

Dear Trustee:

Congratulations on your recent appointment to the governing Board of the Mental Health and Recovery Board (MHRB) of Erie and Ottawa Counties.

As part of our Board Member Orientation process, we are pleased to present you with a *Board Member Reference Manual*. This manual was developed to provide you with information to assist you as you become familiar with your new role as trustee.

The manual includes basic information about Ohio's behavioral health care system and general information on mental health and alcohol/drug addiction issues as well as reference materials for ongoing use.

Also included is the Board's Governance Policy Manual, which sets forth the Board's governance process. The Erie-Ottawa MHRB employs a policy governance style based on the Carver Governance model.

Content of the manual is accessible in multiple formats, including hard copy and as individual documents on the board website (www.mhrbeo.org) so they can be viewed, printed, downloaded, and/or emailed as desired. The *Reference Manual* can be found by clicking on "Board of Directors" under the "About MHRB" tab on the left side of the webpage. Other sections of the website contain useful information and are a great resource as well!

In addition, each newly appointed Board member will be paired with an experienced Board member to serve as a 'mentor' or 'buddy' to review and explain the information in the board packet, provide additional information as needed and to answer any questions.

Again, welcome to the Board!