



**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

The Bridge Center for Hope Board of Directors will hold a Board of Directors meeting as shown below:

DATE: March 15, 2022

TIME: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89779641638?pwd=STBXbU95NHlYTWpLWmxMTHJOUkFjZz09>

Meeting ID: 897 7964 1638

Passcode: 043029

Phone: 346-248-7799

AGENDA: Attached

**The public is invited to attend.**

Notice has been made of this meeting, through publication and via internet, to comply with the “Louisiana Open Meetings Law”.

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Charlotte Claiborne, Bridge Center for Hope  
Executive Director



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 15, 2022

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

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### AGENDA

- |       |   |                       |
|-------|---|-----------------------|
| I.    | CALL MEETING TO ORDER   | Patrick Seiter        |
| II.   | PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS  | Patrick Seiter        |
| III.  | MINUTES   | Patrick Seiter        |
|       | A. For Action: Approval of Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held January 18, 2022 |                       |
| IV.   | FINANCE COMMITTEE   | Sharon Robinson       |
|       | A. For Information: Finance Committee Update  |                       |
| V.    | COMMUNITY RELATIONS   | Greg Dicharry         |
|       | A. For Information: Community Relations Committee Update                                    |                       |
|       | B. For Information: Bridging the Gap Community Event  | Charlotte Claiborne   |
| VI.   | ACCOUNTABILITY AND QUALITY COMMITTEE  | Dr. Jan Laughinghouse |
|       | A. For Information: Accountability and Quality Update                                       |                       |
|       | B. For Information: PMOR  |                       |
|       | C. For Information: Annual Report   | Charlotte Claiborne   |
| VII.  | RI UPDATE   | RI International      |
|       | A. For Information: MCO and Service Update  |                       |
| VIII. | UNFINISHED BUSINESS   | Patrick Seiter        |
|       | A. For Information: Annual Training   |                       |
| IX.   | NEW BUSINESS  | Patrick Seiter        |
| X.    | ADJOURN   | Patrick Seiter        |

**THE BRIDGE CENTER FOR HOPE, INC'S  
CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION JBE 2020-30**

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of Louisiana declared a Public Health Emergency due to the threat posed to public safety by the COVID-19 outbreak;

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, the Governor issued Proclamation JBE 2020-30, entitled Additional Measures for COVID-19 Public Health Emergency;

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of Proclamation JBE 2020-30 was to provide, in part, for additional measures to help combat the spread of COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, Section Four of Proclamation JBE 2020-30 authorized attendance at public meetings via teleconference or video conference during the pendency of the emergency;

**WHEREAS**, Section Four of Proclamation JBE 2020-30 further mandated that, before invoking the authority of Section Four, a public entity is required to certify that it would be unable to operate due to quorum requirements;

**WHEREAS**, The Bridge Center for Hope, Inc. needs to conduct essential business;

**WHEREAS**, due to health and safety concerns and in order to comply with COVID-19 restrictions, The Bridge Center for Hope, Inc. is unable to obtain a quorum of the members to attend an in-person meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, The Bridge Center for Hope, Inc., therefore, needs to implement the authorization in Section Four of Proclamation JBE 2020-30;

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority contained in Proclamation JBE 2020-30, The Bridge Center for Hope, Inc. hereby certifies on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022, that it is unable to obtain an in-person quorum for its Board of Directors meeting scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup> due to the threat of COVID-19, and that, therefore, one or more of its members may participate in such meeting via teleconference or video conference. Additionally, all efforts will be made to provide for observation and input by members of the public. The meeting may be accessed at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89779641638?pwd=STBXbU95NHlYTWpLWmxMTHJOUkFjZz09> Meeting ID: 897 7964 1638; Passcode: 043029; Phone: 346-248-7799



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Patrick Seiter, Board Chair



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 18, 2022

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87863355835?pwd=MEIzeGw1WXBVeTB1ZlcxMmwweDNFQT09>

Meeting ID: 878 6335 5835

Passcode: 393476

Phone: 346-248-7799

### MINUTES

#### I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM. Board members participating virtually were Chair Patrick Seiter, Sharon Robinson, Lauren Crump, Chief Murphy Paul, Charles Abboud, Denise Amoroso, Dr. Kathleen Crapanzano, Dr. William Clark, Greg Dicharry, Michael Denicola, Carolina Jones, Kathy Kliebert, Dr. Jan Laughinghouse, Donna Collins-Lewis, Christine Nichols, and Dr. Tiffany Simpson. A quorum was determined.

Also, participating virtually were Charlotte Claiborne from the Bridge Center for Hope; Emily Grey and Murphy Foster from Breazeale, Sachse, and Wilson; Lysha Best and Joy Brunson-Nsubuga from RI International.

#### II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Seiter asked if any member of the public request to comment on the agenda items as presented. After hearing no request for comment, Mr. Seiter proceeded with the agenda as written.

#### III. MINUTES

A. For Action: Approval of Minutes of the Annual Board of Directors meeting held November 17, 2021

Mr. Seiter reviewed the minutes from the Annual Board of Directors meeting held on November 17, 2021. **On a motion by Christine Nichols and a second by Denise Amoroso, the Board of Directors unanimously approved the minutes of the Annual Board of Directors meeting held on November 17, 2021.**

#### IV. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. For Information: Budget Review

Mr. Seiter called upon Ms. Robinson to provide the update for the Finance Committee. Ms. Robinson offered a summary of the fiscal year ending 2021 budget, noting that calculations do not include unreconciled invoices.

Ms. Claiborne stated that RI International had contributed approximately \$2.5 million to the Bridge Center's operations, excluding December.

V. COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A. For Information: Community Relations Update

Mr. Seiter called upon Mr. Dicharry to provide the update for the Community Relations Committee. Mr. Dicharry stated that the Community Relations Committee plans to convene in February 2022 to discuss the Bridge Center's communication and marketing needs now that the facility is open. Mr. Dicharry suggested working and collaborating with RI International to create a more integrated communications strategy.

Following a thorough conversation, board members underlined the need of ensuring that information offered to the parish is clear and simple, as well as how services are funded.

Ms. Claiborne noted that, in addition to these efforts, the committee wanted to understand more about the state's new crisis services and messaging and how those services will impact the Bridge Center before launching a new messaging campaign.

VI. ACCOUNTABILITY AND QUALITY COMMITTEE

A. For Information: Accountability and Quality Update

Mr. Seiter called upon Dr. Laughinghouse to provide the update for the Accountability and Quality Committee. Dr. Laughinghouse reviewed the monthly states from the Provider Monthly Outcome Monthly Performance report citing:

- 193 presentations in December/ 2,286 year.
- 187 admitted in December/ 2,141 year.
- 50 first responder escorts in December/ 886 year.
- 137 direct admits in December/ 1,255 year.
- Average response time 3.74 in December/ 3.53 year.
- 180 EBR residents served in December/ 1,947 year.
- 7 out of parish residents in December / 194 year.
- Top 5 Dispositions across all units.

Ms. Claiborne reported that the Accountability and Quality Committee is drafting the annual report that will be distributed in early March 2022.

VII. BRIDGE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE

A. For Discussion: Service Agreement and CEA

Mr. Seiter reported that RI International issued a formal request to extend gap payment for Year Two of the Service Agreement on December 1, 2021. The subcommittee met with legal counsel and concluded that an extension for Year Two gap payments is not required at this time because Exhibit G rates in the Service Agreement are still in force until Medicaid implements the new rates in the spring, to which RI anticipates having MCO contracts in place at that time. Mr. Seiter added that after Medicaid rates are implemented, the Bridge Center will reevaluate and consider all issues.

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne to address the CEA. Ms. Claiborne reported that neither Medicaid rates nor implementation for mobile crisis response had been finalized with the state and entering into an agreement with EMS to add additional services would be premature.

## VIII. RI INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

### A. For Information: MCO Update

Mr. Seiter deferred to RI International to provide a status update on the Managed Care Organization (MCO) contracts. Ms. Brunson-Nsubuga reported that they are still talking to the MCOs on a weekly basis and that RI is close to finalizing contracts with two of the Managed Care Organizations. Ms. Brunson-Nsubuga stated that she is in weekly communication with Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to keep them abreast of the contract statuses.

### B. For Information: 2022 Crisis Implementation

Mr. Seiter deferred to RI International, and Ms. Brunson-Nsubuga reported that RI had attended the first training session for the new crisis services, which are set to go live in March 2022, for mobile crisis response and community brief crisis support. Ms. Brunson-Nsubuga also stated that the new services presented by LDH are consistent with the current services provided by RI at the Bridge Center for Hope, citing that LDH's behavioral health crisis care centers are equivalent to Bridge's 23-hour observation unit and LDH's crisis stabilization is equivalent to Bridge's short-term psychiatric unit.

## IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Seiter asked if there was any unfinished business that requires discussion. After hearing no comments, Mr. Seiter proceeded with the agenda as written.

## X. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Seiter asked if there was any new business that requires discussion. After hearing no comments, Mr. Seiter proceeded with the agenda as written.

## XI. ADJOURN

With no further business to discuss, and **on a motion by Denise Amoroso and a second by Donna Collins-Lewis, the Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 1:08 PM.**

Minutes prepared by  
Charlotte Claiborne, Executive Director