

# Cayuga County Community Services Board

Laurie Piccolo, Chair

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## Mental Health Subcommittee

May 16, 2019

Members Present: Martin Centers, Scott Marshall, Linda Murphy, Heather Paris, Deborah Riester, Diane Schenck

Members Excused: Beth Dishaw, Theresa Humennyj (Chair), Katie Stott-Dennis

Staff/Guests: Ray Bizzari, Cayuga County Mental Health Director; Jennifer Coughlin, Cayuga County Mental Health Deputy Director; Nicole Rozelle, Cayuga Counseling Services; Stephanie Dean, Contact Community Services; Karen Eller, Evergreen; Aaron Pascale, Hillside; Jean Winne-Petrosino, PROS/Unity House; Timothy Donovan, CSB/ASAS/PWDD; Amy Sargent, Liberty Resources; Margaret Phinney, Peers in Cayuga County

- I. Scott called the meeting to order at 12:01pm.
- II. Draft minutes of the April meeting were emailed to members. On a motion by Linda, seconded by Heather, the April 18, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as submitted; motion carried.
- III. **Public to be Heard** – Margaret Phinney made an announcement regarding Peers in Cayuga County selling T-shirts for Mental Health awareness month. \$15 each.
- IV. **Director's Report** – Children's Mental Health Awareness Day at Cayuga Centers had a really good turnout. Some DBT group kids came and did a youth panel. Lots of people from school districts, clinicians, and parents in the audience. The youth were articulate and honest about the challenges they face. [Diane arrived at 12:04pm]. Liberty Resources has an adult respite program in Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego counties which is funded by district money and OMH state aid. People in the region can self-refer, be referred by providers, and mobile crisis can bring them there. This is a peer-run respite. They have a contract with Lyft which will help people get there. CSB will discuss potential uses for the money that was being used to fund Liberty Resources mobile crisis; hopefully for increasing adult respite. It might be possible to tie in with adult protective services money. Heather inquired about making the youth panel a more regular event; Ray recommended speaking with Lauren Walsh about this. Ray thought it should be a roadshow; he says there has been talk about bringing the youth panel to school districts. Ray thinks what the youth are saying can be transformative to the system. Jennifer and Timothy both reported that youth from the panel are wanting more school involvement and engagement, and had suggestions for what they wanted to see from their schools.
- V. **Speaker Series** – Timothy reported Theresa asked him to approach NAMI Terri and Bart Wasilenko to present at the meeting. Timothy will email Kelsey regarding dates.
- VI. **Local Services Plan** – Jennifer passed out Local Services Plan chart; a draft will be made available by next Tuesday, May 21. The chart identifies priority options from the recent survey and whose responsibility those priorities would be. Identified priorities regarding mental health are: reducing stigma, coordination/integration of services (for all – OMH, OPWDD, OASAS), and prevention – especially related to children. Ray reported something that's challenging across the region is how to initially begin services. There is discussion of developing a singular number to triage all calls to get people to the place they need to be. Please provide feedback as soon as you receive the draft.

- a. Mental Health Task Force – Heather updated on the Facebook page. One of the page's posts (regarding ending stigma) had 93 shares. Likes and engagements are climbing steadily. Diane accepted the proclamation recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month on behalf of the Subcommittee. Timothy reported that Jon Budelmann's office front window on 95 Genesee Street is now decorated for Mental Health Awareness Month and said thanks to Margaret and the PROs students for their assistance.

VII. **Agency Reports** – (reports received prior to this meeting have been reviewed by members)

- a. Behavioral Health Unit – Not discussed.
- b. Cayuga Counseling Services – The agency has been working with MTM Consulting to implement open access. Seeing clients for open access on Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri. Working with Central New York Care Collaboration; received a grant for LPN and an engagement specialist. They have seen a decrease in no shows for their Medicaid population; plan to roll out over all insurance plans. SAVAR and CAC programs received additional funding for a child fatality review team. Will also be hiring people for a children affected by substance abuse program. Invited by the US Dept. of Justice Joint Commission to go to DC to present about that program and possibly model it throughout the US. Grant for an on-site lawyer to help with victim services.
- c. Contact Community Services – Have started their texting program, which provides texters with resources on how to get help if needed.
- d. Evergreen – Have a new case manager. Received grants to replace all but seven windows. There are two female beds open and one male bed. Private rooms are available as long as residents can afford one.
- e. Hillside – Successfully completed the 1915C transition – all youth from that program are now under the health home. On the direct support side, currently no longer accepting referrals; there are over 75 kids on a waitlist. They encourage people looking for direct support work with youth to apply on website. Varrick is closing in December, arrangements for transitioning youth should be made by July. Reasons for closing: millions of dollars in renovations were necessary to keep the facility up to code, and it was also difficult to find staff due to location. Ray verified that the kids/families who are on a waitlist are given information on how to access services at other locations.
- f. Liberty Resources – Just moved office space; same space as CHAD, mobile crisis, and health home care coordination. The organization is doing more coordination of care. Taking adult and children referrals due to increased capacity for care coordination. Increasing all children's services.
- g. PC<sup>2</sup> – Received forty calls on the warm line last month. Grateful that the county/Ray offered to fund it.
- h. PROs/Unity House – Change in one practitioner (left to do a paid internship toward her master's degree.) Hired replacement from within. Still looking to expand hours at some point, after becoming financially stable enough to hire another practitioner.

VIII. **Old Business** – Not discussed.

IX. **New Business** – Aaron asked about status of waiver program reporting since Hillside is no longer providing that service. They will provide a report from children's health home instead. Heather has an idea for getting table cards/placemats with mental health awareness information into local businesses; will discuss with MHTF.

X. **Announcements** – Timothy distributed a 211 pamphlet – please disregard as it's not operational.

XI. **Adjournment** – On a motion by Martin, seconded by Diane, the meeting adjourned at 12:39pm; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelsey R. Marquart, Typist