

Upper Arlington Rotary Club



ROTARYVIEW

ROTARY OPENS OPPORTUNITIES

OCTOBER 27, 2020

UPPER ARLINGTON ROTARY CLUB

District 6690, Columbus Ohio, USA

Club 3694, Chartered 1972

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ON THE WEB

www.uarotary.org

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For make up locations, check the club web site or call the make-up hotline at (614) 470-1002.



Our speaker today was **Julie Rinaldi**, CEO of Syntero. **Milt Lustnauer** introduced Julie who is a past-president of Dublin AM Rotary. Julie spoke to us about ADAMH and its current levy renewal/increase request which is on the ballot on November 3. Syntero is a long-time contract agency for Franklin County Children Services. Syntero supports UA residents of all ages.

Syntero is a non-profit community based behavioral health provider that has been providing mental health, alcohol and other drug treatment and prevention services in Franklin County for over 42 years. It has a long history of providing such services in Upper Arlington. In UA, residents of all ages are provided services. Services are delivered in partnership with the UA school district and through programming for older adults and outpatient services for adults. Syntero came about as the result of a merger between Northwest Counseling Services and the government Counseling Center in 2013.

Julie shared a slide presentation with us. She thanked the club for supporting the Catalyst for Positive Change event this spring.

ADAMH is the county-wide organization that funds and plans services. Funding is mainly from a property tax levy which ultimately supports 33 different agencies. The mission is to address mental health and substance abuse issues in the community. Prevention and intervention services are the focus. The funding supports programs in all 16 Franklin County public school districts. Syntero is a contractor with ADAMH and provides services in Upper Arlington schools and has done so for a number of years. They work closely with school district officials to assure that they are addressing emerging issues that students are experiencing. The current pandemic makes this all the more

important. The combination of the existing suicide and opiate epidemics plus the virus requires ever increasing vigilance. Services are also provided on behalf of the school district's professional staff and parents in the district.

Syntero has a contract with the City of Upper Arlington to provide services on behalf of older adults who are mostly fragile and struggling to live in their homes. They work hand-in-hand with the UA Commission on Aging and other organizations to support those folks and their caregivers. That system has been in place for the past 38-40 years.

In 2019 the organization provided outpatient services for mental health and substance abuse treatment for 894 residents and year-to-date they have served 791 unique persons. Franklin County residents have 24/7 access to crisis intervention and response via the Netcare Access program. About 85% of the individuals served in the 33 agencies are below the federal poverty level.

The county Coroner's office reports that the opiate epidemic is accelerating for the past couple of months due, at least in part, to the pandemic. Suicides are also increasing. Syntero is doing as much as it can to address these challenges. People (including students) are taught to recognize signs and symptoms of depression and anxiety within their peers.

With respect to the levy, it is anticipated that there will be an 8% growth in the Franklin County population over the next ten years. In addition, a \$14 million operating deficit is projected which yields a call for an increased levy. Currently, 71% of the ADAMH resources come from a 2.2 mil property tax levy. County commissioners approved the placement of a 2.2 mil renewal levy on the ballot with a 0.65 mil increase attached. This amounts to an increase of about \$22.75 per \$100,000 in home property values. The increased amount would not be collected until 2022.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view this meeting and all previously recorded Rotary meetings

Upper Arlington
Rotary
Club



GREETERS

November 3

N/A

November 10

Connie Aschinger
Matt Hare

November 17

N/A

REGISTRATION DESK

November 3

N/A

November 10

Jim Hamilton
Rich Simpson

November 17

N/A

CALENDAR

November 3 - ZOOM Meeting

George Kauffman,
VP of Byers Auto

Host: Milt Lustnauer

November 10 - Scioto CC/ZOOM

Michael Wilkos, Sr. Vice President, Community Impact, United Way of Central Ohio, *Why Do Some Neighborhoods Thrive, While Others Struggle?*

Host: Milt Lustnauer

November 17 - ZOOM Meeting

The Rotary International Foundation

Host: Dave Dewey

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Submit your volunteer opportunity to herb@herbgillen.com for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Please submit your social event reminder to herb@herbgillen.com for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

OUR NEXT MEETING

NOVEMBER 3RD
ZOOM MEETING

Upper Arlington
Rotary
Club



THE MEETING



President **Debbie Johnson** opened the meeting and asked **Ralph Griffith** to offer the invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jim Lynch from the Tri-Village club visited today. Incoming new member **Chris Guglielmi** also joined us. Rotarian **Erin Mooney**, Executive Director of Mayan Families also joined us from Guatemala.

Steve Sandbo asked Erin to provide an update on the situation in Guatemala and the Mayan Families program. She thanked the club for its support of over \$40,000 to support the meal program at the Mayan Families Foundation. She noted that the situation is very difficult now due to the spread of COVID. Focus in Guatemala is on the cities and the health care system is not equipped to address the problem in rural areas and small towns. The education system does feature some online learning in larger villages and education is delivered solely through paper packets in smaller villages. A great deal of catch-up, tutoring and supplemental teaching will be required in the next couple of years. The situation has gone from difficult to dire over the past year. Requests for help of all kind are being made and there is no relief in sight. Steve thanked Erin for her update and emphasized that "we're all with you".



Debbie shared some photos from the recent Miller Park gazebo restoration project. She expressed her appreciation to those who helped out.



UA Rotary has received a thank-you from the Upper Arlington Historical Society for our sponsorship of an ad about the course series in the History Speaks program.

The month of November will be Foundation Month in Rotary. On November 17 we will have a program about the Foundation, how it works, where the money goes and how to donate.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Chip Knoop announced a Community Service Committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 2 at 5:30 PM. The meeting will be via Zoom. If you're interested in participating let Chip know.



Sandy Clary announced our annual holiday wish program supporting the Homeless Families Foundation, the YWCA Family Center and the Van Buren Center of the Community Shelter Board. UA Rotary will match contributions up to \$3,000. Checks payable to the UA Rotary

Foundation should be sent to Sandy. Email reminders will follow and the goal is to wrap up the contribution drive by Thanksgiving.

Jeanine Hummer reminded us about the blood drive on December 19 at the municipal service center. We are doing this jointly with the Tri-Village club.

Eric Stoll donated a check on behalf of new son James Oliver (Ollie).