



NORTHEAST OHIO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, LTD.

An Association of Mental Health Professionals

Annual Report – Fiscal Year 2007

Fiscal Year 2007 represented the second full year of functioning for Northeast Ohio Behavioral Health, Ltd. within the context of Council on Accreditation (COA) approval. NEOBH sustained all of the procedures and practices instituted as part of the COA Accreditation process, and its Advisory Board was able to shift its focus toward assessing the accomplishment of Long-Term Goals established in FY 2004.

The Year in Review:

- NEOBH served 2, 226 clients in FY 2007. 1,386 clients new to the organization received services.
- NEOBH continued to rank high in Client Satisfaction. For both children and adult clients, satisfaction ranked above 85%. Survey forms were significantly revised, in order to assure that the most pertinent data was captured.
- After dramatic increases in FY 2006, NEOBH achieved significantly less growth in FY2007, and in fact, noted its first decrease in overall unit production in over five years within certain areas of practice. Overall growth for NEOBH was 2% in FY 2007.
- Continuous Quality Improvement at NEOBH was aided by revisions of chart forms in order to accomplish greater clarity and compliance with documentation expectations. CQI projects related to Case Record Review correction compliance were accomplished. The use of ODMH Data Mart information was utilized within an Outcome Study to compare state-wide data and the results achieved by NEOBH. This analysis noted greater initial severity of symptoms within the state-wide sample, with positive changes in the functioning of NEOBH clients consistent with changes noted within the state-wide sample.
- NEOBH sponsored a large-scale art project, “Jessie’s Journey,” created by NEOBH staff member Vicki Boatright, to promote trauma education and service delivery.
- Linkages between NEOBH and the Stark County were strengthened by the establishment of a feed-back system regarding the receipt of referrals and the outcomes of attempts to initiate treatment with referred youth.

- NEOBH leadership assisted the Stark County Family Court and the Multicounty Juvenile Attention System with a Site Visit conducted by the Annie WS. Casey Foundation regarding the prospect of funding for the further development of trauma treatment services with adjudicated youth.
- NEOBH continued its leadership role on the Traumatized Child Task Force, and hosted monthly meetings of the Stark County Learning Collaborative at the Children's Network Office.
- NEOBH resumed the delivery of trauma treatment services at Multicounty Juvenile Attention Center, following the completion of a year-long pilot project regarding the use of a trauma treatment method developed by William Steele, Psy.D. Margaret DeLillo-Storey, Psy. D., PCC completed a journal article with Dr. Steele regarding the successful results of this program with adjudicated youth affected by trauma. This article will be published in 2008.
- The NEOBH Website was launched in FY 2007, with design work provided by NEOBH staff member Theresa Berry, PC.

The NEOBH Staff:

NEOBH responded to community demand for specialized treatment and assessment services by the addition of four new staff members in FY 2007:

- Cindy Yamokoski, Ph.D., Psychology Assistant, joined NEOBH to assist with the expansion of Parenting Assessment services, and additionally brought expertise to NEOBH regarding the evaluation and mental health treatment of developmentally handicapped clients.
- Carrie Singer, PCC was added to the NEOBH staff in order to enhance the NEOBH Trauma Treatment Team with skills related to Prolonged Exposure Treatment, an evidenced-based trauma treatment approach recently endorsed by the Department of Defense for use with victims of severe trauma.
- Debbie Pittak, PCC rejoined the NEOBH Staff after a 12 year absence and added expertise related to children with Attachment Disorders to the niche specialty offerings available at NEOBH.
- Penny Griffith, Ph.D., joined NEOBH for the purpose of expanding service delivery options to children and adolescents with autism-spectrum disorders. Dr. Griffith's extensive experience with special education and school psychology services additionally assisted NEOBH with services within these specialized areas of practice.

Additional Agency and Staff Accomplishments:

- NEOBH embarked on a comprehensive data scanning project to prepare for an anticipated move to new office space in Stark County. Over 8,000 charts in storage were reviewed regarding legal destroy dates, and scanning was accomplished for cost-effective long-term storage.
- NEOBH Staff continued to reach out to the community via the delivery of workshops and presentations. These included Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (Cassie Hornbeck, Psy.D.) and the secondary effects of trauma on the families of returning veterans (Margaret DeLillo-Storey).
- Ms. Renee Pittman, NEOBH Business Manager, successfully completed the FY 2007 audit in a timely fashion. Ms. Pitman was also responsible for cost-reduction that was achieved via the linkage of NEOBH to the Heartland system, as a single payor/ data transmission source.

In FY 2007, NEOBH experienced following changes in its areas of service delivery:

- In response to changes in state law regarding child abuse case investigation procedures conducted by the Stark County Department of Job and Family Services (SCDJFS), NEOBH shifted the focus of the Children's Network office toward assessment of children with suspected sexual abuse.
- Intensive Parent-Child Interaction (IPCI) was re-established by NEOBH staff member Susan Deibel following the departure of Tiffany Anton, LISW. This program provides focused attention to the needs of parents struggling with reunification issues related to parenting and bonding with their young children.
- NEOBH discontinued Parent Coordination (PC) services in light of increased liability and lack of state-wide agreement regarding the use of PC in high-conflict domestic relations cases. NEOBH participated on a task force regarding further refinement and definition of this unique service.
- NEOBH increased service delivery related to divorce custody evaluations, and successfully presented a workshop to the Summit County Domestic Relations Court regarding clients with Personality Disorders and the effects of Parent Alienation.

Additional Accomplishments in FY 2007:

- NEOBH achieved a mean CQI compliance rate of 96%. Our target rate was 90%.
- NEOBH staff continued to engage in training opportunities. Training Modules for FY 2007 included the use of Outcomes within documentation, culture-specific responses to depression, and Panic/Anxiety Disorders.
- NEOBH continued to make steady progress on Short-Term Objectives related to Long-Term Goals established in FY 2004. These included the successful submission of Outcomes to ODMH
- NEOBH received a grant from the Sisters of Charity Foundation to study post-treatment outcomes regarding youth seen for trauma treatment services while incarcerated.
- The involvement of NEOBH at the CARE Center at Akron Children's Hospital continued toward the expansion of the CARE center, which is planned for FY 2008. NEOBH participated in an analysis of the program design that will accompany this expansion.

In addition to the benefits that NEOBH receives from its outstanding Support and Clinical staff members, NEOBH has an Advisory Board that shares its mission. Mr., Bob Haag and Ms. Esther Thomas, J.D., agreed to serve on the NEOBH advisory Board in FY 2007. NEOBH is grateful to Dr. Ann Hickin and Ms. Patti Albright for their service to the NEOBH Advisory Board. These dedicated individuals enhanced our reputation with the quality of their work. NEOBH also wishes to thank the Stark County Mental Health Board and the Summit County ADMH Board for their funding resources, and the citizens of Summit and Stark County for their continued support.

NEOBH Executive Staff

Robin R. Tener, Ph.D., Executive Director
Renee Pittman, Business Manager

NEOBH Advisory Board

Ms. Joy Conway
Ms. Starr Reusser
Mr. Bob Haag
Mr. Quin Wychanko
Ms. Esther Thomas, J.D.

NEOBH Clinical Staff

Lori Brisbin-Shepler, Ph.D.
Patricia Seifert, Ph.D., CCDC-III-E
Penny Griffith, Ph.D.
Cindy Yamokoski, Ph.D.
Richard J. Cowan, Ph.D.
Gail Mager, M. Ed, PCC
Aimee Thomas-Chuparkoff, J.D., M.Ed.,
LPCC, CCDC-I
Sharon Lewis, LSW
Carrie Schnirring, MA
Debbie Pittak, PCC
Jane Biehl, Ph.D.
Victoria Boatright, PCC
Nicole Molnar, LPC
Cassie Hornbeck, Psy.D.
Cynthia Keck-McNulty, Ph.D., PCC
Margaret DeLillo-Storey, PCC
Amy Schuster, LPC
Theresa Berry, LPC
Carrie Singer, PCC
Diana Barkman, LISW



NEOBH Special Project Teams

- Cultural Competency
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Trauma-Focused Treatment
- Specialized Evaluations
- Parenting Evaluations

Office Locations

Cuyahoga Falls:	2795 Front Street, Suite A	330-945-7100
North Canton:	4347 Portage St., NW, Suite 103	330-494-5155
Canton:	213 Market Ave. N., Suite 200	330-451-1701
Akron:	CARE Center at Akron Children's Hospital	330-945-7100