



SC ADM Board of Directors Meeting

Dr. Fred Frese Residential Center

Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 5:30pm

1756 Sagamore Rd

Northfield, OH 44067

<https://admboard.org/>



SC ADM Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 5:30pm

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of minutes from September 22, 2026, Board Meeting

III. Board Education

Community Support Services - Dr. Fred Frese Residential Center

IV. Ownership, Linkage & Accountability

- A. Chair Report
- B. Executive Director Report
- C. Chief Clinical Officer Report

V. Comments from Public and Announcements

VI. Consent Agenda

- A. ADM Funding Awards Report
- B. New Contracts & Authorization to Sign

VII. Committee Reports

- A. Committee Reports
 - 1. Governance Committee - James Merklin, Chair
Last Meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 2026
 - 2. Fiscal Oversight Committee - Henry Johnson, Chair
Last Meeting: Monday, October 19, 2026

VIII. Unfinished Business

- A. None

IX. New Business

- A. Executive Limitations & Board Self-Monitoring
 - 1. Executive Director Response to Monitoring
 - 2. Policy 1.5 Innovation
 - a. Vote on Compliance
 - 3. Policy 2.8 Emergency Management Succession
 - a. Vote on Compliance
- B. Approval of the 2027 Full Board Meeting Schedule

X. Adjournment

The next meeting of the Summit County ADM Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2026, at 5:30pm in the SC Public Health Auditorium.



Minutes for SC ADM Board of Directors Meeting

09/22/2026 | 05:35 PM - 07:17 PM - 05:00 Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Akron Children's Hospital Conference Center

Attendees (14)

Monica Andress; Crystal Burnett; Dr. Margaret Halter; Henry Johnson; James E. Merklin; Utomhin Okoh; Marc Lee Shannon; Stephen L Strayer; Sylvia Trundle; Dr. Tania Lodge; Dr. Valerie Kreider; Karen Talbott; John Petures; Monique Johnson (Shadow)

Committee Members Absent

None

ADM Board Staff Present

Aimee Wade, Executive Director; Jennifer Peveich, Associate Director of Operations; Kimberly Patton, Associate Director of Clinical Services; Dr. Doug Smith, Chief Clinical Officer; Amy Woodland, Manager of Communications; Jeannie Cool, Manager of Evidence-Based Practices and Outcomes; Carrie Marceric, Manager of Administrative Compliance; Charity Saffel, Senior Accountant; Olivia Warther, Administrative Assistant; Dominique Curley, Executive Administrative Assistant

Other Parties Present

Eva Szigethy, MD, PhD, Akron Children's Hospital; Tracy Yaeger, PhD, Portage Path Behavioral Health; Tammy Jensen, Oriana House; Catherine Blankenship, Coleman Health Services; Laura Smiley, 91.3 FM The Summit; Tommy Bruno, 91.3 FM The Summit; Cassandra Galloway, Child Guidance & Family Solutions; Brian Harnak, Summit County Executive Office; Leslie Powlette Stoyer, Community Support Services

Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chair, Dr. Margaret Halter called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

Approval of minutes from July 28, 2026, Board Meeting

MOTION: Sylvia Trundle

SECOND: Crystal Burnett

That the Summit County ADM Board of Directors approve the minutes of the July 28th, 2026, meeting of the Board of Directors as presented.

VOTE: Verbal Vote - Motion Passed

RESOLUTION: 9-26-01

Swearing in of New Board Member, John Petures by the Honorable Linda Tucci Teodosio

- Board Chair Dr. Halter began the meeting by inviting John Petures to join the Honorable Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio to be sworn in as a member of the Summit County ADM Board of Directors.
- The Honorable Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio announced her upcoming retirement from the Summit County Court of Common Pleas and expressed her sincere appreciation to the Summit County ADM Board, as a former board member and as a Judge, for its longstanding support of the courts and its continued commitment to ensuring access to behavioral health services.

Introduction of 2026-2027 ADM Board Shadow, Monique Johnson

Board Chair Dr. Halter introduced Monique Johnson as a member of the 2026-2027 ADM Board of Director Shadow Program.

Board Education

Eva Szigethy, MD, PhD, Chair, Pediatric Psychiatry and Behavioral Health; The Lois C. Orr Endowed Chair in Pediatric Psychiatry, Akron Children's Hospital

- Dr. Szigethy provided an overview of Akron Children's strategy to expand behavioral health services across the continuum, with a focus on increasing access to care closer to home and strengthening coordination among primary care, inpatient, outpatient, and community services.
- Dr. Szigethy highlighted a model which integrating behavioral health into pediatric primary care through screening, brief interventions, care coordination, and outcome tracking. The model is being expanded across more than 46 pediatric practices and has contributed to improved access, reduced wait times, and increased engagement with outpatient behavioral health services.
- Akron Children's also expanded inpatient behavioral health services, opening a new 30-bed unit with capacity to expand to 40 beds. The hospital continues to develop

regional behavioral health centers offering intensive outpatient, partial hospitalization, medication management, addiction services, and virtual care.

- The presentation also highlighted ongoing collaboration with community behavioral health through the Summit County Suicide Prevention Coalition and expansion of its 988 awareness campaign, with approximately 44,000 educational materials being distributed throughout its service area.

Ownership, Linkage & Accountability

A. Chair Report - Dr. Margaret Halter, Board Chair

- Dr. Halter, Board Chair, recognized Marc Lee Shannon for his service as Board Secretary as he steps down from the Secretary role while continuing his service on the Board. She expressed appreciation for his leadership, dedication, and contributions in the role. With the Secretary position now vacant, Dr. Halter Board, Chair and Jim Merklin, Vice Chair recommended Henry Johnson to serve as Board Secretary and placed Mr. Johnson's name in nomination. An invitation was made for nomination from the floor, with none coming forward.

Motion: Dr. Margaret Halter

SECOND: James Merklin

That the Summit County ADM Board of Directors move to appoint Henry Johnson to serve as Secretary of the Board of Directors, effective immediately, in accordance with the Board's bylaws and applicable term requirements.

VOTE: Verbal Vote – Motion Passed

RESOLUTION: 9-26-02

- Dr. Halter formally announced the following Board committee appointments: John Petures to Assurance Committee and Executive Compensation Committee. Monique Johnson to Fiscal Oversight Committee and Governance Committee.
- Dr. Halter then gave the floor to Jim Merklin to provide an update on the ADM Levy Support Committee as the Board's appointed representative.
- Mr. Merklin reported that the Committee met on September 16th and reviewed the 2026 Recovery Challenge results.
- The Committee also discussed the future structure of the ADMSC PAC, including the potential transition of levy-related oversight to the Board's ad hoc Levy Committee. Additional legal and financial guidance will be sought regarding the

potential transition of PAC funds and related tax implications, with a decision anticipated before the end of the year.

- Dr. Halter provided a reminder regarding the purpose and structure of Board monitoring and the function of the monitoring survey.
- Dr. Halter also announced that a Board survey will be distributed in the coming weeks to gather input on community engagement and Board education priorities for 2027. Feedback will be reviewed by the Governance Committee next month and will help inform the 2027 Board meeting schedule.
- Dr. Halter reported that Board leadership and Director Wade have been working with Charney|Keyse Associates on a comprehensive policy manual review, 2027 Board training, and consultation regarding ownership engagement. The engagement is included on this month's funding award list for Board consideration and approval.
- Finally, Dr. Halter reminded Board members to complete the meeting evaluation using the QR code included on the annotated agenda.

B. Executive Director Report - Aimee Wade, Executive Director

- Director Wade gave congratulatory accolades to the following ADM Board staff members in recognition of their years of dedicated service: Olivia Warther, Administrative Assistant — 5 years; Jeannie Cool, Manager of Evidence-Based Practices and Outcomes — 5 years; and Charity Saffel, Senior Accountant — 10 years.
- Director Wade provided an update on the Behavioral Health Wellness Center. The project continues to advance through design and preconstruction, with updated estimates currently above the approved project budget. The team is actively utilizing Target Value Design (TVD) to identify responsible cost savings while protecting essential programming, safety, accessibility, functionality, and long-term facility value. Construction costs have continued to increase since the project was initiated in 2022 and funding was approved.
- Staff are also coordinating with the City of Akron regarding the N. Main Street project, which may affect the facility's primary entrance and require design modifications and additional costs. The immediate focus is to address the projected funding gap through TVD and other project adjustments before considering additional funding; no additional funding is being requested at this time.
- In conclusion, Director Wade emphasized that the goal remains to deliver a financially responsible facility that fulfills its intended community purpose while maintaining strong stewardship of public resources.

C. Chief Clinical Officer Report - Dr. Doug Smith, Chief Clinical Officer

- Dr. Doug Smith, Chief Clinical Officer, shared that the Integrated Care Healthcare Conference is November 7, 2026.
- Dr. Smith also shared emerging research in serious mental illness, including advances in schizophrenia neuroscience and brain function, the growing use of GLP-1 therapies to address metabolic health in individuals with serious mental illness and
- highlighted orexin-based therapies as an emerging approach targeting sleep and mood in psychiatry.
- Dr. Smith emphasized the continued shift toward integrated, whole-person care that connects behavioral health, physical health, and emerging neuroscience.

Comments from Public and Announcements

Tracy Yaeger, PhD, Portage Path Behavioral Health;

- The 10th Annual KJ's 5K for Mental Health & Animal Rescue was highlighted, with appreciation expressed to the ADM Board for its support and sponsorship of the event.

Tommy Bruno & Laura Smiley, 91.3 FM The Summit;

- An update was provided on Summit Wellness, formerly known as Rock and Recovery. The organization acknowledged the support of the ADM Board and expressed appreciation for the partnership. Summit Wellness reported that it has met all established goals, with impact statements provided to highlight the outcomes and community impact of the work.

Sylvia Trundle, SC ADM Board of Directors;

- A special acknowledgment was given to Marc Lee Shannon for his upcoming show, Summit Wellness Presents: The Sound of Recovery with Marc Lee Shannon.

Amy Woodland, Manager of Communications, SC ADM Board;

- Amy Woodland reminded new and current Board members to register for the Trailblazer Awards Dinner on October 8, 2026.
- Ms. Woodland also provided an update on recent 988 and suicide prevention outreach efforts throughout the community.
- The team continues to strengthen community partnerships, including a connection with the Summit Metro Parks. Outreach materials were provided to Metro Parks, whose officers are all trained in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), further expanding awareness of behavioral health and crisis resources throughout the community.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: John Petues

SECOND: Lt. Utomhin Okoh

That the Summit County ADM Board of Directors approve the funding awards for August and September 2026 and having funds available and certified by the Fiscal Officer as required by ORC 5705.41(D) the Board Authorizes the Executive Director to sign the contracts presented in the attached list on behalf of the ADM Board, in accordance with the requirements contained within ORC 340.

VOTE: Verbal Vote - Motion Passed (2 Abstention: Karen Talbott, Marc Lee Shannon)

RESOLUTION: 9-26-03

Committee Reports

A. Fiscal Oversight Committee - Henry Johnson, Chair

- Chair Henry Johnson reported that the Fiscal Oversight Committee meeting that was scheduled for September 8, 2026, was canceled. The next meeting will be on October 19, 2026.

B. Assurance Committee - Sylvia Trundle, Chair

- Chair Sylvia Trundle reported that the Committee reviewed overdose deaths in Summit County, which continue to decline, and note improvements in ZIP codes that previously experienced high numbers of overdose deaths. The committee discussed impact of harm-reduction efforts, naloxone access, education, and targeted outreach.
- The Committee also received an update on deaths by suicide, which continue to increase, and underscored the continued need for prevention and monitoring.
- The committee emphasized the importance of tracking individuals who survive overdoses and understanding their recovery journeys. Changes in QRT referrals were also discussed, with improved referrals following the transition of the QRT from the police department to the fire department.
- Demographic and geographic data continue to inform targeted strategies. A new survey is being developed to incorporate the youth voice into future prevention efforts and ensure strategies resonate with young people.
- The committee reviewed recent changes to Ohio cannabis regulations and discussed emerging research related to cannabis use, particularly among younger populations.

Continued monitoring of regulations, perceptions, usage patterns, and health research will be important.

- In conclusion and update was provided on HB 88, now stalled in the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee.
- The committee also approved its proposed 2027 meeting schedule and will gather member input on priority topics and areas of focus for next year through a survey.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

A. Executive Limitations & Board Self-Monitoring

1. Executive Director Response to Monitoring

2. Policy 1.3 Access and Equity

a. Vote on Compliance

MOTION: Lt. Utomhin Okoh

SECOND: Stephen Strayer

That the Summit County ADM Board of Directors find the Executive Director in compliance with Policy 1.3 Access and Equity.

VOTE: Verbal Vote - Motion Passed

RESOLUTION: 9-26-04

3. Policy 2.5 Financial Conditions & Activities

a. Vote on Compliance

MOTION: James Merklin

SECOND: Henry Johnson

That the Summit County ADM Board of Directors find the Executive Director in compliance with Policy 2.5 Financial Conditions & Activities.

VOTE: Verbal Vote - Motion Passed

RESOLUTION: 9-26-05

4. Policy 2.6 Asset Protection

a. Vote on Compliance

MOTION: Lt. Utomhin Okoh

SECOND: Monica Andress

That the Summit County ADM Board of Directors find the Executive Director in compliance with Policy 2.6 Asset Protection.

VOTE: Verbal Vote - Motion Passed

RESOLUTION: 9-26-06

Adjournment

MOTION: Henry Johnson

SECOND: Lt. Utomhin Okoh

That the Summit County ADM Board of Directors move to adjourn this Regularly Scheduled Meeting of Tuesday, September 22nd, 2026.

VOTE: Verbal Vote - Motion Passed

RESOLUTION: 9-26-07

Next Meeting Scheduled: Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 5:30pm at the Dr. Fred Frese Residential Center.

The meeting ended at 7:17pm.