

ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY

DIRECTORS' ROSTER - BACKGROUND / AFFILIATION DATA

As of February 2026

ADAMHS Board of Director

Background & Affiliations

Bishara W. Addison

Ms. Addison is a workforce and public policy leader. She most recently served as Director of Workforce Innovation at the Fund for Our Economic Future and NE Ohio Site Director for the National Fund for Workforce Solutions, where she advanced equitable economic growth and secured more than \$10 million in federal talent investments. A former Ohio State Representative for House District 9, she has also held leadership roles at Towards Employment and the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, leading strategic, policy, and cross-sector initiatives. Her experience spans public service, philanthropy, and systems change, with a strong focus on expanding access to opportunity for underserved communities. She has been recognized for her leadership and impact at the local and national levels.

Ashwani Bhardwaj

President at Avon Tech Staffing Solutions, Inc., an organization with experience in finance and accounting. Mr. Bhardwaj also has experience as a speaker and Board member for ethnicity and addiction issues. Community affiliations include his participation as a member of the Advisory Committee of Chia Chen's Asian Planning Board, a volunteer with the Greater Cleveland Shiva Vishnu Temple since 2010, and past President (2014-2015) and member of the Marwari Association of Northeast Ohio.

Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D.

Psychologist with a private practice in Shaker Heights serving adolescents, adults and families. Adjunct Professor, Cleveland State University; Psychologist for NEON Health Services; Former Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Assistant Principal for Shaker Heights City Schools.

Gregory X. Boehm, M.D.

Psychiatrist board certified in Psychiatry, child/adolescent psychiatry and addiction medicine. Dr. Boehm has served as Medical Director at Y-Haven, since 2003. In his private practice, he started and maintains the only Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) exclusively for pregnant, addicted women.

Norman A. Bliss

President & Chief Executive Officer of Community Reinvestment Advisors, LLC, a national advisory firm focused on Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) strategy, community development finance, and regulatory compliance. With more than 30 years of executive leadership in the banking sector, Mr. Bliss is recognized for his ability to align institutional business strategies with regulatory expectations and measurable community impact. Through his leadership, Community Reinvestment Advisors partners with financial institutions, municipalities, and mission-driven organizations to develop and implement solutions that close capital gaps, strengthen underserved markets, and advance inclusive economic growth.

Erskine Cade, MBA

Corporate Lobbyist and Business Executive. Currently a partner at the legislative and regulatory affairs firms, Strategic Government Initiatives (SGI Group) and Strategic Health Care (SHC). Most recently, Mr. Cade served as Senior Vice President and Government Relations Director for Key Corp in Cleveland.

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Background & Affiliations

James T. Dixon
Vice Chair

Attorney, partner at Roetzel & Andress LPA. Prior volunteer with The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, The Citizens League, The City Club, and the U.S. Green Building Council. Members of Mr. Dixon's family have faced addiction and mental health challenges.

Charles Garven, M.D.

Dr. Garven is a family physician retired from active clinical practice who continues to teach and supervise family medicine residents at the Cleveland Clinic and medical students at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) School of Medicine, as well as at a local free medical clinic. He served as Chief Medical Officer for the Sisters of Charity Health System from 2022 to 2024 and previously was Chief Medical Officer at Lakewood Hospital, a Cleveland Clinic hospital, from 2008 to 2013. He has held a clinical faculty appointment at CWRU since 1993 and has served as an Assistant Professor at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of CWRU since 2013. Throughout his career, Dr. Garven provided care in underserved communities and regularly treated individuals facing addiction and mental health challenges.

Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr.
Second Vice Chair

Pastor of Heritage Institutional Baptist Church & Chief Executive Officer of Ministerial Crisis Center, Board President of Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland. Elected to his first term as Board Chair, effective July 1, 2018.

Anita Gray

Ms. Gray served on the boards of the Women's Community Foundation, Karamu House, Dress for Success, the Italian Cultural Gardens, Shoes & Clothes for Kids, the Greater Cleveland Foodbank, Notre Dame College's Abrahamic Center, Bellefaire, Jewish Federation of Cleveland and the FBI Citizens Advisory Foundation. She co-chaired a mission to Senegal and Israel to study diversity sponsored by the Jewish Federation and the NAACP. In addition, Ms. Gray received the Woman of Achievement Award by the YWCA and the Community Service Award from the FBI. She has an avid interest in mental health and addiction issues.

Hallie R. Israel

Attorney at Baker & Hostetler LLP, practicing complex commercial litigation. Professional affiliations include service on the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's Mental Health and Wellness Committee, and prior board membership of the National Alliance on Mental Illness in Franklin County. Ms. Israel has a background in the community outreach and advocacy space. She holds an undergraduate degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice Systems, with additional focuses on Neuroscience and Substance Misuse and Addiction Studies.

Patricia James-Stewart, M.Ed., LSW
Board Chair

Ms. James-Stewart is a retired Licensed Social Worker from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Throughout her tenure with the VA, she worked collaboratively to address homelessness related to mental health and addiction, and more recently focused on one of the VA's primary priorities: combating the opioid epidemic in Ohio and advancing suicide prevention efforts. Her community involvement includes active participation with several organizations.

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Linda D. Johaneck

Background & Affiliations

Owner of LDJ Consulting. Ms. Johaneck partners with nonprofits as a consultant with deep experience and a proven track record of driving organizational growth and impact through strategic planning, fundraising, program development, and board effectiveness. She is skilled in collaborating with diverse stakeholders to identify opportunities, overcome challenges, and achieve sustainable results that advance mission-driven objectives. Ms. Johaneck previously held positions as a Senior Director at Morino Ventures to engage funders, nonprofit leaders, and consultants who are a part of the Leap Ambassadors Community of 350+ global visionaries and changemakers in nine countries, and Chief Executive Officer at Domestic Violence & Child Advocacy Center.

Steve Killpack, MS

Executive Director of Community Endeavors Foundation and Coordinator of Healthy Fathering Collaborative.

Kathryn Y. Parks, MBA, MA, LPC, LICDC

Operations and Programs Manager at Step by Step Family Services. Her work involves supporting individuals, families, and organizations in the vital areas of mental health and substance recovery and prevention services. With over 30 years of experience, she has forged partnerships with organizations and agencies that serve as catalysts for change in their communities. Her diverse background includes roles in education, business, behavioral health, real estate, education recruitment and client retention. Currently, she also serves as an adjunct faculty member at Cuyahoga Community College's Business and Technology department, where she has spent 11 years shaping the minds of future leaders.

Molly Wimbiscus, M.D.

Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist at Cleveland Clinic since 2011; Founder and Director of School Mental Health Program since 2019; Program Director of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship from 2014-2018 and 2023-present; Assistant Professor at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University since 2014; Child Psychiatrist at Neighborhood Family Practice since 2016. She is actively involved in local and national professional societies and has served as a community leader or professional advisor in multiple organizations. Her scholarly work is in school mental health, youth development and identity, collaborative care, and preventive psychiatric care.