



Monday, June 10, 2019  
Advisory Board meeting

**Safe Haven Advisory Board members in attendance:**

Kelly Rabalais, Dr. Charles Preston, Nick Richard, Richard Kramer, Colin Sims, STP Council Gene Bellasario, Jamie Schlottman, Joan Coffman.

Absent members Sheriff Randy Smith / Major Muller  
Hon Judge Garcia / Rachel Edelman

Kelly Rabalais called the meeting to order at 11:00AM.

A quorum of the Advisory Board was established by Adele Bruce -Smith

Kelly Rabalais then asked for Jamie Schlottman to introduce himself to the rest of the board.

Mr. Schlottman has been a board member but unable to attend a board meeting.

Mr. Schlottman began with he was extremely sorry for being unable to attend previous meetings but as the CEO with Louisiana Healthcare Connections he has been extremely busy.

He informed the board and guests that he does in fact live in St. Tammany and two children one presently going to PJP. That he was very excited about Safe Haven.

Kelly asked for a motion for the approval of March minutes. Gene Bellasario moved for approval, seconded by Richard Kramer, with all voting in favor.

**On behalf of St. Tammany Parish Government:**

Kelly Rabalais said she had been speaking with Richard Kramer about how long ago it seemed that the Parish had purchased the property and how long it felt that they have taken to get to this point. She reminded us of the property was purchased in 2013 and now here we are in 2019 and still we are not open. Kelly continued with Richard Kramer telling her "Yes it does seem like a long time but there was a lot to do and look at how much you have accomplished." Kelly continued with the contract with "Start Corp" is now completed for the CRC.

She said that Senator Kennedy had called James Carroll Jr. Director of the U.S Office, National Drug Control Policies. Both had recently toured the Safe Haven CRC and the Safe Haven campus.



They were 20 minutes late so the tour was cut short but their response was extremely positive. They informed her there is nothing like this going on in the United States in rural areas. Kelly continued that she preferred ribbon cuttings over ground breakings, but there will be a groundbreaking and there will be 4-5 members from the White house.

Kelly stated there are grants that will be available especially for Nick the Executive Director of NAMI- St. Tammany who will be located in the new building for NAMI St. Tammany. This is where all the training and conferences will be held once completed in early 2020.

Kelly continued with Rachel Edelman, court administrator and Shannon Hattier who oversees the specialty courts have received support from the Veterans court.

She stated that Julies Baxter, veterans' affairs had also been given a tour in reference to having a location there in order for veterans to receive services on the Safe Haven campus.

Kelly continued; Parish government had found the right person to fill the position for the Opioid grant and she was starting today being June 10, 2019. Some of her responsibilities would be to track those coming into the courts, with this information they are hoping to secure more grants in order to purchase computers and the software in order for the agencies within the Safe Haven system can talk to each other.

Kelly confirmed that the LA SAFE funds of 5.3 million will be used for the infrastructure out on the Safe Haven campus: sewerage, drainage etc.

Staff from River oaks recently toured the Safe Haven Campus in particular to understand the CRC and will River Oaks be losing patients once Safe Haven is up and running.

The first fundraiser held for the Safe Haven Foundation had to be cancelled due to weather. However, \$120,000 was still raised and those funds went to Family Promise for a day center on the Safe Haven Campus. Kelly said later in this meeting she would be presenting a motion for next year's recipient of the Foundation.



Nick Richard Executive Director of NAMI St. Tammany and Richard Kramer; Executive Director of the Florida Parishes Human Services Authority Spoke about their recent presentation on Facebook Live, which aired last night.

Nick reported both Richard and he were asked to be on Facebook live on the topic of Assessment of Suicidality. It was spotlighting the FPHSA program Zero Suicide initiative. This program is to help reduce suicide and make our area suicide proof, with all stake holders involved it is possible.

We were also informed that State representative Reid Falconer presented a bill which passed the first stage in the legislature of Louisiana. State Representative Falconer has been very active in mental health awareness and changing mental health steps in order to prevent suicide. The bill if passed all the way will make is mandatory for Doctors to ask certain questions to patients they are evaluating for any cause.

Capital outlay for the Safe Haven project is \$500,000. The parish's local money funds are \$240,000, which gives Safe Haven \$740,000 total.

Kelly stated she would like NAMI St. Tammany to be the next project recipient for the Safe Haven Foundation 2020. This was motioned by Richard Kramer, seconded by Gene Bellasario all "yays" with Nick Richard abstaining.

### **Kelly Rabalais read a report that was sent in from Rachel Edelman on behalf of Jail Diversion**

The following is today's pretrial diversion report.

The court's Pretrial Services Program is now fully staffed with a Project Director, 3 Navigators, 2 screeners and 1 peer support specialist. From January 1, 2019 through last week the team has screened 622 persons and conducted 48 assessments (March 1, 2019 through last week) for specialty court and/or pretrial services (41 have been mental health and/or co-occurring referrals – significant for Safe Haven purposes).

Pretrial services include: immediate mental health treatment; immediate substance abuse treatment; peer support services, medically assisted treatment, medication management, case management, job search assistance, parenting skills, anger management, life skills, HISET/Literacy one on one tutoring, clothing/hygiene assistance, STD classes/HIV testing,



financial classes and fast-track Veterans assistance (housing, PTSD treatment, substance abuse treatment).

Requirements to participate:

Must be a resident of St. Tammany or Washington Parishes;  
Must have a misdemeanor or felony criminal charge pending before the 22<sup>nd</sup> JDC;  
Must agree to assessment so that we may direct to appropriate services/specialty court  
Community Partners:

STPSO  
WPSO  
VOA  
NAMI – pending  
FPHSA – pending  
GEO Reentry Services – Covington Day Reporting Center  
Covington Behavioral Health - pending

### **Education and Training,**

Nick Richard, Director of NAMI St. Tammany stated he is hoping to be able to hold 50/75 people in the new facility for education and training. Joan Coffman CEO of St. Tammany Parish Hospital stated she thought he should aim for 75/100.

Nick started his updates with the week of June 10-14<sup>th</sup> 2019, the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office were hosted once again those from the Valor Grant Program.

Mental Health First Aid training was given to attorneys, which entailed 8 hours of training, in order to deescalate clients that are in a crisis. Joan Coffman asked Nick Richard how the trainings were funded to which Nick responded all by grants. He continued with the next training will be for those in the Faith based community.

Sue Osborn asked if it was possible for some of the mental health trainings to actually have continuing education credits. Nick said they could certainly look into it. The goal for attorneys and law enforcement officers to also have their own space in the new building that would come later in 2020. There will be another CIT training in August.



They expect to do their first in house CIT training by the end of the year. Nick spoke about the Group homes on the Safe Haven Campus that he started running in 2013 due to the lack of funds and grants. He informed us that after fighting to keep these group homes open for the residents that finally they will be run by another agency.

The final thing on the agenda was the election of new officers. Kelly asked who would like to be secretary to which all of the board said no. Gene Bellasario stated he thought Adele Bruce-Smith should continue to do it as she does a good job. Kelly once again asked who would like to be secretary of the board. Dr. Charles Preston, coroner volunteered to be the secretary and Adele will continue to take notes. A motion to accept Dr. Preston as secretary was made by Kelly Rabalais, seconded by Richard Kramer and the motion passed unanimously.

The Safe Haven Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at 11.50.

The next quarterly meeting of the Safe Haven Advisory Board will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 11AM. All meeting notices and minutes are available online on the Safe Haven website, [www.safehavenstp.org](http://www.safehavenstp.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Charles A. Preston, M.D.