

Executive Director's Report- February 20, 2024

- Transportation Service Updates- January- Jackson County had 65 transports and Marshall County had 18 transports.
- Updates on ~~JC BOE~~ MLBH Property-
 - The closing occurred on 2/2 and everything went smoothly.
 - John Porter will start the process on filing the quiet title action and I'll update you as that process progresses.
 - We're currently getting estimates on the upgrades and renovation projects that we plan to complete prior to moving in.
 - The current clinic property was appraised earlier this month and we should receive the appraisal report soon.
- Legislative Session- The current legislative session began last week. Gambling legislation passed the House last week and will be considered by the Senate soon. If passed by the Senate and signed by Governor Ivey, the issue will be on the November ballot for voters to consider. DMH and mental health services are areas where new gambling revenues would be spent. I and other members of the Alabama Council for Behavioral Healthcare will be in Montgomery on Wednesday and Thursday meeting with members of the legislature to advocate for additional funding in the FY25 budget.
- DMH Opioid Settlement Grant- Our grant proposal was recently approved and funded by DMH. This grant will allow us to expand our jail based services by adding case management, peer support, medication assisted treatment (MAT), and housing support for individuals post-incarceration. It's a one year grant with a budget of \$518,500 and were hopeful that when we show positive results and data, we will receive continuation funding from DMH.
- Jackson Place Expansion- Follow up and additional information regarding the email I sent you last week. John Porter is working to arrange the closing on the property, which we are hopeful will occur this week. This is an exciting opportunity that will allow us to add new beds for deaf consumers and will provide our current clients with more options for independent living and job opportunities to work as peers/life skills specialists with MLBH. I'm also in the process of putting together ideas and plans for a longer term proposal to DMH to add additional beds and services.