

Seneca County Community Services Board

Pat Plyter, Chair

Community Services Board Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2022

(Conducted Via Videoconference)

Members Present – Stanley Hatch, Pat Plyter, Maria Gigliotti, John Cleere, Kathy Sinkiewicz, Jeanette Rock, Tammy Anhorn, Beth Partee, Jennifer Palmer

Guests - Margaret Morse, Brenda Black, Shannon Coccimiglio, Michael Enslow

Excused – Tammy Orlopp, Joseph Lorenzetti, Susan Ottenweller, Mike Alessio, Bethany Felicita

Welcome – 630p Meeting was called to order. Quorum present. Introductions were made.

Secretary minutes from May - Motion to accept initiated by Maria Gigliotti and seconded by Kathy Sinkiewicz. No discussion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carries.

Public Announcement – Thank you to Kathy Sinkiewicz for making cheesecake for the Mental Health and Addictions staff for Mental Health Month. It was very appreciative by all staff.

Congratulations to Jeanette Rock for becoming the new program director for the Drop In Center.

Guests –

There is an Ad-Hoc committee of board members discussing the fact that historically struggled to fill the supported employment service slots. Shannon Coccimiglio has been invited to attend the CSB meeting to discuss issues and what the clinic can do to improve optimization of the contract and that the clinic is doing what is possible for the community members with mental illness have access to these services. Shannon has attended the MH clinical meetings and there have been a few referrals from this. Shannon has also attended the subcommittee meetings as Sandie Case, the worker for Seneca County was unable to attend.

Shannon Coccimiglio – Program Director for Unity House – Oversees Unity Employment services. Shannon has been the director of Unity Employment Services which is part of Unity House of Cayuga County for about a year. Unity House supports people in six counties.

Consumer Report – Jeanette Rock – DIC – There are good numbers for the month of April. The staff and member do calendar building to create activities for the following month. DIC continues to do local shopping and food give a ways to those in need. FLACRA has an increase of people and looking at an Open House.

With COVID and building back up, the DIC in Seneca County is the most attended DIC in the entire Finger Lakes region. The height of services pre-Covid there were approximately 1500 visits a month at the DIC with about 150 members. With Covid there were limited hours and the DIC was closed for a short while. Now after Covid the DIC is getting back up and running how would we get back to having

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1500 visits per month? The continuation of masking and social distancing it can still be feasible to get back to the pre-Covid visit numbers.

There are nine new members at the DIC. These people are from FLACRA, coming to see what the DIC is about and decide to join. Currently the DIC has about 508 visits per month.

Committee Report (Pat Plyter) – MH Subcommittee meeting was held prior to the CSB meeting via zoom on April 19, 2022 @ 5:30pm. Several agencies submitted reports for the last quarter.

Bob Ritter – Coordinator of Children Services – Positive developments, little access to Medicaid services, seeing some progression of this. Cayuga Center is juggling staff to get more services in our county. There are two services – OLP and the community support treatment have increased availability. Pathways has stepped up to start some services in Seneca County. Glove House has been working on the HiFi program by hiring new employees. There has been poor linkage with care managers. Most are not aware of the services provided in our community, there have been provider presentation monthly. Referrals used to come through SPOA which is now disjointed, now there are monthly meetings, first meeting there were no referrals, another meeting this past Friday and 2 referrals came in. Bob has presented his first Mental Health First Aid course.

Sally Manning – Rackers Center – Attended the Systems of Care meeting. Rackers Center is thinking about scheduling some community cafes in late summer or early fall. Working with Bob Ritter on communications with United Way and developing a social media presence. Sally, Bob and Joe will be attending a Systems of Care Summit Meeting in Albany and doing a presentation. There is a continuation of grants, especially to coincide with rural communities. Sally has met with Bethany in Finger Lakes Health trying to get screenings for suicide prevention. Sally is from Tompkins County and has been working with doctors in Tompkins County regarding rural suicide in community care and possibly be inviting people from Seneca County to attend some presentations. Rackers Center has started sharing information to providers about Project Teach. The Suicide Prevention and Substance Abuse Coalition in Seneca County are merging.

Shannon Coccimiglio – Unity House – reports supporting 16 people out of 36 and received two referrals from the meeting. The workers look to see what people need to be successful in their job or their next job. Unity House comes from the employment first model where we believe if a person becomes employed, everything else can fall into place over time. There was also a discussion of possibly going to the Law Enforcement Center and getting some of the clients there before they get out.

Program Director of Clinical Services - Brenda Black – Quarterly report – Current units of service there were 7788 in this quarter, the clinic provide 3128 telehealth services, and 4660 in person services. There were 1763 children services. The clinic currently has 1427 clients. Patients admitted between Feb and April was 187. The clinic welcomes Margaret Cunningham to the clinic, she will be working in both the South Seneca Elementary School district and the Ovid Clinic. Nicole Paonessa and Rebecca Reed both obtained their LCSW's and have been promoted to Psychiatric Social Worker II. The clinic

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has developed a Wellness Committee for the staff and is working on monthly potluck picnics, working with Ryan chiropractic on mindfulness class. The wellness committee is working on other wellness activities for the staff. Trying to focus on burnout and motivation for the staff.

Suicide Prevention – The meeting that was to take place today was postponed.

Director of ASA – Margaret Morse on behalf of Tammy Orlopp – Report is in the admin report. Tammy Orlopp will be returning to the clinic on June 6, 2022.

Administrative Remarks-Margaret Morse DCS –

The Mental Health Local plan has been approved with the MH Subcommittee.

Services this year are on par with last year. The clinic is within a \$100 of revenue since last year in the same first quarter.

Crisis Response Team has been busy. We have services in place to address these issues. Chief Peenstra mentioned that the mental health calls in Seneca Falls have been down for the first time in quite some time. There have been a significant number of youth served. 51% of the individuals served in the crisis services in the month of April were individuals under the age of 18, of those 51%, 23% were under the age of 10. The acuity level of these young children is very concerning. The clinic is grateful to have Bethany and her team to collect this data and help look at this so the clinic can look at the services to see how the clinic can best serve the community. There are not a lot of services for children under the age of 10. They would need to be sent out to Brylynn or Four Winds, far away from their families. There are no inpatient beds, even in Elmira Psych for children under the age of 12. The clinic has the resource to build these services.

Updates on staffing – The clinic did hire a psychiatric nurse, there was also a resignation. The new nurse starts June 1st, the person leaving by the end of this week. The clinic will still only have 2 nurses. There was approval from the board for another psychiatric nurse position; this would give the clinic 3 full time nurses. One of these positions is supported by the SAMHSA grant and then it is believed to be sustainable through the billable services the nurse provides.

OLD BUSINESS –

Tammy Anhorn – Things are going well at the Waterloo schools. There are a lot of kids in school. The weather is making a difference.

Jennifer Palmer – Overall things are going well in Seneca Falls schools. This is the time of year where you would see the impact that Covid has had on the dropout rate. The school has lost a lot of students as there are not a lot of resources to help the families and students in prioritizing their education. Just the willingness to access the services, with juggling everything else and at 16 students can drop out.

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Kathy Sinkiewicz – Things are on the upswing at South Seneca schools. There are a lot of kids in the elementary school with Covid. There have been some issues in the high school with vaping. There has been some talk about bringing in the drug dogs for random checks. Morale at school has been a little tough, they see kids struggling and doing their best and not sure how to help.

John Cleere – Law Enforcement – There are severe staffing challenges at the jail, had to close a pod. John had a chance to refer someone to the crisis response team, someone who needed to be checked on. This would have escalated if law enforcement had gone out to do the check. Very pleased and impressed with the way this was handled. Very professional and the team did a great job. This month we graduated our first crop of correction officers, who have CIT training, first time ever. These graduates also received a full day of officer wellness, this is new. Later on this month there will be training at the police academy for mental health basics training which is team teach with John and Kaitlyn Laskoski with Ontario County mental health staff.

NEW BUSINESS – Margaret’s appraisal is due back to Pat Plyter by the June meeting. Margaret Morse did a great job with the article interview in the Finger Lakes Times.

In August typically there is not any meetings. The Mental Health Subcommittee Meeting will be scheduled in September 20th at 4:30pm with ASA Subcommittee at 5:30pm and CSB at 6:30pm.

Motion to go into executive session made by Stanley Hatch and seconded by Jeanette Rock.

Motion to end Executive session was made by Jeanette Rock and seconded by Stanley Hatch.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jennifer Palmer and seconded by Stanley Hatch.

Next meeting: Tuesday June 21, 2022 @ 6:30pm. ASA 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