annually as part of this initiative. Deadline for receipt of proposals - no later than 4:00 p.m. is December 3, 2024. More information on these Division funding opportunities is available at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/provider/funding/>

2. Recent Funding Awards (Northern Region Only)

Permanent Community-based Housing for Individuals Currently Diagnosed with a Mental Illness, who are in a Nursing Facility, State or County Psychiatric Hospital, or are Homeless Community Support Services (CSS) and community housing (unsupervised) to adult consumers aged 18 and over being discharged from a New Jersey long term care or nursing facility (NF) or, with prior written DMHAS approval, persons being discharged from a State or County Psychiatric Hospital or persons experiencing homelessness.

Agency Name	Annualized Funding	One-time Funds	# of Consumers	County
Community Hope	\$175,950	\$350,000	3	Northern Region
NewBridge Services	\$175,950	\$350,000	3	Hudson County
NewBridge Services	\$175,950	\$350,000	3	Passaic County
Volunteers of America-GNY	\$175,950	\$13,200	3	Passaic County
Volunteers of America-GNY	\$175,950	\$17,200	3	Passaic County
Volunteers of America-GNY	\$175,950	\$13,200	3	Passaic County

VII. GREYSTONE PARK ASSOCIATION REPORT:

Stephanie Gabelmann liaison for the Greystone Park Association presented the following report:

June to October: about 750 pieces of clothes were given to patients and nine (9) patient discharge packages were provided. No facility issues currently aside from the water/plumbing smell. This is currently being looked into. One (1) new volunteer has begun and a second has applied to work at Cottage 12. As always, new volunteers are needed. GPA will try to recruit more. Also, at times of particularly short staffing they will begin consolidating staff for one open day per week and will let the hospital know if there will be a store closure for specific days. GPA is happy with the ongoing Creative Employment Center's support they have been receiving from the hospital. It is working out well for patients, GPA staff and GPPH staff. GPA provided \$2000 for

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patient ice cream. It was given out during the Field Day event on 9/26/24. Any leftover funds can be directed towards snacks at another event or where needed. GPA has provided \$7000 for patient holidays, \$15 on each patient's cashless card and leftover funds will go towards a holiday gathering on 12/24/24 as well as a New Years Eve celebration on 12/31/24. John Goginsky, a longtime member of GPA passed away on October 28, 2024. GPPH staff signed cards that were sent to the family and GPA staff GPA sends their thanks. GPA Patient Shopping Instructions was provided to the Board of Trustees and GPPH prior to this meeting along with a Clothing Request Form and Discharge Item Request Form.
Chairman, Jim DiGiulio gave condolences to GPA for their loss of John and advised Stephanie Gabelmann to please let the Board of Trustees know if GPA needs anything due to being short volunteers.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business to address.

IX. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business to address.

X. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Chairman, James DiGiulio opened the floor for questions and/or comments. Members of the public were reminded that they have five (5) minutes to state their question(s)/comments Any questions/concerns that cannot be addressed during this meeting will be addressed during the next meeting.

Public Member:

Ms. Ann Weber asked the following questions:

Due to covid, the visitation place changed as there used to be Thanksgiving family meals in 2019 on the units. Will families be allowed to share a meal with patients again this year?

Josh Belsky, CEO advised that family members can call in with approval from the treatment team to have a family meal together.

Christine Dahlgren, Board of Trustees Member asked questions in regard to patient visits such as if patients will be able to have more than one (1) or two (2) visitors for visits in the future and if the call-in number should continue to be used for these visit requests?

The CEO advised the call-in number is to continue to be used however, due to limited space in the court room during colder months only one (1) or two (2) visitors per patient is to ensure maximum capacity for room size is being met.

Are chair exercise groups available for geriatric patients?

This question was unable to be answered at this meeting but will be listed under old business at the next regular board of trustees meeting.

Ms. Weber expressed that extra TVs on the units is a positive thing and wanted to recognize that during the meeting.

Settlement agreement box, does it have a form for patients to complete to drop in the box?

Josh Belsky, CEO advised that a form can be completed, or a summary can be dropped into the box as long as contact information is listed.

Is there a Chief of Medicine, Chief of Psychiatry and Medical Director, if so, who are they?

Josh Belsky, CEO advised there is a Chief of Medicine (Dr. Harlan Melik) and he is also acting as the Medical Director until the position is filled. The Chief of Psychiatry position is currently vacant.

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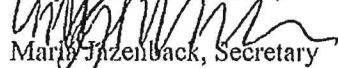
XI. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:58pm.


XII. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital Board of Trustees will be the Annual Public Meeting which will be held on Thursday, December 19, 2024, in person at 3:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mary Jazenback, Secretary
GPPH's Board of Trustees

Witnessed By,


James DiGiulio, Chairman
GPPH's Board of Trustees