

Cayuga County Community Services Board

Laurie Piccolo, Chair

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PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

September 12, 2019

Members Present: Katherine Dunchak, Diane Dolcemascolo, Timothy Donovan, Andrea Hansen, Joan Meyers, Elizabeth Signorelli, Stephen Smith
Members Excused: Lorie Fischer
Members Absent: Aileen McNabb-Coleman
Staff/Guests Present: Ray Bizzari, Cayuga County Mental Health Director; Kristen Jackson, ARISE; Beth Astramskas, DDRO; Shannon Abate, Life Plan; Emily Hitchcock, CCS; Renee Choiniere, Unity House; Mark Reppi and James Breslin, Gavras Center

- I. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER** – Called to order by Stephen at 11:59am.
- II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD** – None this month.
- III. REVIEW OF MINUTES** -- Members were emailed a draft of the July 11, 2019 minutes. On a motion by Timothy, seconded by Joan, the minutes were approved as submitted. All in favor, motion carried.
- IV. Emily Hitchcock – Program Coordinator** - Children affected by substance abuse – started taking on clients in June. Funded by OVC – office of victims of crimes. Completely free service for clients. Individual counseling for children 18 and under. Working on offering groups. Offer advocacy and case management services. Offer services for the non-offending caregiver as well. Located at the Child Advocacy Center on 26 Seminary Ave. Folders were passed around with information. They offer transportation. September 20 – multidisciplinary team meeting that includes law enforcement, district attorney, mental health, substance abuse, behavioral court, DSS, etc – everyone is invited. Working with Booker T Washington’s after school program and the local schools. Using Betty Ford’s Children’s Supportive Kit. Being informed that this program exists and who it can help will be the most helpful thing this committee can do.

Diane arrived at 12:03pm.

- V. LOCAL SERVICES PLAN REVIEW** – Not discussed.
- VI. AGENCY REPORTS** -- Agency openings were requested and sent prior to the meeting. Updated copies of the Agency Service Openings Chart were available at the meeting.
- **The ARC of Seneca Cayuga** – Not discussed.
 - **ARISE** – Sent letter of intent to stop community hab services in Cayuga County. Continue to struggle with staffing. Individuals will transition to other agencies so they continue to receive services. If individuals have staff, they will continue to serve them using Oswego County Coordinators. Will not be taking on any additional individuals/referrals.
 - **Cayuga Centers** – Not discussed.
 - **Cayuga Counseling** – Not discussed.
 - **DDRO** – Presenters will come to the November meeting to discuss employment as it relates to the Local Services Plan (one in person, one via phone).
 - **Gavras Center** – Introduced Mark Reppi, new OPWDD coordinator. One IRA vacancy has been filled. Accepting referrals for day hab. Friday night group 2:30-7:30 – raised pay rate – one-on-one / one-on-two possible. Hoping to expand to two more nights during the week. Accepting community hab referrals, hired weekend person. Children’s group in 2020.

Applying for Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative money. Applying for operating funding for 15 qualifying individuals with intellectual and developmental disability.

- **Onondaga Community Living** – Not discussed.
- **Unity House** – Eligibility for at-home respite now open to 13 years and older. Community hab also now open to 13 years and older.


VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Still remains a lot of pressure statewide and regionally with kids getting stuck in the ER. Having conversations around pilot opportunities, will be discussed more at Minnowbrook in October. Proposal to enhance mobile crisis team (in addition to adding substance abuse and developmental disabilities responders). Mobile crisis will be able to bill Medicaid soon, which would free up some state aid. Referrals from SPOA for Auburn Housing Authority. There is a plan together a fund for repairs for landlords to make renting to vulnerable populations more viable.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS – The next meeting will occur on Thursday, October 10, 2019 (second Thursday of the month). November's meeting is Thursday, November 7, 2019 (first Thursday of the month due to the holiday). December's meeting is Thursday, December 5, 2019 (first Thursday of the month due to the holiday). Stephen asked for volunteers to work on the employment aspect of the Local Services Plan in one outside meeting. Motion was made by Timothy to invite members of the committee to have a one-time meeting regarding the employment initiative. Seconded by Diane, all in favor, motion carried. Andrea, Elizabeth, Katherine, and Timothy volunteered (tentatively, based on availability).

IX. NEW BUSINESS – Discussion regarding moving the location of the meeting. Andrea requested meeting time of 12-2 to include the task force meeting. Steve will do some location research, and if it moves, meeting at the new location would begin in November. Timothy's guest for October is a worker at Auburn Doubledays, Callin Abate who advocates for PWDD individuals. Diane will finish her term on 12/31/19, and Steve will begin looking for a replacement.

X. ADJOURNMENT -- The meeting adjourned at 1:02pm on a motion by Andrea and seconded by Katherine. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelsey R. Marquart, Typist