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RESOLUTION: For continued local control of community mental health and addiction services assessing, planning, contracting, funding, monitoring, and evaluating.

WHEREAS, the members of the Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services are committed to assuring that residents of Darke, Miami and Shelby counties live healthier lives through access to quality mental health and addiction prevention, treatment, and support services; and

WHEREAS, historically local volunteer citizens of the Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services have identified our local needs and empowered community action through local partnerships with schools, courts, county commissioners, human service agencies, and other stakeholders on issues concerning mental health and addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery supports to provide the services necessary to meet Darke, Miami and Shelby counties' needs; and

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services being closest to the people in need of mental health and addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery supports in Darke, Miami and Shelby counties are the most accountable level of government and we will be held responsible for any decisions we make; and

WHEREAS, in Chapter 340 of the Ohio Revised Code, local ADAMH Boards have both the right and responsibility to assess the community addiction and mental health needs, evaluate strengths and challenges, and set priorities for community addiction and mental health services; and

WHEREAS, attempts are being made at the Executive level to restrict funding by reprioritizing local investment and program decisions for Darke, Miami and Shelby counties; and

WHEREAS, behavioral health care services are best planned for, managed, and delivered locally, Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services opposes any action which would curb, limit, or remove local authority for mental health and addiction services from the volunteer citizen controlled Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services on behalf of Darke, Miami and Shelby counties urge the Ohio General Assembly to keep intact local control, and not allow the targeting of state funds that were appropriated to meet the needs of our local citizens.

Ratified on the Nineteenth Day of March, Two Thousand and Fourteen.

Jason Wagner, Board Chair

Mark McDaniel, Executive Director