

## ACTIVITIES OF THE ALLIANCE

### Meetings:

December 14, 2005 - First scheduled meeting, 18 attendees; discussed initial goals and strategies of the Alliance.

January 4, 2006 -General meeting of 16 attendees. Topics discussed: local resources for older adults with mental health disorders; planning for October 20, 2006 education conference; discussed feasibility of a senior services levy for Summit County; Title XX funding cuts.

March 1, 2006- general meeting of 11 attendees. Topics discussed: in-depth descriptions of public services from two area agencies- Area Agency on Aging (Susan Sigmon) and Summit County Probate Court (Magistrate Ann Snyder)

April 5, 2006 - Steering committee is formed with 6 attendees. Introduction of various agencies; Dr. Harvey Sterns gave historical overview of the social service network; Hal Farrier related development of partnership between AAA and Older Ohioans BH Network; Planning subcommittee formed to facilitate these issues:

- \* Create a resource guide
- \* Host a regional forum
- \* Bring Mr. Friedman in to meet with coalition

Members of Planning sub-committee: Dr. Paula Hartman-Stein, Hal Farrier, Dr. Harvey Sterns, Susan Sigmon.

May 3, 2006 - general meeting of 13 attendees. Discussed how best to use Dr.Jim Luther as facilitator for first focus group meeting.

June 21, 2006 - 26 attendees. First of 3 Focus group meetings that will address the spirit of the initiative of the coalition. Jim Luther, Ph.D. program evaluation expert from Indianapolis, Indiana, was guest facilitator.

### Purpose of meeting:

1. identify service currently available in the area
2. identify gaps in services
3. develop a vision for geriatric mental health in the region if there were a "magic wand"

August 2, 2006 Focus group meeting. Susan Sigmon led meeting. Goals of meeting:

1. Identify the top 3 gaps in services from the information gathered at the June 21 meeting
2. Identify the top 3 "magic wand" services from information gathered June 21

Using 3 dots to identify top 3 items in each group, the needs identified by number of dots were:

Gaps:

12 dots - continuity of services and transfer of information across care settings

10 dots - Funding to provide services to those with limited resources but ineligible for PASSPORT

9 dots - Funding to implement best practice models due to restrictions in fee structure

5 dots - Lack of case management (payor resources)

Magic Wand Services:

13 dots- Collaboration among primary care, geriatric and behavioral health care providers

13 dots- Recreate a climate of acceptance and action for geriatric mental health

11 dots- affordable assisted living facilities

6 dots - Co-locating behavioral health providers within primary care practices, home health and senior centers (community based).

September 8, 2006: Strategy meeting with the Chair of Geriatric MH Coalition of NY, Michael Friedman. Review identified priorities and strategies, review NY Coalition model, reviewed action steps to bring about systems change.

October 4, 2006 Steering group is formed from 5 core members. Set schedule for meetings: steering meetings- first Wednesday of the month, large group meetings- quarterly starting in January.

December 6, 2006, Steering meeting.

1. Name change: Aging and Behavioral Health Alliance of East Central Ohio (ABHA-ECO).

2. Update on website

3. feedback from conference October 20, 2006.

4. Reviewed goals of the Alliance:

5. Reviewed the activities and achievements in 2006

a. Established a broad alliance of professionals of about 80 members and smaller steering committee.

b. Provided networking opportunities for area professionals interested in aging and behavioral health; the Alliance has met 8 times since its inception in December 2005

c. Conducted a series of focus groups to identify gaps in currently available services for older adults, a "wish list" of priority services, and discussed strategies to fill the service gaps.

d. Organized the first annual Geriatric Behavioral Health conference for professionals on October 20, 2006.

January 5, 2007, conference call, Steering Committee meeting  
Participating: Paula Hartman-Stein (Host), Hal Farrier, Jean Hollenbeck, Julie Falter, Susan Sigmon, John Kasper, Krys Gesen-Sydell. Topics covered: current content on web site, [www.ABHA-ECO.org](http://www.ABHA-ECO.org), and additional links to add. Reviewed mission statement crafted at December 2006 meeting. Discussed upcoming educational programs in 2007.

Preliminary report on the Geriatric psychiatry day long seminar scheduled the fall of 2007.

Reviewed potential future advocacy efforts of the Alliance. Consensus was that each of us who belongs to a larger organization such as the Ohio Psychiatric Association, Ohio Psychological Association, and Area Agencies on Aging, etc., will talk to members of their respective legislative committees to see whether there are bills currently proposed at the State House level that our Alliance might support.

January 22, 2007 Dr. Hartman-Stein represented ABHA-ECO at subcommittee meeting with Dr. Mark Munetz through the residency training grant planning a day program with Dr. S. Bartels.

February 7, 2007 Quarterly meeting. Review of mission, disseminating info re education and training opportunities for professionals in 2007, and discuss what legislative agendas to support in 2007.

March 7, 2007 Steering meeting (4 attendees) planning regarding 2nd Annual Geriatric Mental Health Conference, September 28, 2007

April 4, 2007 Steering Meeting. (7 attendees) Summary of March meeting of Senior Independent Living Coalition, a new coalition within Summit County. Dr. Hartman-Stein was invited to represent ABHA-ECO. Brainstorm how to use consultation time with Dr. Bartels in May. Report on pay4performance initiative through the federal government.

May 2, 2007 Steering Meeting: Work on Brochure for September Conference

May 10, 2007 Quarterly meeting: Two hour consultation with Dr. Steve Bartels and ABHA-ECO members on ways of better integrating geriatric mental health care and primary care and promoting evidence based practice.

June 6, 2007 Steering Meeting: Discussion of the under diagnosis of depression in older adults and how we can impact home health nurses and aides to recognize signs of depression and then tap into primary care and mental health services. Reviewed methods of tracking success of training home health staff basic screening and referral efforts.

August 1, 2007 Quarterly meeting: 10-11:30 a.m., Review of the Medina County

experience in coordinating geriatric mental health care services

**SAVE THE DATE:**

September 28, 2007, Second Annual Geriatric Psychiatry seminar sponsored by Summa Health Systems: "Aging is a family experience." Opened to all healthcare professionals, administrators, social service agencies, and community residing older adults and their caregivers.

**Training and educational programs involving ABHA-ECO:**

October 20, 2006. Full day symposium. Speakers:

- \* Michael Friedman, LMSW, Chair, Geriatric Mental Health Alliance of NY, Geriatric Behavioral Health Policy for the 21st Century.
- \* Cameron Camp, Ph.D., Overview of Practical Approaches to Behavior Management of Dementia.
- \* John Kasper, M.D., Treatment of Common Psychiatric Disorders in Older Adults
- \* Paula Hartman-Stein, Ph.D., Guidelines for Mental Health Practice.

**Concurrent Workshops:**

- \* Practical Approaches to Behavior Management in Multiple Care Settings, Cameron Camp, Ph.D.
- \* Building Alliances for Geriatric Mental Health Services, Michael Friedman.

April 10, 2007, Dr. Paula Hartman-Stein represented ABHA-ECO as Key Note Panel member at Policy Institute II: Turning Policy into Practice, Columbus, Ohio (Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities)

May 10, 2007, Steve Bartels, M.D., Director of aging Services Research at New Hampshire-Psychiatric Research Center and Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Dartmouth Medical School.(NEOUCOM visiting professor in Community. Evidence-based integration of mental health and primary care.

September 28, 2007: Family Caregiving interventions with Dr. Sara Qualls, Dr. Michael Duffy, Dr. Mary Ann Parris Stephens, and Dr. Eileen Schwartz.