

Seneca County Community Services Board

Pat Plyter, Chair

Community Services Board Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2021

(Conducted Via Videoconference)

Members Present – Pat Plyter, Jeanette Rock, Joseph Lorenzetti, Stanley Hatch, Theodore Papperman, John Cleere, Susan Ottenweller, Jennifer Palmer, Tammy Anhorn

Guests - Margaret Morse, Brenda Black, Mike Alessio, Yvonne Fitzgerald, Jessica Chase, Tom Premo

Excused – Veronica Mittak, Tammy Orlopp, Kathy Sinkiewicz

Welcome - Meeting was called to order. Quorum present. Introductions were made.

Secretary minutes from November - Motion to accept initiated by Susan Ottenweller and seconded by Theodore Papperman. No discussion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carries.

Guest Speakers – Jessica – FLACRA - Housing Director of Voc Ed. Housing programs offered through FLACRA and for Seneca County are COC-Continuum of Care or NY – 513. FLACRA is the lead of the NY 513 for Ontario, Seneca, Wayne and Yates Counties and are grouped together under HUD.

First grant – Shelter Plus Care - The programs are rental assistance and support services for 17 units and this is client centered and these clients can live in any of the four counties. Individuals must meet HUD home list definitions to qualify and have a substance abuse and/or mental health diagnosis. The referrals are submitted through our coordinated entry which is based on a scoring system for the clients and based on the clients vulnerability. The lease is between the program participant and landlord and FLACRA is not on the lease at all but does help subsidize their rent. Participant rent is calculated at 30% of household income. The participant pays their portion of rent to the landlord and FLACRA will pay the subsidized portion of the rent to the landlord. The participant will also be assigned a case manager who will go see the participant weekly or bi-weekly depending on the needs of the program participant. Typically the first 6 months these participants are seen weekly and then reassessed to see if they can be changed to bi-weekly. During this time there are goals worked on – budgeting, getting their license back, reengagement of treatment for mental health or substance abuse, or anything they want to work toward.

Second grant – Permanent Supported Housing – There are 12 units, client centered, clients must meet HUD homeless definition and a diagnosis of substance abuse and/or mental health. Referral submitted through coordinated entry. Lease is between FLACRA and landlord. This is the only difference between the Shelter Plus Care and the Permanent Supported Housing. FLACRA pays monthly rent to landlord. FLACRA signs the lease with the landlord. Participant rent is calculated at 30% of household income. Participant makes rent payment to FLACRA. Participant has a case manager and meets weekly/bi-weekly depending on needs of program participant.

HUD defines homeless into four different categories – Category 1- literally homeless, no permanent residence, Category 2 – couch surfing, staying with family, Category 3 – unaccompanied youth or under age 25, and Category 4 – Domestic Violence.

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Third grant – OASAS – There are housing assistance and supports services for 9 units, clients must meet HUD homeless definition and have a diagnosis for substance abuse and/or mental health, referral submitted through FLACRA Housing referral or coordinated entry, Lease is between FLACRA and landlord, FLACRA pays landlord and program participant rent is calculated at 30% of household income, Participant pays rent directly to FLACRA, Participant has a case manager and meets weekly/bi-weekly depending on needs of program participant.

Homeless Housing Assistance Program (HHAP) – 8 one bedroom single occupancy units operated by FLACRA – these are located on Burgess Rd (6), William St (1) and High St (1), must meet HUD homeless definition and have a diagnosis for substance abuse and/or mental health, Referral submitted through FLACRA Housing referral or coordinated entry, Lease is between FLACRA and participant, Participant rent is calculated at 30% of household income, participant makes rent payment directly to FLACRA, Participant has a case manager and meets weekly/bi-weekly depending on needs of program participant.

Housing for Veterans – located in Canandaigua on the VA Medical Center Campus – 17 unit apartment complex, owned and operated by FLACRA, 13 – one bedroom, 3 – two bedroom and 1 – three bedroom. 12 of these units require a HUD voucher, 5 units are community eligible, all must meet income requirements.

Due to COVID these are new programs. Rapid Re-Housing, prevention, street outreach, and shelter – FLACRA received emergency solutions grant funding for Seneca, Ontario, Yates and Wayne counties when the COVID pandemic hit for these new programs. Referrals for these are made through DSS as a last resort to assist individuals who are unable to have needs met in any other manner. Referrals for prevention are for families in Categories 2,3, and 4 of the homeless definition with income below 50%. Referrals for rapid re-housing are utilized for families in categories 1 and 4 of the homeless definition. Payments for security deposits, utility arrears, rent arrears will be made directly to the landlord or utility company. If short term assistance, participant is calculated at 30% of household income. Participant pays directly to landlord, FLACRA subsidizes remaining amount directly to the landlord. Participants/families referred to FLACRA prevention or rapid rehousing will receive case management and peer services. Case manager will meet with participant weekly/bi weekly, depending on need.

Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) – Came down in October 2021 as an outcome of President Biden's American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Referrals submitted through coordinated entry and forwarded to Homes and Community Renewal (HCR). CoC Case manager works with participant to submit all required documents during housing placement. HCR makes all eligibility determinations. Eligibility is limited to families and individuals who are: Homeless, At risk of homelessness, Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking, recent homeless for whom providing rental assistance would prevent family's homelessness or having high risk of housing instability. The voucher is good until September 2022. If a family is still using the voucher it will not be taken away, but if the family is no longer eligible for it they will not re-issue the voucher.

Pine View Circle – HHAP was successful in acquiring funding. Most places need the HHAP and the Housing and Community renewal, which issues the tax credit, to put the whole package together. There could be two or three other sources to help with funding. Housing and Community renewal receives a lot of applications per year and goes to two rounds per year and has more applications than

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they can fund. Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services has put in funding and will keep resubmitting for the Housing and Community Renewal until they get it funded. UPDATE: INH will not move forward with the project as they didn't receive the necessary funding. The HHAP funding will be returned.

Public Announcement – The funding is all set for Lakeview to provide a manager for the DIC. Margaret Morse will meet with Kathy Lovejoy (COO) and Kelly who will be supervising the DIC manager after Christmas break. At this time the job description will be reviewed and updated and posted by the new year.

Consumer Report – Congratulations to Jeanette Rock on officially becoming a member of the Community Services Board.

DIC – Tom Premo – numbers have picked up, Moral is better than it has been. Highlights from last month: DIC put on a Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving day with all the traditional foods. This was well accepted and the consumers were happy with that. DIC is looking forward to doing the same and safely on Christmas for the consumers.

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

FLACRA – Danielle Tilden – A report was submitted. There have been 17 admissions from Seneca County. 9 people are receiving housing services. The numbers for CHUNY were added to the HHUNY. There are twice as many people admitted with opioid dependent issues as opposed to alcohol. Opioid stimulants are on the rise. The waiting list has risen this past quarter since the previous quarter. The staff are designated to help and are making due.

United Way/ Coalition – Karen Burcroff – A report was submitted. United Way received cash and grant funding to assist in their work. Seneca Falls has opted to the point of sales for marijuana for Seneca County. There are podcasts called – Hidden addictions podcasts available.

Dick Van Dyke – Mary Ker – A report was submitted. They have a completion rate of 71%. 24% left against medical advice. Cannabis is overwhelming the substance of abuse they are working with. 64% of the individuals have criminal justice involvement. 40% have co-occurring developmental disability or mental health diagnosis. 82% have a mental health diagnosis. Everyone admitted were male. A quarter of the individuals were homeless. 73% were between 26 and 49 yrs old. 20% were from Seneca County.

Council on Alcoholism & Addiction– Tim VanDamme – A report was submitted. Very active with open houses in the schools. Red Ribbon Quizzes online and had a better response online than in person. Problem gambling trainings are available to other organizations.

Seneca County Community Counseling Center - Margaret Morse – There are 2 new prevention staff, South Seneca and Seneca Falls. All prevention services are staffed and running.

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Jail services has come through – a nurse practitioner is there one day a week. Covid has been going through staff and clients.

Program Director of Clinical Services - Brenda Black – 2040 services in November, 509 were children. The clinic has hired a new Mental Health Clinical Therapist and start Monday December 27, 2021. A program Director for the Crisis Response team starts January 3, 2022. The clinic did have a holiday party which went over very well, much needed and boosted morale.

Clients call daily to let us know they are quarantined and switch them to telehealth. The clinic does try to see clients in person which is best practice, but if they say they are quarantined we change them to telehealth at that time.

The clinic has a couple staff out with Covid at a time for the past month. Before the county opened up the clinic had clients wait in their cars for a clinician to go get them. Now with the county opened back up, clients are walking in sick, regardless of signage on the doors, Staff are encouraged to triage clients appropriately, problem is the acuity level for the clientele is really high. Many of them that are coming in are not appropriate for telehealth due to their acuity level. The clients that want telehealth and are appropriate for it are getting telehealth.

Dr. Lorenzetti suggested the following: with an uptick of Omicron Covid cases the clinic should look at doing telehealth over the next couple of weeks. He wondered if there is a possibility of testing staff. This would be something that would also have to go through the Union. At SOCS the staff is tested every day. These options could be explored. Emergency services could do the test, where the clients would do the tests themselves while supervised by someone. If someone tests positive with the antigen test they should be tested with a PCR test.

Director of ASA – Margaret Morse on behalf of Tammy Orlopp – Prevention – Recorded out on the SAPT funding (OASAS Funding) for the workforce retention and for prevention services. There are three different award and we developed budgets for approval. Once these funds come through we can support some of the programs for training and some of the mental health clinicians want to get their CASAC's, and we would be able to pay for that. We would be able to pay for prevention certifications. There are staff that are interested in getting their EMDR certification, which is treatment for trauma.

Administrative Remarks-Margaret Morse DCS –

The clinic has hired Bethany Felicita for the Crisis Response Team through the SAMSHA Grant. She comes to the clinic with many years of running CPEP for Clifton Springs Hospital from years ago. She built the IPAD program out of Ontario County with the sheriff's department and Clifton Springs police department. Heavily involved with CIT. She knows about running crisis services, running them and the policies and procedures.

The Crisis Response Team is a Seneca County program. They will not just serve the clinic clients, but any persons in the county with a mental health or co-occurring diagnosis.

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Common Ground Health – Organization out of Rochester works closely with the state and Rural Health Networks that essentially compiles data, data analysis and reporting on social determinance of health across the Finger Lakes Region. They are Monroe County Based.

All staff take their temperature along with a covid written screening tool every day. All staff wear masks in the building at all times, unless they are in their office by themselves or eating.

State aid for jail services – Conference of Local Hygiene directors advocated with OASAS for years to get funding for the jail for substance abuse services for the jail. Medicated assisted treatment (MAT) was brought into the jail. The grant was \$60,000 to help pay for the medications. Seneca County is one of the first jails to bring in Sublocade release which is an injectable form of suboxone. We just got another \$41,000 for the jail and adding additional groups, bringing in more yoga. The addictions nurse practitioner will be going to the jail one day per week to do MAT and health assessments. With all the inmates that come in with substance abuse disorder she will do education. She will prescribe to those who are eligible, she will see them every week, follow up with them and connect them to services, possibly following up at the clinic or with FLACRA.

OLD BUSINESS – grant update – Bethany Felicita starts on January 3, 2022, all the positions are posted, there are some applications coming through. We are already working with CCSI who is building the (NOMS) National Outcome Measure Survey into our electronic health record, it's a multipage survey we use with the clients to help get funding. This is done every 6 months that the person is in treatment and 6 months after discharge. Part of the grant is partnering with Lifeline. There will be marketing of 211 and 988. 988 will triage the calls to our crisis services. They are a formal suicide prevention hotline. Trained to know if it needs to go to 911 or when it can be managed by a crisis service. We are required to provide some service by January 31, 2022. There was an article in the Finger Lakes Times today about the crisis response team.

School staff – Jennifer Palmer – Having adapted celebrations with the kids, decorating the halls. A lot of ups and down with the kids with referrals.

Tammy Anhorn – Things are going pretty well in school. The numbers were a little down this past week as compared to the week before. Santa will be coming to the K-2 school.

LEC - John Cleere – Any given day we have 6 to 8 employees being quarantined. The vast majority are vaccinated, even though they are testing positive their symptoms have been mild. In corrections in the past month we have had 14 out 45 inmates test positive for Covid, all but one were vaccinated so their symptoms were mild. The one unvaccinated, refused to be vaccinated and refused to be tested and is currently in the ICU with 2 officers posted outside his room at all times.

Use of force policy was modified last month. Choke holds were completely banned. The police cars carry a rifle and a shotgun. All of the shotguns have been converted to less than lethal and now use bean bag projectiles, so officers now have that option. We will be doing some enhanced force of training in the spring. Some of the officers are working on that curriculum.

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CIT training was completed in November, 20 officers were certified from 6 different agencies. Five of those agencies were in Seneca County. We are working on a modified curriculum for correction officers presenting in March of 2022.

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NEW BUSINESS –

2022 CSB Nominations – Open positions are Vice Chair, ASA Vice chair.

Pat Plyter – Nomination for Pat Plyter to remain as CSB Chair. Motion by Stanley Hatch and seconded by Jennifer Palmer.

Susan Ottenweller – Nomination for Susan Ottenweller to remain as MH Subcommittee Chair. Motion by John Cleere and seconded by Stanley Hatch.

Stanley Hatch – Nomination for Stanley Hatch to remain as chair for OPWDD Subcommittee. Motion by Ted Papperman and seconded by Susan Ottenweller.

Vice President – Nomination for Susan Ottenweller to Vice President of CSB. Motion by Ted Papperman and seconded by Stanley Hatch.

ASA Subcommittee Chair – Nomination for Pat Plyter as Temporary chair and Joseph Lorenzetti will serve as vice chair until he feels comfortable being chair.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Stanley Hatch and seconded by Theodore Papperman.

Next meeting: Tuesday January 18, 2022 @ 6:30pm. OPWDD Subcommittee meeting will be held prior at 5:30pm VIA Zoom

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Reynolds, Board Secretary with reviews/revisions made by Margaret DCS and Pat Plyter CSB Chair