

# Cayuga County Community Services Board

Laurie Piccolo, Chair

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## Mental Health Subcommittee February 20, 2020

- Members Present:** Martin Centers, Beth Dishaw, Scott Marshall (Acting Chair), Jean Petrosino-Winne, Deborah Riester, Diane Schenck
- Members Excused:** Theresa Humennyj (Chair), Linda Murphy, Katie Stott-Dennis
- Members Absent:** None
- Staff/Guests:** Ray Bizzari, Cayuga County Mental Health Director; Jennifer Coughlin, Cayuga County Mental Health Deputy Director; Stephanie Dean, Contact Community Services; Aaron Pascale, Hillside; Liz Vuillemot, Auburn Housing Authority

- I. Scott called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.
- II. Draft minutes of the December meeting were emailed to members. On a motion by Marty, seconded by Diane, the December 12, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as submitted; motion carried.
- III. **Public to be Heard** – None.
- IV. **Director's Report** – Dr. Pratts from Cayuga County Mental Health is going to start providing telehealth services. Satellite offices will be in both the elementary and middle schools at Union Springs starting Monday, February 24. Boyle Center satellite office is being worked on. Mobile Crisis regional contract is being worked on. Submitted proposal to PWDD/OMH/OASAS about enhancing mobile crisis team capability to respond to people with developmental disabilities. The HEALing Communities Study being funded by Columbia is looking at opioid abuse, which has a concurrent effect on mental health. Lauren Walsh and Stephanie Bizzari were invited by the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Legislative Caucus to speak on a panel at a symposium at the State Senate regarding trauma-informed education policy/practices. There is an effort to write trauma-informed care into state education laws. FAST website is coming very soon. ACT team is also being worked on; this is a community-based treatment model that focuses on people who won't come to a clinic. It will be funded through Medicaid and state aid. In Oswego county, peers have been hired (which isn't part of the model); the same is expected in Cayuga County. One team under the supervision of the hospital will cover both Cayuga and Oswego counties. When Ray retires next year, he has recommended that the positions (Director of Community Services and Commissioner of Social Services) be split again. The Community Services Board gets to hire. It will be a smooth and transparent transition.
- V. **Local Services Plan** – Will be starting to work on the 2021 plan soon. Focuses will be stigma reduction/awareness and Mental Health Awareness Month.
  - a. Mental Health-Related Goals for 2020 – The Legislature wants to discuss housing (emergency, supportive, or both) because it remains an issue in the county. Contracting with Liberty Resources to provide 3-4 beds of adult respite with no admission exclusions. Lab blood draws will take place at Cayuga County Mental Health instead of clients having to go to the hospital.
- VI. **Mental Health Task Force**
  - a. Mental Health Awareness Month – Regarding the green lights downtown: Maureen needs someone to assist with creating a map of pole locations/what poles to use/how many

lights to use. Maureen and Theresa are in communication. The banner will be hung downtown near Hunter's Diner from April 27 to May 3, and will be hung at the County Office Building from May 3 to 31.

- VII. **Agency Reports** – (reports received prior to this meeting have been reviewed by members)
- a. Behavioral Health Unit – No representation.
  - b. Cayuga Counseling Services – No representation.
  - c. Contact Community Services – Now working with Joel at Nick's Ride. Will be launching LINCS (Linking Individuals Needing Crisis Support) through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Anticipate serving people in Cayuga County.
  - d. Evergreen – No representation.
  - e. Hillside – Adult and children health homes will be ending the outreach segment in April (opportunity to get their eligibility in order to be enrolled in the program). There will be a 1% cut of all Medicaid services. Aaron is hoping that this 1% cut will be applied to the outreach and that rates won't be cut. They had a Green Belt Project for outreach; they found that usually if people weren't engaged by the second month, they lost them. A supervisor met and engaged with family, and in the first month there was an 80% improvement in enrolling people within the first month, which results in a lower rate. Jennifer suggested coordinating with SPOA. Struggling to find clinicians. 29I foster care is being managed by TFC program and should open up more services for foster care youth.
  - f. Liberty Resources – No representation.
  - g. PC<sup>2</sup> – Timothy Donovan made it possible for PC<sup>2</sup> to rent a community room at Finger Lakes Mall three days a week for three different group meetings. These groups will start in early March. More information coming soon.
  - h. PROs/Unity House – No representation.

VIII. **Old Business** – Agencies will be receiving communication that they need to attend the meetings of the subcommittees that they report to.

IX. **New Business** – Liz Vuillemot from Auburn Housing Authority spoke on the 30 new section 8 vouchers that will go to people with disabilities ages 18-60. Halfway to the 30 mark. Barriers include working with landlords and security deposits. If Cayuga County Mental Health is providing care management, service dollars can be used for security deposits. Ray asked Liz and Stephanie to give him a call so he can assist with these barriers. Sixty-five to seventy households a day are housed by DSS; 30-40 of those are housed in motels. Code blue can make housing more difficult.

X. **Announcements** – None discussed.

XI. **Adjournment** – On a motion by Beth, seconded by Jean, the meeting adjourned at 12:43pm; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelsey R. Marquart, Typist