



General Meeting
January 23, 2017
2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Jennifer Champion of The Find HOPE Here Project

Incorporated in 2014 and approved as a 501(c)3 organization in 2015.

From *thefindhopehereproject.org*:

A Bag of Hope is the core ministry of the Find Hope Here Project. It was started in 2015 as a "Bucket of HOPE" and a way to spread hope and essentials to those who are homeless in the form of a five-gallon bucket. However, we discovered the Buckets are harder to carry and heavy for the person living on the streets. In Winter 2016, we [began] distributing items as a Bag of HOPE.

Hugs of HOPE are stuffed animals that are wrapped in a message of hope and comfort. They are distributed monthly to police and fire departments throughout Tuscaloosa county. These lovable toys get to ride along in squad cars and fire trucks to be given to a child that is in need of comfort.

Children that receive Hugs of HOPE are:

Victims in an auto accident.

Victims of a house fire.

The child of a parent/grandparent that has died.

The child of a parent/grandparent that has gotten arrested.

Victims of abuse.

If you would like to donate a gently used or new stuffed animal to Hugs of HOPE, please contact Jennifer at 205-657-3824 or email at info@hopeisnotlost.net.

There will be 12 Mission Centers established throughout Tuscaloosa County.

District #1 Fosters Missions Center

District #2 Duncanville Missions Center

District #3 Coaling-Vance Missions Center

District #4 Abernant Missions Center

District #5 Brookwood Missions Center

District #6 Windham Springs Missions Center

District #7 Samantha Missions Center

District #8 Northport - Coker Missions Center

District #9 Elrod Missions Center

District #10 Central-Alberta Tuscaloosa City Missions Center

District #11 Cottondale - Southside Missions Center

District #12 West End Missions Center - ****COMING SOON****

Each Mission Center is 1,000 sq. ft. and will have the following at no charge to the community district it serves:

Food Pantry - Feeding up to 100 meals per week to feed a family of 4 persons per family

Clothing Closet - Providing winter clothing and clothing for jobs or school.

Bible Studies - Classes for Men, Women, Teens, and Children weekly

Addiction Recovery Classes - Faith Based 12-Step Recovery classes weekly

Job & Life Skills Training Classes- Teaching skills that are necessary in today's world to help break free from financial hardships.

2017 funding is being collected towards purchase of land in Northport, Ala., to construct *The Refuge*, a 32-bed homeless shelter and transitional living home. The land will also accommodate one dozen mini homes for clients to live after program completion. 2018-2021 funding is slated for use towards building materials and labor for construction of *The Refuge*.

Donations can be made online via PayPal or debit/credit card (secured) or by mail. Please do not send cash. Check or Money Orders only to the address below:

The Find HOPE Here Project

5032 Smithfield Circle

Northport, AL 35473

Please note on your check or money order if you have a specific ministry or purpose for your donation. All donations are tax deductible with EIN #47-1549937.

Hot Hundred Planning/Board and Budget Update

Terry reminded members the 2017 Hot Hundred will be held on Saturday July, 29th at The University of Alabama Outdoor Pool Complex. More information and requests for volunteers to come.

The third Pieology fundraising night will be held Wednesday, February 15th from 5-8 pm. This monthly fundraising will continue on the 15th of every month.

Plans are in the works for a fundraising agreement with Fuzzy's Tacos, and a suggestion was made to consider and request a lunchtime event.

Upcoming Events and Other Announcements

Terry provided information about planning for a March 29th Symposium on Suicide and Substance Abuse. A venue has not been secured, but the Tuscaloosa River Market is being considered. Tentative time will be 6:30-8 pm.

A 12-week Family-to-Family support group through NAMI is scheduled to begin in February. Information will be provided via email to TMHA members.

On Feb. 13th from 8:30 am to 5 pm at TPD, West Central Alabama AHEC will host an 8-hour Youth Mental Health First Aid course.

The 2nd Annual Adolescent and Young Adult Conference through Bradford will be held May 3rd at the Pelham Civic Center.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee – February 14th at 1 pm

Board of Directors – February 14th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting – February 27th at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting
February 27, 2017
2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Phyllis Lewis of The Salvation Army

Presenter did not attend.

Hot Hundred Planning/Board and Budget Update

The 2017 Hot Hundred will be held on Saturday July, 29th at The University of Alabama Outdoor Pool Complex. The current financial arrangement with Druid City Bicycle Club is being negotiated.

The monthly Pieology fundraising night will be held Wednesday, March 15th from 5-8 pm.

Plans are in the works for a fundraising agreement with Fuzzy's Tacos.

Upcoming Events/March Symposium and Other Announcements

Terry has been continuing coordination of a March 29th Symposium on Suicide (SOS) from 7-8:30 pm to address suicide and substance abuse, in collaboration with the UA Department of Social Work and Panhellenic Council (Emma Farrow, Director of Communications and Outreach).

Through the efforts of Emma Farrow, the Panhellenic Council will donate \$1000 to the Alliance and will guarantee leadership of each fraternity and sorority are present, as well as a minimum number of members. In addition, the UA Student Government Association has pledged support.

Dr. David Albright, Endowed Chair of the Hill Crest Foundation for Mental Health, secured approval of the funding for the River Market (including 400 seats) as venue for the symposium.

Indian Rivers Mental Health Center will donate \$300 to the event.

Exhibitors can setup at the event at a cost of \$50 per table. Exhibitors interested at this time include: Phoenix House, PRIDE, Bradford and Alliance Health Center in Meridian. Laura Reeves has an intern that will assist with coordinating exhibitors.

Panhellenic Council and Eta Sigma Gamma (Department of Health Sciences) are collaborating for advertising, marketing and social media. Press coverage will include Fox 6 Birmingham and *The Tuscaloosa News*.

PRIDE intern Christina Martin is partnering with Terry and Nicole Hall in the planning process and is working to gather student volunteers from the University.

In other announcements, the 2nd Annual Adolescent and Young Adult Conference through Bradford will be held May 3rd at the Pelham Civic Center.

PRIDE will host a free public screening of *Chasing the Dragon* at the Bama Theater on March 28th.

Members interested in attending the event were asked to reserve a spot by emailing Kathryn, tuscaloosamha@gmail.com.

Tuscaloosa REACTS will host a free conference and lunch on March 31st from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, sponsored by the UA School of Social Work. CEUs are available. caps.ua.edu/reacts/

Hampton Point and Grandview are currently accepting housing applications for waitlist.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee – March 14th at 1 pm

Board of Directors – March 14th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting – March 20th at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting
March 20, 2017
2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Dr. Mike Daria, Tuscaloosa City Schools Superintendent

From *tuscaloosacityschools.com*:

Mike Daria serves as the Superintendent for the Tuscaloosa City Schools.

He started his education career with the Greene County Schools before coming to the Tuscaloosa City Schools in 1996.

Daria has served as an English teacher, assistant principal, principal, executive director of personnel and assistant superintendent prior to his current role. He received his Ed.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Alabama.

He and his wife Susy have two children, Nicholas and Tyler, who attend the Tuscaloosa City Schools.

Copies of *Learning Reimagined: Strategic Plan Implementation 2016-2019* were distributed, outlining a 175 million-dollar facilities improvement plan.

The goal is to transform class environments to allow for collaboration and remove distracting and energy-draining air conditioning units, as well as exchange of fluorescent lighting for LED.

Human resources will also be overhauled to ensure highly-effective teachers in all classrooms. The current turnover rate is 22 percent. Nationally, the average rate is 9.8 percent. This turnover is in part affected by low compensation, which will be adjusted to be 5-8 percent above the state requirement.

In addition, the system will support National Board Certification for teachers.

Digital 1-1 conversion to allow each student to check out a laptop began with 6th graders citywide in 2016-17 and will be expanded in 2017-18. Starting in fall 2017, all 6th-8th grades will have this access to learning beyond the school day.

Bryant High School Performing Arts program will also open in the fall.

Among 3rd graders citywide in 2016-17, an average of 39 percent read proficiently. TCS will implement programs and provide resources to support a focus on literacy and reading in all schools. Daria said community involvement will be vital in this effort and will contribute to the economic health of the city.

UA Honors College will train 60 students to be reading buddies for one school in the system in 2017-18.

However, Daria noted students who attend school with barriers due to mental illness, home environment stress or homelessness, will need additional intervention to be successful in school.

TCS currently employs 11 social workers, and a representative from Indian Rivers is available in all city schools, but there is need for more.

Efforts to improve the learning environment will be limited in effectiveness if students and their families are in need of housing, utility assistance or other bare essentials.

Daria said the system is rethinking the goal of a high school education, so that students graduate college and/or career ready with specific skills and abilities and finish with college credits or vocational certification.

TCS is working to collaborate with community programs available (e.g. Public Library, Shelton State, PARA, YMCA and Boys & Girls Clubs) in the summer to connect students at all grade levels in need of financial assistance and will also offer programs specific to the system. Daria said libraries may remain open in the summer, as well.

Audrey Ellis noted the need for a crisis center for mental health intervention for students. Families are often unable to follow through on programs that are only available in Birmingham.

Hot Hundred Planning/Board and Budget Update

Joseph reiterated the need for all members to participate in locating sponsors for the ride.

Registration is open—ccnbikes.com.

Ride Director Britney McComb provided a planning update and asked members to volunteer for the three Ride-related events. She asked all members to utilize social media connections to spread word about registration and request community support. Any questions can be directed to britneymccomb84@gmail.com.

The agreement with DCBC is still under negotiation.

Upcoming Events/March Symposium and Other Announcements

Terry Heverly has been continuing coordination of a March 29th symposium to address suicide and substance abuse, in collaboration with the UA Department of Social Work and Panhellenic Council (Emma Farrow, Director of Communications and Outreach).

Joseph Abrams, Kylie Kitchens of Bradford and Terry met recently with Alexis Clark at River Market to go over plans for the event.

Dr. David Albright, Endowed Chair of the Hill Crest Foundation for Mental Health, secured approval of the funding for the River Market (including 400 seats) as venue for the symposium from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. With event insurance now confirmed, participation is virtually unlimited with standing room available.

Emma Farrow will set up registration through Eventbrite (*eventbrite.com*).

There will be a brief planning meeting following today's meeting for anyone interested.

Exhibitors are being recruited at a cost of \$50 per table to help cover the cost of the event insurance and other supplies. Checks received at this time include: Alliance Health Center, Bradford and NAMI.

Nicole Hall is handling the resource page of the program, which will list all exhibitor information. Supporting agencies will also be recognized on screens throughout the River Market during the event.

Speakers confirmed at this time include: Dr. Joe Scrivner of Stillman (invocation), ADMH Commissioner Jim Perdue (short remarks), Cynthia Almond (welcome from the City), Mary Turner, Preston Jutte and Ashley Foster (American Foundation for Suicide Prevention—*afsp.org*)

Amy Martin, Director of Alabama Television Programming and WVUA 23, with The College of Communications will provide a gift in kind of a student videographer to film the event, create a master DVD and oversee production of 100 DVDs to be distributed to those interested. TMHA will pay for the copies through the Center for Public Television.

Joseph Abrams will handle media release forms for the event speakers. He is also working for the FOX affiliate in Birmingham for post-event coverage.

Terry has confirmed that the LGBTQ community will promote the event via social media.

Flyers should be ready for pick up and distribution on Tuesday, March 21st. DCH Northport is underwriting the printing of the event programs. Crimson Copies will handle all printing.

Buffalo Rock will donate 17 cases of water. PRIDE interns will assist with pick up from Buffalo Rock and delivery to the event.

Recommendation made that Terry do the send out at the conclusion of the speakers to remind everyone to visit the exhibitors.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee – April 11th at 1 pm

Board of Directors – April 11th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting – April 17th at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting

April 17, 2017

2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Lindsay Preskenis, Indian Rivers Mental Health Center

From *irmhc.org*:

Indian Rivers was established in 1969 with the goal of providing excellent care to individuals coping with behavioral health needs. We treat a variety of diagnoses such as A.D.H.D, depression, anxiety, thought disorders, mood disorders, psychotic disorders, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities.

Indian Rivers is a comprehensive mental health center. We offer a rich continuum of care for mental illness, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities including:

- Psychiatric Evaluation
- Medication Monitoring
- Individual and Family Therapy
- Case Management
- Group Therapy
- Intensive In-Home Services
- Basic Living Skills Training
- Day Treatment
- Inpatient Crisis Stabilization
- Partial Hospitalization Program
- Inpatient Substance Abuse for Women
- DayHab (for Developmental Disabilities)

- Supportive Employment (Dev. Dis)
- Personal Care/Hourly Services (Dev. Dis)
- Mental Health Consultation
- Residential Services (MI and Dev. Dis.)
- Community Education
- Psychological Testing
- Assessment/Referral for Inpatient SA
- Pharmacy and Patient Assistance Programs for medications
- Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment

Indian Rivers accepts various insurances including Medicaid, Medicare, ALL Kids, some BCBS and other commercial insurances. We also offer a sliding fee scale based on income for those who do not have insurance. Individuals as young as 5 years old can be assessed for services.

Mental illness prevention, children's programming, outpatient counseling and case management are all provided by IRMHC.

School-based care began in 2014 with TCS. Partnership has now extended to the Tuscaloosa County Schools. Care is provided in-house to ensure children are able to receive treatment without having to leave school premises and miss as little class time as possible. Programming is available in 13 city schools and 4 county schools.

Two in-home intervention teams provide intensive therapeutic services to children and families for 12-16 weeks. Teams meets with families a minimum of twice per week, but may meet as many times as 5 days per week as needed.

Telepsychiatry is provided via a secure connection similar to Skype.

A Community Outreach Specialist was hired in the summer of 2017 to liaison with community agencies.

The Juvenile Court Liaison works closely with the court system to provide mental health assessments for juveniles.

Children ages 5-17 are eligible for services. Rolling walk-in intake is available M-F from 8 am to 10 am.

At this time, acute inpatient care for children is only available in Birmingham.

There is no immediate solution at this time for a child psychiatrist.

Hot Hundred Planning/Board and Budget Update

Joseph reiterated the need for all members to participate in locating sponsors for the 15th annual ride.

Ride Director Britney McComb may be reached regarding questions at britneymccomb84@gmail.com.

The agreement with DCBC is still under negotiation.

March Symposium Report and Other Announcements

The March 29th symposium to address suicide and substance abuse, in collaboration with the UA Department of Social Work and Panhellenic Council (Emma Farrow, Director of Communications and Outreach), took place and was well-attended by students and professionals.

For the second year, TMHA will host a *Pass the Petals* campaign at community agencies, businesses and organizations around town.

Joseph announced that TMHA tentatively intends to hold a Fall Workshop on Tuesday, Oct. 17th. The topic has not yet been confirmed, but may relate to mental illness and trauma. He asked for speaker recommendations.

Children's Hospital plans to partner with the Morgan Foundation to create a Psychiatric Intake Response Center for a limited number of counties. Informational meeting at 5:30 pm on April 26th in the Bradley Lecture Hall at Children's.

May 15th from 5 pm to 8 pm will be the next Pieology fundraising night.

Willard Auditorium DCH—Emergency Symposium on April 27th. Free lunch and CEUs available.

Bradford will hold the annual Adolescent Young Adult Conference on May 3rd at the Pelham Civic Center. CEUs available.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee – May 9th at 1 pm

Board of Directors – May 9th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting – May 15th at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting

May 15, 2017

2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Candy Palmer, Alabama Mental Health Website

From *alabamamentalhealth.org*:

A mental health directory designed to provide guidance to local help for all, listing non-profit organizations and private practitioners that provide services, support, and information in the State of Alabama.

The Mental Health Directory was an initiative of the Jefferson County Mental Health Group. This group was a part of the Health Action Partnership of the Jefferson County Health Department. Their mission was to provide a pathway/access to Mental Health Care.

Our hope is to provide access to quality mental health care information to all citizens of Alabama. We understand the importance of mental health care, and we believe everyone deserves the opportunity to access information concerning their mental health.

Privately-funded, responsive website designed to work equally well on traditional desktops and mobile platforms. Designed and managed by WideNet Consulting in Birmingham.

Hot Hundred Planning/Board and Budget Update

Joseph reiterated the need for all members to participate in locating sponsors, providing Wish List items and volunteering for the 15th annual ride. Ride Director Britney McComb may be reached regarding questions at britneymccomb84@gmail.com.

To date, confirmed sponsors include Tuscaloosa Tourism (\$2500), UA Community Health Sciences (\$2500), Blue Cross Blue Shield (\$1000), IRMHC (\$1000), Drummond (\$1000), Johnson & Johnson

(\$1000), DCBC (\$1000), AFSP (\$250), Hospice (\$100), Planet Weekly (in-kind of \$1750) and Hungry Howie's (in-kind of \$350).

Registration at this time matches previous years.

An agreement with DCBC has been reached. Joseph is drafting a final contract, which includes their sponsorship and coordination of the post-ride lunch and rest stops.

Fall Workshop & Other Announcements

The workshop is slated for Thursday, October 19th at the Alabama Fire College at Shelton State from 8 am to 12 pm with a focus on "Trauma." Speakers need to be identified that can address topics in that area of mental health care. Exhibitor tables will be \$50 each, and CEUs will likely be available.

Breakfast items and drinks will be provided. Barbara Huguley said her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta, will plan to volunteer.

TMHA plans to coordinate the 2nd Pass the Petals campaign in September.

S.P.A.N. will host the 4th Annual Bass Fishing Tournament on Friday, June 16th from 7 pm to 2 am at Holt Lock and Dam. Raffle tickets are available.

June 10th will be Fathers in the Park by Tuscaloosa's One Place and Delta Sigma Theta at Annette Shelby Park from 10 am to 2 pm.

Tonight, May 15th from 5 pm to 8 pm is Pieology fundraising night.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee – June 13th at 1 pm

Board of Directors – June 13th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting – June 19th at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting

June 19, 2017

2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Phyllis Lewis, Salvation Army of Tuscaloosa

Ms. Lewis did not attend.

From salvationarmym.org/tuscaloosa:

- Established in Tuscaloosa in 1910
- More than 13,000 individuals will receive assistance this year
- Each night there are as many as 50 people staying in our shelter
- More than 35,000 nutritious meals will be served this year
- 2,500 children and 1,000 seniors will be served at Christmas

Services provided include: Sunday School, Sunday Worship Services, Youth activities, Men's/Women's Groups, Summer Camp, Music Programs, League of Mercy (visitation), Direct Assistance (food, clothing, rent and utilities), Transitional Housing, Men's Emergency Shelter, VA Housing Programs, Disaster Services, a Family Thrift Store and we provide furniture to fire/disaster victims.

The mission of The Salvation Army of Tuscaloosa is to exercise strong business/relationships, administrative support and or pastoral care in these 8 communities: Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Pickens, Sumter and Tuscaloosa counties. We will strive to periodically review and grow these relationships by keeping up to date with policies, procedures and changes, and as the needs, opportunities and resources present themselves.

Majors William & Brenda Shafer are currently serving as our Corps Officers.

The Tuscaloosa Center of Hope provides shelter, nutritious meals, counseling, job placement assistance, educational opportunities, health and substance abuse referrals and vocational rehabilitation for men, women and families. The Center of Hope currently serves the citizens of Tuscaloosa, Greene, Pickens, Fayette, Hale, Bibb, Sumter and Lamar Counties.

After our shelter was destroyed by a tornado in 2011, our invaluable community came together and raised the funds for our new and improved shelter, which opened in February of 2016. Thank you so much to all who helped in making this dream come true! We now house three wings centered on a state of the art cafeteria and kitchen, In addition, the building houses all of the support staff for the residents and our Social Service Assistance Programs. The new building also adds an additional five family apartments, for a total of 73 beds.

In addition to a bed, laundry, bathing and two hot meals per day, residents have access to GED classes, a computer lab for online job applications and continuing education courses, substance abuse classes, money-management courses and permanent housing assistance. A case manager works with each resident during and after their stay to ensure that they have access to the resources they need and to ensure they are working toward their goals.

The rebuilt Center of Hope allows The Salvation Army to again provide for the needs of the homeless in our community, but also allows us to reinstate our Community Kitchen feeding program that provides hot meals to those families living on the edge. Homelessness is not only an issue of a lack of adequate housing but is compounded by unemployment, lack of job and educational skills, inability to manage money and mental or physical disease. The Salvation Army strives to address all of these needs through the other programs and services we provide.

The Salvation Army has contracted with the Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center to reserve 28 of their beds for referrals from the VA.

Hot Hundred Planning/Board and Budget Update

Joseph reiterated the need for all members to participate in locating sponsors, providing Wish List items and volunteering for the 15th annual ride. Ride Director Britney McComb may be reached regarding questions at britneymccomb84@gmail.com.

He requested volunteers willing to contact 2016 participants and encourage them to pre-register.

To date, confirmed cash sponsors include Tuscaloosa Tourism (\$2500), Blue Cross Blue Shield (\$1000), IRMHC (\$1000), Drummond (\$1000), Johnson & Johnson (\$1000), AFSP (\$250), Hospice (\$100), University Medical Center (\$2500), DCBC (\$1000), NUCOR (\$500), McAbee (\$1500), Spine & Sport (\$250), ASFP (\$250), DCH Regional (\$500), Phifer (\$250) and Tuscaloosa Morning Rotary (\$1000).

In-Kind includes Hungry Howie's (\$350), McAbee (\$700)—creating an additional rest stop for the shortest distance riders—and Planet Weekly (\$1750).

Ingram Farms will donate ice cream for headquarters, and Jimmy Johns will cater the post-ride lunch.

TMHA and DCBC members are being contacted to sign up for a variety of volunteer positions for all events related to the ride, including Bag Day, Pre-Ride, Ride Day and Clean-up. In addition, the Wish List is being distributed. Emails will continue to be circulated.

Press releases will be sent out and radio/TV spots will begin next week. Hot Hundred will be the cover of the July issue of *Druid City Living*.

Registration at this time is lower than previous years.

An agreement with DCBC has been reached. Joseph drafted a final contract, which was amended at a meeting with DCBC on Friday, June 16th.

Fall Workshop & Other Announcements

The workshop is slated for Thursday, October 19th at the Alabama Fire College at Shelton State from 8 am to 12 pm with a focus on "Trauma." Speakers need to be identified that can address topics in that area of mental health care. Exhibitor tables will be \$50 each, and CEUs will likely be available.

Audrey Ellis has confirmed Debra Nelson-Gardell at UA School of Social Work as a speaker.

Breakfast items and drinks will be provided.

TMHA plans to coordinate the 2nd Pass the Petals campaign in September.

Saturday, July 15th from 5 pm to 8 pm will be the next Pieology fundraising night.

Phoenix House has bed openings for women.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee — July 11th at 1 pm

Board of Directors — July 11th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting — June 17th at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting

July 17, 2017

2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Hayes Webb, District Attorney

Mental illness and intellectual disability directly impacts the correctional system.

There are approximately 200-250 new felony cases per month in Tuscaloosa County. Child support cases through DHR are also dealt within the District system, as well as juvenile cases—offenses committed under the age of 18.

A large number of violent crimes within the County are committed by teenagers.

There is a financial branch that handles worthless checks and oversees the collection of court fees.

The annual budget is \$2.8 million. Less than 10 percent goes to overhead, and more than 90 percent to personnel costs. Of that budget, \$497,000 in 2016 came from the State of Alabama and approximately \$300,000 from the county. The remainder is raised through court fees and other means.

In September 2016, the number, type and date of cases was not being accurately tracked. Systems have been put in practice to ensure future cases are tracked in an identical fashion by all employees involved.

In addition, for several years, letters were not being sent to maintain communication and updated information about case status with victims, witnesses and other key participants.

Upon taking office, Hayes discovered there were 2,500 Grand Jury cases pending. Those cases are handled exclusively by the DA's Office. The office has been working through the cases at a rate of about 250/month. As of the June 2017 Grand Jury, that number was down to 790.

Victims receive a letter now upon arrest with Victims Services Officer information and details about when further contact will occur, generally every 90 days. Restitution affidavits are also sent immediately. Victim orientation occurs on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Defendants are also notified about status on a regular basis until the case is resolved.

The office is utilizing university social work interns and is looking to cooperate with UA and DCH for a SANE program (Sexual Abuse Nurse Examiner).

A new policy is that any crime where a gun is present receives an enhanced charge, regardless of whether the gun is used.

Effort is being focused in developing and utilizing diversion programs, which Webb believes should take 100-150 of the monthly cases in the county.

Hot Hundred Planning/Board and Budget Update

Today's meeting was used as an opportunity to cover important instructions and orientation information for 2017 ride volunteers for Saturday, July 29th. Setup will begin at 5 am and clean-up will occur from approximately 4-5:30 pm.

Volunteers are still needed for Bag Day and the pre-registration events. Pre-registration on Friday, July 28th is being moved from Hotel Capstone to Trek Cycling in Midtown.

To date, confirmed cash sponsors include Trek (\$1000 of \$3000 received), Tuscaloosa Tourism (\$2500), Blue Cross Blue Shield (\$1000), IRMHC (\$1000), Drummond (\$1000), Johnson & Johnson (\$1000), AFSP (\$250), Hospice (\$100), University Medical Center (\$2500), DCBC (\$1000), NUCOR (\$500), McAbee (\$1500), Spine & Sport (\$250), ASFP (\$250), DCH Regional (\$500), Phifer (\$250) and Tuscaloosa Morning Rotary (\$1000).

In-Kind includes Hungry Howie's (\$350), McAbee (\$700)—creating an additional rest stop for the shortest distance riders—and Planet Weekly (\$1750).

Registration at this time is lower than previous years.

Fall Workshop & Other Announcements

The workshop is confirmed for Thursday, October 19th at Alabama Fire College from 8 am to noon with a focus on "Trauma."

Nicole Hall is coordinating exhibitor tables for \$50 each.

TMHA members were asked to consider business and organizations that might be interested in purchasing a table or donating needed items for the event, including beverages and snacks.

Jennifer Singleton-Wooten has created the Eventbrite page for the workshop, which will be opened as early as August when all speakers have been confirmed.

A volunteer is still needed to serve as planning chair for the event.

Per the July 11th Steering Committee Meeting:

A minimum of four speakers are needed to speak for 35 minutes with a 5-minute Q&A session, based on the 2016 format. However, Terry Heverly suggested an additional speaker with a smaller break. Audrey Ellis confirmed Dr. Deborah Nelson-Gardell, UA School of Social Work, can speak. She will also email Alabama Post-Adoption Connection about another possible speaker.

Fresh Market will make a food contribution to the event.

Additional volunteers from the Alliance will be solicited at the regularly scheduled General Meeting on Monday, July 17th.

Per the July 11th Board Discussion:

Shanna has identified three potential speakers from the VA: Dr. Lori Davis, Fran Burnett, and Dr. Dave Macvicar. She will attempt to confirm Dr. Macvicar first.

She noted the need to identify specific areas to be covered under the umbrella of “Trauma.”

The 5th Annual Veterans Community Mental Health Summit will take place on Friday, August 25th at Hotel Capstone from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

TVAMC will be available on Tuesday, July 25th outside the Demopolis Hospital from 10 am to 2 pm for Veterans Outreach.

A Salvation Army Cooling Station is being setup for temperatures above 100 degrees.

Request from NAMI Alabama for TMHA members to call Senators and ask that funding not be cut for mental health services connected to Medicaid.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee — August 8th at 1 pm

Board of Directors — August 8th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting — August 21st at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting

August 21, 2017

2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Stacey Snead and Danna Perdue-Melton of Project LAUNCH

Project LAUNCH (infant and early childhood mental health) is run through Child Development Resources at The University of Alabama.

From <http://www.healthysafechildren.org/grantee/project-launch/alabama-project-launch>: The Alabama Department of Mental Health partners with the Alabama Department of Public Health, Child Development Resources of the University of Alabama, and the Alabama Partnership for Children to serve children from birth to 8 years of age and their families located in Tuscaloosa County. Alabama Project LAUNCH works to enhance and expand existing mental health and behavioral programs and raise awareness among primary care providers.

Stacey (Clinical Child Psychologist) works in locations with Early Intervention, OSR classrooms and Head Start. Danna Perdue-Melton (LPC) serves in private daycares, AIDB and Head Start.

Nationwide, grantees are pioneering new ways to promote young child wellness through Project LAUNCH, a federal initiative funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The population of focus is children ages birth to 8. The goal is for all children to enter school with the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical skills they need to succeed.

From <http://www.smartstartalabama.org/pages/?pageID=62>: Over 5 years, Project LAUNCH communities increase the quality and availability of evidence-based programs for children and families, improve collaboration among child-serving organizations, and integrate physical and behavioral health services and supports. Lessons learned from communities guide systems changes and policy improvements at the state, territorial and tribal levels, such as implementing universal screening efforts and integrated data systems. Strong partnerships lead to the sustainability and replication of successful practices on a large scale and to systems improvements lasting beyond the life of the grant.

Project LAUNCH grantees are guided by Young Child Wellness Councils, which bring families and public and private partners together to improve policies, programs, and approaches to using data and funds

effectively. Each Project LAUNCH community implements a core set of five prevention and promotion strategies drawn from current research. In addition to providing direct services, Project LAUNCH communities increase knowledge about healthy child development through public education campaigns and cross-disciplinary workforce development.

A cornerstone of Project LAUNCH is the federal-level partnership between SAMHSA, the Administration for Children and Families, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Hot Hundred Report, Steering and Board Nominations

Joseph provided a recap of the event.

A total of 310 riders registered for the 2017 ride. There were no accidents or injuries. Feedback from all participants was positive.

Wounded Warriors were treated to a post-ride dinner at Fuzzy's Tacos.

Britney McComb has expressed interest in continuing as Ride Director for 2018. However, inclusion in the Alabama Backroads Century Series is vital to the future success of the ride and an increase in overall registration from 2017. Inclusion in the series for 2018 has not been confirmed.

Joseph is still working to determine the final net profit for the 2017 event. The current estimate is \$10,700.

Nomination forms for the 2018 Board and Steering Committee were provided to all in attendance.

Fall Workshop & Other Announcements

The workshop is confirmed for Thursday, October 19th from 8 am until noon at Alabama Fire College with a focus on "Trauma." CEUs are pending.

Nicole Hall is collecting money from exhibitors at \$50 per table. A total of 16 tables will be available.

UA student Desiree Foy has agreed to serve as planning chair for the event. A minimum of four speakers are needed to speak for 35 minutes with a 5-minute Q&A session, based on the 2016 format. Speakers recommended at the August 8th Board meeting include: Liz Huntley, author of *More Than a Bird* and speaker on firsthand childhood trauma; Kevin Burns, Department of Psychology Chair at Shelton State Community College who can address issues associated with PTSD; Kristin Canan of Magnolia Creek in Birmingham to speak on sexual abuse and dating violence.

The Eventbrite registration will be posted as soon as speakers are confirmed.

The 5th Annual Veterans Community Mental Health Summit will take place on Friday, August 25th at Hotel Capstone from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. Contact Regina Knox at West Alabama AHEC.

TVAMC Job Fair Thursday, August 24th, from 9 am to 1 pm in the Sports Atrium.

Stillman College ribbon-cutting for Veterans' Center on Thursday.

All Veterans Reunion on Saturday, August 26th from 10 am to 1 pm at TVAMC

Homeless Connect will be September 23rd at Central High School from 8 am to 1 pm.

Bradford Sober Tailgate will be September 30th, starting 4 hours before kickoff. Vendors can contact Kylie Kitchens.

DCH EAP is having psycho-pharmacology on September 2nd with CEUs for nurses and social workers.

“United for the Homeless” will take place at the Tuscaloosa Salvation Army Center of Hope—2902 Greensboro Ave—on Saturday, August 26th from 10 am to 12 pm. West Alabama Coalition for the Homeless Consortium in conjunction with Harvest Church in Coker, AL. Refreshments, food, drinks and clothing items will be provided. For more information, contact Iris Davis, MHA Chairman of the WACH Community Outreach Committee, 205-394-0497.

Terry is working to secure a fundraising night agreement with Fuzzy's Tacos.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee — September 12th at 1 pm

Board of Directors — September 12th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting — September 18st at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting

September 18, 2017

2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Kylie Kitchens of Bradford Health Services

From <http://bradfordhealth.com>:

Bradford Health Services is dedicated to creating effective and affordable chemical dependency treatment programs. Through a variety of innovative inpatient and outpatient services, we're bringing new hope to patients and their families – committing ourselves to providing treatment that can work for everyone involved.

THE BRADFORD APPROACH TO REHAB:

- Alcohol/chemical dependency programs for both adults and adolescents
- Completely confidential
- Recovery methods based on principles of the 12-Step programs
- Inpatient, partial, and outpatient treatment programs available
- "Team" approach to treatment, including qualified addiction counselors and physicians
- Family programs are a vital part of treatment. Family members join the patient and learn about addiction and the family's role in the recovery process.
- Strong emphasis on continuing care
- Extended Care for those needing more additional time and more intensive care.

History & Philosophy

Bradford Health Services has been treating alcoholism and drug addiction for more than 30 years. Bradford's addiction treatment services are specifically designed to meet the needs of patients and their families in terms of both effectiveness and cost.

Bradford Health Services believes chemical dependency is a chronic, progressive illness, which exists when the use of mood-altering substances causes increasingly severe problems in major areas of a

person's life, including physical, psychological, emotional, social, vocational, and spiritual aspects. Other harmful consequences may include eating disorders, psychiatric illness, and family dysfunction.

All Bradford treatment facilities are designed to meet the multiple needs of patients, their families, and those who refer them to us. We offer comprehensive programs to assess and affect positive changes in chemically dependent patients.

Abstinence from alcohol and all mood-altering drugs is our immediate and primary goal for patients. The ultimate goal of treatment is to help patients and their families become better functioning and more productive without the use of alcohol or other drugs. Recovery begins with the cessation of alcohol or drug use and continues during treatment with the learning of new activities and behaviors that support a lifestyle of sobriety. Helping patients discover a healthy and fulfilling life is our mission.

Services Provided listed at: <https://bradfordhealth.com/services/>

Board Report, Steering and Board Nominations

Joseph is still working to determine the final net profit for the 2017 Hot Hundred. The current estimate is \$10,700.

Monty Morrow of Regions has joined the TMHA Board as Treasurer.

Suggestions are being taken for additional fundraisers TMHA can pursue.

Nomination forms for the 2018 Board and Steering Committee were provided to all in attendance. A fillable .pdf version has been distributed via email and is available by contacting Kathryn Adams: tuscaloosamha@gmail.com

Fall Workshop & Other Announcements

The workshop is confirmed for Thursday, October 19th from 8 am until noon at Alabama Fire College with a focus on "Trauma." CEUs are pending. Laura Reeves is submitting the application.

Confirmed speakers include: Mr. Kevin Burns (Trauma & Substance Abuse), Kristin Canan (Trauma & Women, Eating Disorders and Domestic Abuse), Dr. Nancy Rubin (Trauma & EMDR Therapy) and Dr. Deborah Nelson-Gardell (Trauma & Children/Adolescents).

Nicole Hall is collecting money from exhibitors at \$50 per table. Seven tables are still available.

The Eventbrite registration is live and members can register via the website:

<http://tmhatrauma.eventbrite.com>.

Sober Tailgate, hosted by Bradford Health Services, will be September 30th at Government Plaza, starting 4 hours before kickoff.

Oct. 8th is the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) Walk at the Ferguson Center.

DVDs were available at today's meeting from the March 2017 Suicide Symposium.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee — October 10th at 1 pm

Board of Directors — October 10th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting — October 16th at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting

October 16, 2017

2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox

From <http://tuscaloosa.com>:

On May 22, 2017, Walter Maddox was sworn in for his fourth term as Tuscaloosa's 36th Mayor. Since his first inauguration, Mayor Maddox has led initiatives to increase economic development, improve customer service with the implementation of Tuscaloosa 311 and provide quality Pre-K education for academically at-risk four-year old children.

Mayor Maddox is currently serving as a fellow with the Program on Crisis Leadership at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. In 2012, Mayor Maddox was named Municipal Leader of the Year by American City and County (the publication for state and local governments).

Mayor Maddox is a Tuscaloosa native and graduated from Central High School. He earned his bachelor's degree in Political Science and master's degree in Public Administration from UAB.

In 1996, Mayor Maddox began his professional career as a Field Director with the Alabama Education Association. In 2001, he was appointed Executive Director of Personnel for the Tuscaloosa City Schools. In that same year, he was elected as City Councilman for the Sixth District.

Mayor addressed financial challenges facing the City. Tuscaloosa is the fastest growing large city in the country. Tuscaloosa has grown by 30,000 residents in ten years. Growth, however, doesn't necessarily increase revenue. Sixty-eight percent of revenue comes from gross sales tax (2.57%), which is the lowest in the state.

Online shopping has taken approximately 8 million potential dollars from the City budget. Every 2017 budget was cut by 5 percent, which ultimately means fewer services available for residents.

Cities in Alabama cannot make changes to substance taxes, property taxes, etc. Sales tax is the only option. Hoover, Mobile and other Alabama cities are facing similar challenges.

The Mayor asked that Alliance members consider the cost of necessary resources and services when they make purchases. He especially noted the circular nature of taxes and funding as it relates to an inability to provide adequate police protection and appropriate criminal consequences for offenders, as well as lack of access to healthcare due to rural hospital closings, which will lead to more and more rural residents coming into Tuscaloosa for services. He also mentioned one in five bridges in Alabama are considered functionally obsolete.

To address revenue problems, Maddox is interested in instituting a state lottery to help academically at-risk youth and minimize costs for two- and four-year colleges and universities, as well as expanding gambling areas in the state. This could raise upwards of 250 million dollars.

The threshold income tax for the state for an individual is \$3600.

He recommended members ask questions of candidates during the 2018 election cycle.

Board Report and Hot Hundred

A proposal from Britney McComb is being considered for the 2018 Ride Director position. Suggestions are being taken for additional fundraisers TMHA can pursue.

Lucas Miller, current DCBC president, addressed the membership regarding the ride. He said he foresees the ride becoming a City event. He proposed starting the ride at the Amphitheater and finish with a big concert featuring bands from the state. (Alabama Shakes, Drive By Truckers, etc.)

Fall Workshop & Other Announcements

The workshop is confirmed for Thursday, October 19th from 8 am until noon at Alabama Fire College with a focus on "Trauma." 3 CEU hours for social workers are available.

Speakers will be: Mr. Kevin Burns (Trauma & Substance Abuse), Kristin Canan (Trauma & Women, Eating Disorders and Domestic Abuse), Dr. Nancy Rubin (Trauma & EMDR Therapy) and Dr. Deborah Nelson-Gardell (Trauma & Children/Adolescents).

Nicole Hall is continuing to collect money from exhibitors at \$50 per table. Confirmed exhibitors include: Bradford, North Harbor, Phoenix House, S.P.A.N., PRIDE, Stonewater Adolescent Treatment Facility, IRMHC, AFSP, Hospice of West Alabama, NAMI, Project Launch, Riverside Recovery and Brewer-Porch.

As of today, there are 78 spaces available for the workshop. The Eventbrite registration is live and members can register via the website: <http://tmhatrauma.eventbrite.com>.

Board and Steering Committee Nominations

Forms were made available at today's meeting for members to nominate themselves or colleagues to positions on the Board of Directors or Steering Committee for 2018. A fillable .pdf version has been distributed via email and is available by contacting Kathryn Adams: tuscaloosamha@gmail.com

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee — November 14th at 1 pm

Board of Directors — November 14th at 2 pm

IRMHC Board Room

General Meeting — November 20th at 2 pm

TPD Community Room



General Meeting

November 20, 2017

2 pm at TPD Community Room

Presentation: Hon. Brad Almond—Tuscaloosa Mental Health Court

Judge Almond provided an update on the Tuscaloosa Mental Health and Veterans Courts.

Mental Health Court began in July 2012 in partnership with Judge Almond, TCSO, District Attorney's Office and TPD. Participants plead guilty to charges—after receiving treatment, if needed, to obtain competency.

The first track allows participants to follow guidelines to have charges dismissed over a 12-month period. The majority of participants follow this track. A second track involves sentencing and probation over a 12-month period that includes mental health care and treatment.

Probation-revocation is a third track option for repeat offenders to avoid a prison sentence.

Participants in the voluntary system attend court once a month.

Gloria Jackson, therapist, and additional team members from Indian Rivers Mental Health Center manage cases for Mental Health Court.

Veterans Court grew out of the Mental Health Court in the same year as the need became apparent to specifically address the needs of veterans in the system. Diagnosed mental illness is not a requirement for Veterans Court; however, PTSD is present in all current and previous participants.

Mental Health Court has graduated 64 participants since inception.

Participants with paranoid schizophrenia are the most successful in the program, while those with severe depression and bi-polar disorder seem to be least successful.

There are 3 repeat participants in the system at this time.

Mental Health Court has 33 participants currently. Judge Almond estimates that numbers could be three times as high or more if all those in the system with mental health issues were included in the program.

Public Defenders office attorneys are the most likely to identify mental health issues and refer participants to the program. Referrals are also made through law enforcement.

Requirements for participation: 1) Resident of Tuscaloosa County 2) Diagnosed by IRMHC with a serious mental illness 3) Charged with a non-violent offense; Veterans must be VA eligible and have a confirmed diagnosis.

Re-entry Court, including an employment and job skills component, is being developed for those inmates released from the corrections system and is being overseen by the Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama Workforce Development program (<http://www.tuscaloosachamber.com/the-chamber/workforce-development>). Judge Almond would like to see the focus on high-risk individuals.

Board Report and Hot Hundred

Britney McComb has been hired as the 2018 Ride Director position. Suggestions are being taken for additional fundraisers TMHA can pursue.

Joseph Abrams has submitted a Grounds Use Permit application with The University of Alabama for Saturday, July 28th. No decision has been made on that permit at this time.

Fall Workshop & Other Announcements

The workshop was held Thursday, October 19th from 8 am until noon at Alabama Fire College with a focus on "Trauma." 3 CEU hours for social workers were made available.

Speakers included: Mr. Kevin Burns (Trauma & Substance Abuse), Kristin Canan (Trauma & Women, Eating Disorders and Domestic Abuse), Dr. Nancy Rubin (Trauma & EMDR Therapy) and Dr. Deborah Nelson-Gardell (Trauma & Children/Adolescents).

Exhibitors included: Bradford, North Harbor, Phoenix House, S.P.A.N., PRIDE, Stonewater Adolescent Treatment Facility, IRMHC, AFSP, Hospice of West Alabama, NAMI, Project Launch, Riverside Recovery and Brewer-Porch.

TMHA's project with the Blackburn Institute was chosen on Tuesday, November 14th to receive \$5,000 to produce a publication on bullying targeting 4th and 5th grade students in Tuscaloosa City Schools. As many as 50 UA students will assist with the project, with April the estimated month of completion.

Board and Steering Committee Nominations

Nominations made for the Board of Directors or Steering Committee for 2018 were announced and approved. For Steering: Jaquan Winters, Barbara Huguley, Lindsay Preskenis, Amy Crosby and Will Adams. For Board: Shelly Edwards, Jennifer Singleton and Donna Fosters.

Motion: Terry Heverly

Accept 2018 nominations to the Steering Committee.

Second: Laura Reeves

Motion carried unanimously.

Nominations to the Board will be approved by the Board at the regularly scheduled meeting on December 12th.

The following positions for 2018 remain unfilled: Steering Committee Chair and Chair-elect, as well as Board President and Vice-President.

Upcoming Meetings

Board and Steering Committee — December 12th at 1 pm

IRMHC Board Room

NO GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER