

## FY23 Q3 Board of Directors Meeting

**Date:** 10/10/2023

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Attendees:** Bradford Volz, Evan Jones, Lisa Ikerd, Kate Choquette, David Haverty (Via Zoom), Zack Saunders, Sean Pelletier

Angela Hayden at a conference and unable to join; Sean Shea in Florida doing volunteer work. Both unable to join meeting

ARCNH provided pizza for dinner; thank you!

Kate started the meeting at 6:00 pm with our progress report for FY23 Q3 Report through today. The full progress report is in Google Docs; please review as there are some exciting things happening with ARCNH. Some highlights are as follows:

- Survey results are in; the number of respondents was low; we are working on ideas on how we can get more people to respond in the future. Thought about giving a gift card but wasn't sure how to keep the anonymity. We currently use Google forms via email or tablets that are available at the center.
  - Zak shared that if we format it like a "Quiz" the respondent can print a completion certificate that shows they completed the survey but the survey itself would still be anonymous. Kate will investigate that!!
  - Kate will send a link format to anyone on the BOD would like to see the survey.
- ARCNH won GMSVCC "Best of" awards for Addiction Recovery in Greater Merrimack/Greater Nashua/Souhegan Valley.
- Excited that two participants in the program reached one year in recovery. This is awesome!
- ARCNH was awarded a 2-year \$150,000 Grant from Foundation of Opioid Response Efforts – this was out of 2500 candidates!
- We had tables at several events and were able to make available our resources to those who came by
  - Community Connections – Wednesday evenings
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AJ's Car Show raising awareness for suicide prevention. Bradford shared the tragic story behind this event.
  - Pumpkin Festival (although not in the Q3 Report quite yet since it just happened)
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Walk for Recovery on 9/6 was hot; the walk was canceled but the event was still a success. 603 donated foods, Balcom Donated equipment; there was a BBQ, a band, 3 speakers and 15 providers attended and had a table.
- ARCNH hosted a free paint night in August – this was with a different person than we used prior. ARCNH paid for supplies, and it was much better for our budget and makes more sense. We will do this again.
- ARCNH Hosted "Paint the Town Purple" during overdose awareness month. This was great and we will do this again.
- Hosted training sessions at the center
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> S.A.V.E. Training (Signs Ask Validation Encourage)
  - ASIST 2-day training (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)
- Kate has met with Congresswoman Annie Kuster at CAST Coalition Meeting and with Ryan Hyde from Congresswoman Annie Kusters office. She provided a tour of the center for Ryan Hyde.
- Kate joined Business Education Committee for the Greater Merrimack/Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce

- Education updates:
  - Laurie S & Cindi P passed the CRSW Exams and Laurie G is now a CRSW-S. All 3 volunteer her at ARCNH.

Brad interjected regarding the CRSW Training Series that ARCNH is offering to those who finish and want to volunteer with ARCNH for a specified period; we would reimburse them for their class costs and then they would get their volunteer hours with ARCNH. This may be a win-win situation.

ARCNH held or was involved in several Community Engagement events; a new Community Engagement event to ARCNH is St Joe's Mobile Van; it comes to the center every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month from 10 am to 2 pm and parks out front of center and provides free vaccinations, wound care, and other services. This is such a great addition to the ARCNH portfolio.

#### Upcoming Community Engagements

- Trunk or Treat; this is 2<sup>nd</sup> annual and we shortened the hours from 3 hours to 2 hours. Prizes will be given for the best truck decorations.
- Will have table for STVC at Shaw's, Wilton Post office and Home Depot

The Volunteer Pool continues to grow! The student intern program from IMPACCT is going well; we are on our 3<sup>rd</sup> round; the next intern will be here in October.

Question was asked about Harbor Care's role; Bradford explained that Harbor Care is a Nonprofit organization in Nashua that has been appointed as the facilitating/managing organization for the "dollars" from organizations such as ARCNH and others in NH. *This definition may need to be clarified.*

We do have a paid Grant Writer for ARCNH; therefore, we do have several grants that have been working on. We cannot win them all. However, we cannot get them if we do not apply and qualify. There are several pending. There are two that are specific to Veteran work.

New Program Manager – Laura Werlinger, CRSW was hired in June 2023. We are excited to have her on board; several of us have met her and she is passionate about what ARCNH is doing and her enthusiasm is infectious!

Thank you, Kate, for such a great progress report. For those of you who would like to review again, they are available in Google docs in the Board folder. Kate left the meeting.

Bradford picked up at "Board Support."

- Bradford shared that there was an ethical issue that recently came up. Since our Ethics sub-committee is not completely up and running, we were able to reach out to Harbor Health Ethics Committee and they were very helpful in helping us navigate the issue. It was helpful to see how it worked in an instance like this.
- Bradford did say that we are still looking for a treasurer on the board.
- Bradford will share a link for the BOD Google Docs with Sean and Zack so they can have access to the documents for review and voting. Occasionally we need to update policies and procedures and when we do that, the board needs to review and vote on them.
- Strategic Plan – Shared that we need it for 1 / 3 / 5 years. Bradford has done enough to meet the minimums required but would welcome board input for fine tuning. A link will be sent out for us to

review and provide our input.

- Ethics Committee
  - Evan shared that he is struggling with how to set up the policies/procedures and felt that it would be great if he could be connected with the person at Harbor Health to help him establish a baseline to start with. Bradford advised that he did send a copy of another organization's program for reference as well. Evan will review that information again and try to contact the person at Harbor Health to see if he can get some traction.
- Evan asked for a quick "update" regarding finances. We had a meeting earlier in the year when it was a crisis; he was wondering if we were in a better place. Bradford advised that it fluctuates month to month. However, they've been able to make payroll and has not had to personally invest recently. Bradford explained the loss of a large grant in Q1 that we were counting on and was missed due to basically a "clerical issue" so that the new board members would be aware of what occurred.
- This will be Bradford's last face-to-face meeting until May. He will be leaving for Ocala FL at the end of the month.

No further discussion – Meeting adjourned 7:15 pm

Submitted by, Lisa M Ikerd, Secretary