Board of Trustees

Mental Health Advocacy Service

July 20, 2019

Loyola University Law School Library

Morris Bart Instructional Lab

526 Pine Street, 2nd Floor

New Orleans, Louisiana

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Staff and Board Present: Joseph Seyler (Director, non-voting), Kathy Lynn Cook (Attorney-Deputy General Counsel, non-voting)David Katner, Paul Race, Martin Drell, Patrick O’Neill, Dudley Flanders, and Steve Scheckman

1. **Approval of minutes from last meeting**: Martin Drell moved to approve the minutes from January 26, 2019. David Katner seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.
2. **2019 Legislative Update:** Joseph Seylerreviewed anddiscussed the following legislation germane to the mission of MHAS pending before the Louisiana Legislature:

* 1. **The Extended Foster Care Act** was adopted by the Louisiana Legislature consistent with federal law**.** The remaining issue will be MHAS-CAP’s role.
  2. The Senate established a task force concerning child protection issues and MHAS Director Joseph Seyler is a member. Progress has been made on who is eligible to become a foster parent based upon prior criminal felony convictions.
  3. **The Seizure of Fire Arms** bill did not pass the Louisiana Legislature.
  4. **The School & Student Safety Act** was amended, in part, but constitutional questions remain. Constitutional challenges are pending in two (2) Louisiana courts.

1. **Possible Title IV-E Funding: MHAS-**CAP may be able to receive funding for its legal representation of children through the IVE program, including for salaries and benefits, support staff, supplies and rent. Paul Race moved that MHAS-CAP seek such funding under Tile IV-E. David Katner seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
2. Paul Race moved to proceed in Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(2) regarding: Notice of Appeal to the State Civil Service Commission (Separation from Job Appointment—illegal discrimination and rules not followed), Docket No. S-18526, Sherry King v. Governor’s Office—Mental Health Advocacy Service; and EEOC Notice of Charge of Discrimination (age and disability) No. 461-2019-01756 against MHAS by Sherry A. King. David Katner seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Paul Race moved that the board resume the open meeting. Dudley Flanders seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

**5. Next Meeting:** October 19, 2019

**The meeting was then adjourned.**