

Charter Committee Levy Review Summary

Charter Issues Committee Recommendation: SUPPORT THE LEVY

Levy: Mental Health Levy

Agencies Funded: Mental Health and Recovery

Services Board. They in turn contract with 43 entities to provide mental health services.

1. Current Levy:

- a. 2.74 mills
- b. Generates \$32.5 million annually
- c. Five years – last voted in 2002

2. Proposed Levy:

- a. 2.99 mills
- b. Will generate \$37.5 million annually
- c. Represents an annualized increase of 2.9%.

3. Financial Information:

- a. Current financial audit – clean opinion
- b. Agency Budget: ~\$105 million

- 4. Service Provided:** “The Board is the county government agency responsible for planning, system goals and priorities, contracting services with certified providers, monitoring and coordinating service delivery available to Hamilton County residents, and evaluating service effectiveness and outcomes. ”
(County Tax Levy Review Committee Consultant Report.)

With levy funds they provide (see Tax Levy Committee report for detail)

- a. Community psychiatric supportive treatment – 39%
- b. Psychiatric interview/assessment/evaluation – 7%
- c. Counseling/Therapy – 15%
- d. Pharmacological Mgmt – 8%
- e. In-patient hospital – 2%
- f. Crisis intervention – 3%
- g. Other Mental Health Services – 2%
- h. Prevention and education – 2%
- i. Consumer operated and peer support 1%
- j. Residential treatment & housing – 11%
- k. Employment & vocational – 1%

I. Partial hospitalization – 9%

5. Special Situations: In 2006, the agency merged with the former Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services Agency. Hence their current org title of Mental Health and Recovery Services Board.

More than 50% of their funds are spent for Medicaid services. They pay 40% and the State pays 60% of Medicaid approved service. The agency does not control the services a client receives so in that sense does not have total control of its budget. This is according to Ohio law. 'Such control leaves little autonomy to allocate existing funds to the most effective and efficient service delivery operations.' (tax levy review committee report)

6. Tax Levy Review Committee Comments:

- a. Generally the comments of the reviewing consultant were very positive about this agency.
- b. A series of 12 recommendations for improvements are included. Discussions with the Board Executive Director indicate that the Board concurs with the recommendations and will work to implement them. (again see the detailed tax levy review committee report prepared by the consultant).