

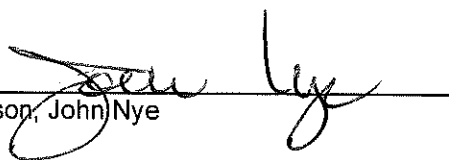
FOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION,  
AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Subject: Statement of Principles

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Chairperson, John Nye

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

In accomplishing its mission, the Four County Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services is guided by the following set of basic values and operational philosophies.

1. Clients Come First! Services are to be based on and responsive to the needs of clients rather than the needs of the system or the needs of providers.
2. Action Orientation The Board's role is to advocate for clients and providers, fighting through structural, political, legal and environmental constraints on their behalf.
3. Directed Autonomy The Board is to maintain a leadership role in establishing the direction of client services, while encouraging new ideas and different approaches.
4. Closeness to Citizens The Board must establish and maintain close ties with the general public. It is essential that we listen and respond to public input.
5. Proclivity Toward Community Services Services that are available and accessible in the clients' home community and provided from a normalized setting are inherently superior to those provided in an institution or segregated setting. Clients are included in the normal living, working, learning, and leisure time activities of the community.
6. Client Empowerment Services are provided in a manner that allows clients to retain the greatest possible control over their own lives. They are to be actively involved in all aspects of planning and delivering services.
7. Prevention Bias Whenever possible, the Board is inclined to support effective prevention and early intervention programs enabling people to maintain health and recover quickly.
8. Accountability The Board is accountable to the citizens of Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams Counties, especially to service clients and their families, for quality services that are relevant to their needs. Primary consumers and families are to be involved in planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating services.
9. Service Coordination The Board ensures continuity of care and coordination of services. With few exceptions, the Board shall avoid duplication of service with other non contract agencies. Funding received through local taxes are to be used only when other resources have been allocated.