



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Fairfield County ADAMH appoints four new Board members

LANCASTER, Ohio, September 29 — Before the start of the monthly meeting on Sept. 28, 2021, the Fairfield County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health (ADAMH) Board filled several vacancies on its Board with the swearing in of four new members by Fairfield County Municipal Court Judge Jim Fields. Those who took the oath are Whitney Babbert (43130); Michelle Duncan, LICDC, LISW (43130); Letisha Leach, MSN, RN, CNP (43105); and Mary Schwader (43130).

“With the addition of these new volunteer members,” says Fairfield County ADAMH Executive Director Marcy Fields, LISW-S, “we are excited to have a full 14-member Board to uphold the mission and vision of ADAMH and serve the county community.”

The mission of the ADAMH Board is “To promote healing, support recovery, and provide prevention and treatment services of mental health and addiction disorders within our community.” The vision is to “Create opportunities for treatment, wellness, and recovery for those with mental health and/or substance use disorders [and] advance a Continuum of Care philosophy.” Statutorily, the ADAMH Board is responsible to plan, fund, and monitor mental health and addiction services in Fairfield County. These services include prevention, treatment, and recovery supports.

A Board member candidate does not have to become an instant expert in public mental health and substance use disorder services administration, prevention, treatment, and recovery supports. A candidate’s personal values provide more guidance to the Board in its complex functions of planning, funding, and monitoring for the future. The myriad of day-to-day operational details are handled by Board staff. Board members provide leadership and decision-making on policy issues that have long-term impact.

Board members are dedicated to regularly attending committee and Board meetings, thoughtfully reviewing Board materials, critically evaluating options, and having passion to advance fulfillment of the Board’s strategic goals to better the lives of Fairfield County residents and their families who have experienced or may experience a mental health or substance use disorder — preventing such disorders whenever possible.

All appointments are made by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services or the Fairfield County Commissioners. Service as an ADAMH Board member is voluntary and Board members do not receive compensation. For more information, visit <https://www.fairfieldadamh.org/ADAMH-Board-Members.html>.

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