



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 via telephone conference call on Thursday, March 16, 2023, 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.	
Sheriff James M. Gannon	
Peter Simon, Esq.	X
Bruce Sisler, Esq.	
Louis Modugno, Esq.	X
Tomika Carter, MSW	

Hospital Administrators Attendance:

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Thomas Rosamilia, Interim Chief Executive Officer	
Eric Madurki, Deputy Chief Executive Officer	X
Dr. Harlan Mellk, MD, Acting Medical Director	
Dr. Laura Romano, Chief Nursing Officer	X
Jack Frey, Business Manager	
Dorothea Josephs-Spaulding, Director of Quality Management	
Timothy Dimitrios, Administrative Analyst 4	
David Hutchinson, Director of Nursing	X
Maria Jazenback, Secretary to the Board	
Stephanie Gabelmann, GPA Liaison	X

CALL TO ORDER at 3:15pm by Chairman, James DiGiulio. It was discussed that since the meeting is being held via telephone conference call that all parties phones are to be muted but at the end of the meeting the line will be opened for any public comments.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The February 16, 2023 Board minutes were presented for approval. Tomika Carter gave the 1st motion to approve the minutes. Vice Chairman, Sheriff Gannon gave the 2nd motion for approval. All in favor. The February 2023 minutes were adopted.

III. CEO REPORT:

Mr. Tom Rosamilia, Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital presented the CEO Report for the board meeting.

The CEO welcomed the new Chief Operating Officer, Quinzell McKenzie to the team and feels he will be an asset to Greystone and the operations team.

The CEO began by stating the Board of Trustees has already received a through report from the CEO so the CEO will go over some items that he feels are important to discuss during the meeting. The CEO discussed that our average census for February 2023 is 366.85. We are slowly inching up in total census. In February 2023, our admissions were 15 and discharges were 8 so our admissions exceeded our discharges. The CEO announced that we discharged two patients who were both at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital for over a decade.

The CEO discussed the patient risk assessment and that we are currently using the Broset however, it was determined this is not adding value so we are developing a three tier model to highlight most at risk for violence and self injurious behaviors.

Human Resources (HR) picked up the pace with hiring and has been pulling applications offline and getting them to supervisors quickly to review for possible interviews. Kudos to HR for doing a great job. We will be onboarding one (1) psychiatrist in April as well as have about 2-3 psychiatrists in the pipeline for the next few months. There were two new social workers that were hired (both licensed). Human Service Assistants had been in short supply but we currently have eight (8) in New Employee Orientation and about fifteen (15) offers were given. There are dozens of candidates for about eight (8) positions left to fill. There are four (4) Supervisors for the Medical Security Officers that were submitted for approval.

We are currently finalizing PIC enclosures and the Chief Operating Officer is ensuring and overseeing the permits, bidding, etc. for this project.

Chaplaincy had 86 groups held that 348 patients attended and 1272 patient contacts occurred. Co-Occurring held 152 groups that 526 patients attended. Court Coordination scheduled sixteen (16) KROL hearings and held fourteen (14) KROL hearings. There were two (2) hearings that were adjourned by court/counsel. There were 67 involuntary review hearings held. There were nine (9) patients that were CEPP recommended. There were four (4) patients who were made CEPP against recommendation of the doctor. There were zero IOC conversions. Infection Prevention in February 2023 had a rate of 1.0 and 12 total infections. Nutrition held 41 groups that 411 patients attended.

Joint Commission conducted their tri-annual survey from June 22, 2021 to June 25, 2021. There were fifty-four (54) deficiencies with six (6) deficiencies in the high range and fourteen (14) conditional scores.

Ligature resistant window coverings will be coming in the next few weeks and we will be starting to put them up in the units according to schedule.

There were 47 patient to patient assaults in February, and the # of patient to patient per 1000 days is 4.18. There were 23 patient to staff assaults in February, and the # of patient to staff per 1000 days is 2.04. The Human Service Police keep the violence data for our hospital as well as Ancora and Trenton Psychiatric Hospital and we are the lowest of all three hospitals. There were eight (8) restraints in February and 35 seclusions in February. There was a total of 22 hours for restraints.

There were two (2) Pre-Construction Risk Assessments done in February 2023. There has been a total of two (2) for the year.

Rehabilitation Services ran 1,439 groups and recorded 6,874 patient contacts averaging 4.77 patients per group. Tonsorial Services provided 436 services to our patients including hair cuts, shaves, blow outs, shampoo and conditioning of hair, braids, color, eye brows, etc.

Food Service completed over 31,000 meals in February for patients only. Housekeeping is looking to bring back their night shift to do more through cleaning on the overnights. The Fire Department completed 28 drills in February and responded to 20 incidents. We currently have twenty one (21) Interim Life Safety Measures (ILSM) in place for the damaged ceiling tiles in the basement.

Chairman, Jim DiGiulio thanked the CEO and his staff for the work they have been doing and for a very thorough report on the previous months statistics. Chairman welcomed the Chief Operating Officer to Greystone and stated it is good to have an Essex County representative at Greystone. Thank you to the CEO and his team for keeping the board up to date on psychiatrists. The CEO should present an update at the next meeting in regard to the psychiatrist numbers we currently have and how many are currently recruiting over the next few months.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The patient welfare fund information for February 2023 was reviewed by the Board of Trustees prior to this meeting. The beginning balance for February 2023 was reviewed as \$79,227.90 with \$7,596.82 deposited and \$10,020.77 in disbursements. The ending balance was \$76,803.95. Balance of cash management fund was \$492,560.08 and the total patient welfare fund available balance ended at \$569,364.03.

Jack Frey, Business Manager presented that the allocation of funds for F1 patients should be moved to F3 as the patients are currently on F3. The Board of Trustees approved of the transfer of funds to accommodate the location of where the patients are currently in the facility.

Elizabeth Dimitrios, Director of Rehabilitation Services discussed that in celebration of National Hospital Week, May 7th through 13th, Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital would like to have a series of friendly competitions between the Areas in our hospital. We envision each area to compete in not only some physical competitions but also some competitions such as trivia and board games. Rehabilitation Services currently has \$18,788.99 in the patient welfare fund account and they propose spending \$13,200.00 for the event as follows:

- \$10,200 for 1700 tshirts
- \$3000 for ice cream for the events

Tomika Carter gave the 1st motion to approve the use of patient welfare funds for this event and Bruce Sisler gave the 2nd motion. All in favor.

V. OLD BUSINESS

How many restraints and seclusions were there in 2022?

There were 55 restraints and there were barely any over one (1) hour per episode. Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital has the lowest level of restraint use for a psychiatric hospital in the United States. There were 214 seclusions in 2022.

How many total elopments occurred in 2022?

The Administrative Order discusses that an elopement is for any person with criminal status. In 2022, we had two (2) elopements. One (1) patient was on a doctor's appointment and the other patient was out in the community but was found the same day. The Interim CEO discussed that although there were only two, there were many cases where patients walked out the front door and were followed by staff and brought back to the facility.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital Board of Trustees Meetings will occur in person in June 2023, September 2023, and December 2023. All other meetings in 2023 will be held via telephone.

VII. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORTING

John Verney, Office of Community Services provided the following report during this meeting:

1. Governor Phil Murphy announced that his budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2024 will include \$10 million in funding to expand the ARRIVE Together program throughout the state. Over two dozen municipalities in 10 different counties will be joining ARRIVE Together starting in May 2023.

The expansion of ARRIVE Together will bring the total number of law enforcement agencies involved in the initiative to over thirty. In most jurisdictions, mental health professionals will accompany plainclothes officers in unmarked police vehicles to respond to 9-1-1 calls for service relating to mental or behavioral health crises, although each county may employ a slightly different framework of interaction between the mental health and law enforcement responders. Nine different health care providers around the state have signed on to dedicate their resources to work with police on this effort, which is designed to form relationships between individuals needing help and law enforcement and mental health professionals, in order to de-escalate situations and transition away from law enforcement relying on emergency rooms or use of force. Police officers from the following municipalities and agencies will be participating in the program:

Atlantic County: Atlantic City

Camden County: Clementon; Gibbsboro; Lindenwold; Pine Hill; Voorhees

Cape May County: Lower Township; Middle Township

Cumberland County: Bridgeton; Cumberland County Sheriff's Office; Millville; Vineland

Essex County: Bloomfield; East Orange; Orange

Hudson County: Bayonne; Hudson County Sheriff's Office

Mercer County: Ewing; Hamilton

Middlesex County: Edison; Highland Park; Woodbridge

Ocean County: Beachwood; Berkeley; Ocean Gate; Pine Beach

Union County: Clark; Cranford; Elizabeth; Linden; Plainfield; Roselle Park; Scotch Plains; Union County

Commissioners; Union County Police; Union County Sheriff's Office; Westfield

ARRIVE Together first launched as a pilot program in December 2021 by the State Police in Cumberland County. The Attorney General has formed a Statewide Steering Committee to advise on the ARRIVE Together initiative as it continues to grow. The Steering Committee is comprised of law enforcement executives, mental health professionals, prosecutors, and community leaders.

Full Press Release is available at: <https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562023/approved/20230208a.shtml>

2. Governor Murphy's proposed State Fiscal Year 2024 budget includes (but is not limited to) the following funding initiatives related to mental health and substance use disorder care.

- **Increased Wage Rates for Community Providers:** \$27 million (includes roughly \$6 million appropriated directly to Medicaid). Similar to FY23, DMHAS will have additional funding to increase Fee for Service Rates and cost reimbursement contracts. Note: Additional \$10.5 million federal impact is estimated (in Medicaid); results in gross increase of \$37 million. The aim is to support community providers so that they can meet pressures of wage inflation and attract/retain key staff.
- **New Olmstead Placements** \$2.7 million in the State General Fund; with \$800K in Federal Medicaid the gross investment is \$3.5 million. This will provide funding for new community based supportive housing placements. Continues Division's investment in integrated community based living for persons discharged from psychiatric hospitals and nursing facilities, and those at risk of hospitalization, consistent with the US Supreme Court's Olmstead decision.
- **Funding for the 4 County Psychiatric Hospitals:** Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Union: Additional funding needed due to higher per diem rates in CY23 (for first half of SFY24) and anticipated in CY24 (second half of SFY24)
- **Mental Health Professionals Capacity Expansion Initiatives:** \$ 120K added to the \$800K amount from FY2023 to fully funds costs for 4 Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowships. Full funding for the costs for these fellows will ensure slot availability and ultimately, enhanced capacity to serve youth suffering from mental illness.
- The Department of Human Services will be making \$100 million in new one time investments in home and community based services, including major investments in workforce development. This includes the below initiatives impacting DMHAS and its community partners:
 - Nearly \$20 million for loan redemption and similar programs for community based care workers in fields such as behavioral health care, private duty nursing, applied behavioral analysis, and substance use disorder treatment.
 - Up to \$60 million for recruitment and retention bonuses for the workforce that serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, mental health conditions, and substance use disorder.
 - Certification and training programs for certified recovery support practitioners, staff working in the community to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and certified community health workers in apprenticeships.
 - More than \$13 million to develop housing options for individuals residing in nursing facilities and institutional settings who could be supported in the community and wish to transition to less restrictive settings. This initiative will be primarily focused on individuals under the age of 65 with mental illness and/or intellectual and developmental disabilities.

3. Request For Proposals (RFP): Information on recent funding opportunities is available at: <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/provider/funding/>

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

Public Member

Ms. Ann Weber asked the following questions:

How many total assaults were there in February 2023?

The Interim CEO advised there were 59 total in February 2023.

How many nurses are on each unit?

The Interim CEO discussed that most times there are two (2) nurses on each unit unless the unit is high acuity then it often times will have three (3) nurses.

Since Greystone has many forensic patients, is there a committee to address the violence at the hospital?

The Interim CEO discussed that there is a committee called the Violence Prevention Committee which meets monthly to address and review violence within the hospital.

How many forensic patients are at Greystone?

The Interim CEO advised there are about 80 forensic patients at Greystone.


X. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at **3:52pm**.

XI. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, April 20, 2023 via telephone.

Respectfully Submitted,



Maria Jazenback, Secretary
GPPH's Board of Trustees

Witnessed By,



James DiGiulio, Chairman
GPPH's Board of Trustees