

Seneca County Community Services Board

Pat Plyter, Chair

Community Services Board Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2021

(Conducted Via Videoconference)

Members Present – Tammy Anhorn, Dr. Joseph Lorezetti, Pat Plyter, Peter Same, Michael Enslow, Lisa Heitmann, John Cleere, Susan Ottenweller, Stanley Hatch, Dr Theodore Papperman

Guests - Margaret Morse, Tammy Orlopp, Jeanette Rock, Sally Manning

Excused – Veronica Mittak, Kathy Sinkiewicz, Jennifer Palmer

Welcome - Meeting was called to order. Introductions made.

Secretary minutes from July - Motion to accept initiated by Dr. Theodore Papperman and seconded by Peter Same. No discussion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carries.

Guest - Sally Manning – Rackers Center – Work in Seneca County supporting mental health with Margaret Morse and Children services coordinator Bob Ritter, working to develop and expand children services in Seneca County. Seneca Cares grew out of the Partners for Children. One of the values of the System of Care nationally that services be family driven and youth focused. Finding ways to engaged families more in understanding the resources available to them. Seneca Cares is undertaking some strategic planning this year as are many systems of care in NYS, part is developing a family engagement workgroup. There are 5 parents and a service provider that are a part of this group, focusing on increasing community awareness about the resources available to them. Sometimes parents do not know where to go or who to call and receive feedback about services they are receiving. Developing plans and holding community cafes in Seneca County in a neutral location and hear their ideas and develop ideas from their feedback. There is a link prevention with all that is happening in the community and there is a link from this group to the Suicide Prevention Coalition. Trying to work together, the Substance Abuse Coalition, Seneca Cares network and the Suicide Prevention Coalition, focused on how to support families and provide education. Also working with the PPSO in each of the schools for families to receive information about a website that has been developed for Seneca Cares. WWW.Senecacares.org. There is information about mental health support and about crisis, community services and links to all the services provided in the community. A big part of her work is focusing on suicide prevention and working on connecting school districts and other community agencies with suicide prevention resources that NYS provides. Regionally hoping to work with Tompkins county and another county to do a bullying prevention seminar in early 2022. We believe taking a regional approach and bringing a national speaker to the area could be a way of everyone working together on how to address this issue, as parents, educators, providers and the youth. We are also trying to work with local medical practitioners, in hopes to support universal screening for suicide prevention.

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Seneca Cares website is easy to navigate. It is linked off of the Seneca County Mental Health website. You can tab through the services at the top of the page. This website will be housed through United Way.

Links to Council on Alcoholism and Positive Parenting are believed to be on the website. This will be checked to be sure.

Seneca Cares website is pretty new and only accessed the last half of Covid, The group has been working on this for a long time and did take some time to get it up and running. Not sure if there is a way to see how many clicks there has been. Seneca Cares is linked with the Seneca County website, United Way will link it, working with possibly linking with the school districts. We are encouraging any providers that we are linked to, to also link back with us. We are brainstorming to work ways to resource and link to all families in all schools and offices with clients, newspapers, and social media to share in every possible way. The website will be constantly evolving.

There have been talks about entry and discharge points from the hospitals to connect with services. Local area hospitals have the connections to facilities in the area where a patient may be discharged, but hospitals further out toward Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo there are less connections.

There are so few mental health children's beds that kids are being sent to NYC or all over the state and these children are receiving inpatient services outside of their communities and not realizing what services are available to them once released. The hope is those children are set up with care managers and assisted with getting set up with services they need.

Public Announcement – None

Consumer Report – NYCC recently opened to the public. There are 12 members from the DIC with membership, possibly be able to resume in October for the gym and pool.

Jeanette Rock and Tom Premo have received orientation packets. This is the second meeting for Jeanette and Tom has yet to attend.

Committee Report (Dr. Theodore Papperman) – ASA Subcommittee meeting was held prior to the CSB meeting via zoom on September 21, 2021 @ 9:00am. Several agencies submitted reports for the last quarter.

Mary Ker – VanDyke – reported 8 admissions out of 15 were from Seneca County. Van Dyke is still operating at half capacity.

Tim VanDamme – Council on Alcohol and Addiction – Drug Quiz show sponsored by them with the Elks did not happen this year past year due to Covid. They are working on the 2022 year.

Council is back in all the schools.

All 5 of the community educator staff are accredited for the Positive Parenting Program.

The Council has been going to all the village and town meetings since the legalization of marijuana talking about clarifying the laws and options to communities of sales or production of marijuana.

National Night Out did occur but was virtual. It was a little less exciting.

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Danielle Tilden – FLACRA – Hired a Youth and Family Services worker. Danielle was reminded on the Seneca County Plan and they should be responding with how many residents are using their housing and services. All the housing units in Seneca County are occupied but not by Seneca County residents. There is not a waiting list.

FLACRA is lead on the Pine View Circle development and is willing to come and make a presentation to either the CSB or the ASA subcommittee.

Rhonda Jasper – United Way – no report. Focused on youth and protective factors and establishing community coalition of which there is many.

Tomorrow at the Elks Lodge is the suicide prevention meeting for youth from 5:30 pm to 6:30pm and parents from 7pm to 8pm.

October 16, 2021 is the Out of Darkness Walk for Suicide prevention and awareness. Registration is at 10am. This will be held at Seneca Lake State Park in Geneva.

Tammy Orlopp – Treatment, Prevention, Gambling – Services from the County clinic as well as services from FLACRA will also be available for recovery will be held at the DIC.

There were 15 suspected overdoses, one was fatal. 13 were administered Nalaxone, one without Nalaxone was alcohol related.

Self referrals continue to dominate the sources of referrals, over ¾ of those have disclosed psychiatric disorders and have experienced trauma.

Several personnel vacancies.

Relicensing audit from OASAS that seemed favorable and went well.

There has been approval from Ancillary withdrawal services. Using in a way that is different than thought. We were going to be open 7 days a week, pre-Covid. We are using it with patients on an outpatient basis on a limited capacity.

Census down on inmates at LEC. Females are being housed out at another facility. Seneca County has currently shut down the female POD due to lack of staff and female correction officers. Female correction officers can watch female and male inmates, whereas male correction officers can only watch males. We have a housing agreement with Wayne County, we take people for them, they take people for us with no costs involved. Seneca County still picks up the inmates for the court appearances or any appearances they need to make for our county for care or for court. Until we have more staffed hired, the LEC had to make these adjustments.

Jeremy Miller – Helio Health – Former tv personality that will be reporting for Helio at the next subcommittee meeting.

Guest speaker - Yvonne Fitzgerald or Jessica Chase from FLACRA to attend the CSB meeting in December.

John Cleere – Undersheriff – A Representative from NYS Sheriff Association awarded an accreditation by the state. With law enforcement side there are 100 standards by policy and prove that it is being done, with 200 standards in the corrections unit. These are standard specific for medical and mental

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health. The process is you achieve the accreditation and every year there is a compliance check and every 5 years there is an audit. That involves a team coming and spending up to a week in the division checking that there are policies for what we say we are doing but also doing it. They randomly bring in personnel and talk to inmates, they do ride along in the road patrol cars and interview people. There is a report at the end recommending accreditation or that there is still work to be done. We were successful in being re-accredited in all of our divisions and passed all of the audits. Not only did we meet all the standards but we exceeded all the standards in all of our divisions.

Committee Report (Susan Ottenweller) – MH Subcommittee meeting was held prior to the CSB meeting via zoom on September 21, 2021 @ 5:30pm. Several agencies submitted reports for the last quarter.

Susan Ottenweller has communicated with Joe Bose who has proposed the second phase on the housing unit in Tyre, they will know sometime in November whether that project has received funding.

DIC – Jeanette Rock – When the DIC was managed by the state they were not able to have more than 16 members and 2 staff at a time. The state no longer manages the DIC has been re-measured and we are able to have 30 members on site at a time. 12 consumers are members through the chiropractic college, which is back open and hoping in October for the members to resume using the gym and pool.

Margaret Morse went to and took pictures of the new stairs and ramp at the DIC.

THE EPC on September 13, 2021 has informed the clinic that they will not be filling the position at the DIC. Lynda Stanistreet's transfer is permanent. We have reached out to the state to access some idle funds to use to help fund the position for being manager at the DIC. This would be in expansion of Lakeview Mental Health services contract that is already in place. Margaret spoke with Mitch Rowe and have been given the go ahead to run the contract amendment resolution through the county board on September 28, 2021. These funds will be added to the Seneca County state aid letter. This would be 100% paid through state aid and there will not be any county costs whatsoever to supporting that contract. We have expressed a manager with lived experience, so it moves us forward to a peer run organization. Lakeview is on board with this and has experience running DIC's in other counties. So there are already job descriptions for those positions. Not going to have Lakeview run the DIC as a Lakeview Health services model but as a peer run DIC.

Bob Ritter – There are 8 different agencies offering health home services for children. 126 children receive in home care. There are 26 Pathways children on a waiting list. It should be asked that those children can be sent to Cayuga Centers as referrals.

All agencies are having staffing issues. Urban areas have higher wages and staff can see more clients in a day and do not have to travel to rural areas.

Shelby Fischer – Serving 5 residents with TBI from Seneca County. Having issues finding staff to travel to see clients.

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Ashley Kise – Supportive Housing has 244 out of 275 positions filled for helping w/ rent and furniture.

Forensic Coordinator – We had 2 full time NYS OMH funding – one was forensic case managers and a high risk manager, They had left their positions. With bail reform and reduction of number of inmates in jail, the forensic case manager was not fulfilling the number envisioned.

We could create a position of 1 ½ transitional case manager, not just a narrow focus but could focus on re-entry from jail, prison and hospitals to outreach in the community. With the money saved we have the funds to create another crisis/transitional apartment for the community. This would give Seneca County a second apartment, as the first is usually full.

Unity House - Numbers are providing support to Seneca County Residents are low. There have not been any referrals for direct placement. All work is done through Acces VR that works with specific mental health population. Ongoing intensive Support of Services, they help with job coaching and this is all through Acces VR.

Tammy Orlopp – Groups will be moved inside and will be 6 feet apart and will need to wear masks. Tents will be coming down for the winter months.

Margaret Morse – Review of the Admin remarks for August.

Vacancies – 2 positions have been filled. Natalie Pistor will be full time in Mynderse Acedemy and Lyndsay Ward will split her time between South Seneca Elementary and the Ovid Clinic.

There is still one position open for a Psychiatric Social Worker II. One of the therapists passed her exam today and will back fill that position with a Psych I.

There are 2 substance abuse prevention worker vacancies.

The Clinical Program Director for Mental Health is still vacant.

Our county has shown a steady decrease in suicides. According to the state reports since 2016 we have shown a decrease.

Suicide prevention data has been sent to the CSB members.

Pat Plyter read on behalf of Jennifer Palmer – great to have the students back in the school. Sources of strength has started in the high school and we will be offering teen mental health first aid to the 10th and 11th grades.

Tammy Anhorn – I have taught for 28 years and my new position as an early intervention specialist. There are a bunch of new positions at the school. A list will be sent to everyone. A check and connect is where a student has a person to check in with before they go home. This is in Kindergarten through 2nd grade. Positive behaviors intervention – online system for all students.

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Due to the recent events at the school, the release from the superintendent will be forwarded to the CSB members. The school district is trying to work together with the community and the students.

Margaret Morse – an article was forwarded to all superintendents about an app that Auburn City schools is using the app.

Sources of Strength is used in the Seneca Falls and Romulus districts.

John Cleere – CIT scheduled for the week of November 1st. We have 4 sheriff officers, Romulus resource officer, 2 Waterloo PD and 6 Seneca Falls PD officers.

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Stanley Hatch and seconded by Susan Ottenweller.

Next meeting: Tuesday October 19, 2021 @ 6:30pm. OPWDD Subcommittee meeting will be held prior at 5:30pm VIA Zoom.