



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, MAY 20, 2025

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87145526485?pwd=VGXIiUBE61RyZlOvmZlMWwcU8sn5E9.1&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 871 4552 6485

Passcode: 432285

Phone: 312-626-6799

AGENDA

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM by Chair Patrick Seiter. Board participants included Sharon Robinson, Donna Collins-Lewis, Greg Dicharry, Randal Johnson, Dr. Jan Laughinghouse, Treva Parolli-Barnes, Tiffany Simpson, Chris Landry, Dr. Kathleen Crapanzano, and Gerri Hobdy. A quorum was determined.

Also participating were Charlotte Claiborne from the Bridge Center for Hope; Joy Brunson-Nsubuga, Lysha Best, and Shawne Langston-Emery from Recovery Innovations; Jessica Wagner from EisnerAmper; Emily Grey from Breazeale Sachse and Wilson; Jim Fairchild from Daigrepont and Brian; and Michael Weileman from Emergency Management Services.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Seiter asked if there were any public comments. Hearing none, Mr. Seiter proceeded with the agenda.

III. MINUTES

A. For Action: Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held March 18, 2025

Mr. Seiter reviewed the minute notes from the Board of Directors meeting held on March 18, 2025. Mr. Seiter called for a motion to approve the minutes. On a motion by Gerri Hobdy and a second by Randal Johnson, the minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. For Discussion: Financial Overview

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Robinson. Ms. Robinson provided an update on the 2025 financials, reporting approximately \$6 million in net revenue received as of May 6, 2025, with the bulk coming from city-parish sources. Expenditures are aligned with the budget, and the cash position remains strong.

B. For Action: Approval of the 2024 Financial Audit

Mr. Seiter deferred to Mr. Fairchild to review the 2024 Financial Audit. Mr. Fairchild presented the audit, which reflected an unmodified opinion with no findings. He detailed financial highlights, including strong cash reserves and consistent revenue trends. After review and on a motion by Gerri Hobbs and a second by Randal Johnson, the 2024 audit was unanimously approved.

C. For Action: Approval of the 990 Tax Form

Mr. Seiter deferred to Mr. Fairchild once again to present the 990 tax form. Mr. Fairchild provided an overview of the 990 form, which aligns with the audit and previous filings. Updates included contributor disclosures and policy confirmations that were reviewed by the Finance Committee for accuracy. Following a motion by Kathy Kliebert and a second by Greg Dicharry, the 990 was unanimously approved.

V. BRIDGE CENTER ORDERS

A. For Action: Ratification and Approval of CEA Amendment with City Parish

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Grey. Ms. Grey reviewed the CEA amendment to include 911 services. The board had previously discussed and supported the provision, but had not officially approved it. After a thorough discussion and on a motion by Dr. Kathleen Crapanzano, seconded by Sharon Robinson, the amendment was unanimously ratified and approved.

B. For Action: Discussion and Approval of IPS Funding

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne. Ms. Claiborne reported that the Indigent Population Support (IPS) Program, which offers medication assistance and CATS bus passes to uninsured clients, did not secure a grant. Ms. Claiborne shared utilization data and asked for a \$7,000 allocation (\$4,000 for medication assistance and \$3,000 for transportation) to sustain operations in 2025 following the grant denial. After discussion, and on a motion by Tiffany Simpson and a second by Jan Laughinghouse, the allocation was unanimously approved.

C. For Discussion: Funding Increase Request

Mr. Seiter discussed a request from Recovery Innovations for a 5% increase to align with the start of their fiscal year on July 1, aimed at covering operational cost increases. Mr. Seiter reported that legal counsel is reviewing compliance with constitutional spending rules, and the executive committee will continue discussions and bring a recommendation to the board.

VI. RECOVERY INNOVATIONS

A. For Discussion: Mobile Crisis Response Update

Mr. Seiter deferred to Recovery Innovations. Ms. Shawne Langston-Emery reported that Recovery Innovations is progressing on mobile crisis implementation. A vehicle has been acquired, staff hiring is underway, and training coordination with EMS is in process. A soft launch is anticipated in July or August 2025. Referrals will be routed through 911.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. For Discussion: Annual Training

Mr. Seiter asked if there was any unfinished business. Ms. Claiborne reminded members to complete mandatory annual training. Ms. Claiborne also mentioned that the pylon sign approved in November 2024 is completed but awaiting installation due to incorrect city utility markings and that annual reports were mailed to all board members.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. For Discussion: Bridging the Gap Community Resource Fair

Mr. Seiter asked if there was any new business that required discussion. Ms. Claiborne announced the 5th Annual Bridging the Gap Community Resource Fair, scheduled for Friday, May 23, 2025, at the Goodwood Library from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, and the Bridging the Gap to Geaux Community Wellness summer outreach schedule:

- June 12 – Charles R. Kelly Community Center
- June 24 – Leo S. Butler Community Center
- July 10 – Jewel J. Newman Community Center
- July 24 – MLK Community Center

IX. ADJOURN

With no further business to discuss, and on a motion by Jan Laughinghouse, seconded by Treva Parolli-Barnes, the meeting was adjourned at 12:56 PM.

Minute notes prepared by:
Charlotte Claiborne, Executive Director