

Cayuga County Community Services Board

Laurie Piccolo, Chair

146 North Street, Auburn, NY 13021-1831
Phone: (315) 253-0341/Fax: (315) 253-1687

Alcohol & Substance Abuse Subcommittee

March 2, 2022

Members Present: Shari Weiss, Chair; Sarah Dawson; Timothy Donovan; Gary Mann; JoLynn Mulholland; Laurie Piccolo; Brian Schenck; James Slayton
Guests Present: Courtney Seamans; Dorothy Radcliff; Beth Hurny-Fricano; Jason “Wally” Meyers; Monika Salvage; Ashley Short
Staff: Lauren Walsh, Liz Burke, CCCMHC

I. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Shari Weiss called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Chair Weiss welcomed the Subcommittee and introductions were made. Quorum was present.

II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD – None this month.

III. REVIEW OF MINUTES

Members were emailed a *draft* of the January 5, 2022 minutes. On a motion by Timothy Donovan, seconded by Gary Mann, the January 5, 2022 minutes were approved. Motion carried.

IV. AGENCY REPORT Q & A

Reports were provided prior to the meeting.

Shari led a discussion regarding the submission of agency reports and the difficulty agencies are having in submitting reports from the previous month as this subcommittee meets the first Wednesday of the month. On a motion was made by Shari Weiss, seconded by Gary Mann there will be a one-month lag in the reports submitted by agencies. i.e. The April meeting will be reviewing the reports for February. Motion approved.

V. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Lauren Walsh updated on the following:

- ❖ Mobile Crisis will be expanding to respond to substance abuse calls. They have just posted the position seeking someone who will be responsible for responding to and following up on these calls.
- ❖ The HEALing Communities Study is coming to an end. Lauren is working with Monika and community providers to discuss how to fill the gap for same-day inductions when Dr. Follette’s contract ends this summer.
- ❖ She continues to work with the Sheriff on the MAT services at the jail and is coordinating a meeting to discuss next steps.

Monika Salvage updated that Mobile Crisis will also be opened up for the public to call directly in an effort to divert from 911. There is funding from HEALing Communities for a promotion expanding this service.

Lauren updated that, in their proposal, CCCMHC will provide daytime hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., for mobile crisis calls from both law enforcement and the public. They are in the process of researching how to handle the overnight hours. Liberty Resources will continue to handle calls from 5:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19 Updates

- ❖ Shari asked if the committee still thought it was necessary to keep COVID-19 updates on the agenda or if it should be removed. After a brief discussion, it was decided to remove from the agenda; however, if there was information to share, there will be time to do so.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Agency Reports

- ❖ Laurie Piccolo advised that they have COVID-19 test kits. If you need any, please contact Laurie.

Local Services Plan

- ❖ Eviction Moratorium
- ❖ Current Housing Issues

- Shari provided the following information:

- DSS was housing 128 people between the shelters and hotels.
- The Grant Motel was condemned and not sure when they will reopen.
- There are 162 units of housing of affordable housing that will hopefully be available in the next couple of years.
- The Auburn Housing Authority will have 62 units of affordable housing that will be open in the next year.
- There are several developers working with local agencies to provide community housing.
- Code Blue housing is only open when temperatures fall below 32 degrees.
- There is a concern regarding the eviction moratorium. The courts are about three weeks behind and expect to see more evictions by the end of this month.
- If you know anyone who is homeless or at risk of being homeless, please contact her agency.
- Timothy Donovan updated that Chapel House is working with a developer and will be picking up thirty-six additional beds.

Shari advised she was recently elected as Co-Chair to the Community Services Board. The by-laws prohibit the Chair from being the Chair of a Subcommittee. However, it does not stipulate that about the Co-Chair. Shari's concern is even though the by-laws do not address the Co-Chair's involvement as Chair of a Subcommittee, are there concerns among the committee members regarding her dual role? She indicated she would still be willing to chair this committee, but would step aside if someone else was interested in the position. She asked that the members give some thought to this and will have Paula put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Discussion took place regarding the impact of the Grant Motel closing and its effect on the community. Discussion included poor living conditions.

Brian Schenck expressed his concern regarding the black market marijuana dealers in the community and the different places that are now offering these products. He requested that this committee continue to be aware of this and their need to address this in the future.

Beth Hurny-Fricano updated that CHAD will be in conversations to expand prevention services within the County.

Shari updated that the Drug Free Community Coalition has been having conversations around legalization of marijuana and what that means. Funding is limited, as the STOP ACT funding is rigidly limited to alcohol. They are hoping that CHAD will be able to obtain the Community Coalitions grant in the near future, enabling them to do focus work on prevention.

JoLynn Mulholland updated that Upstate Poison Control reached out to her regarding her hosting a community townhall around the dangers of cannabis and storing it properly so children do not have access. Also, CHAD has fentanyl testing strips. If you need any, please let her know.

James Slayton advised they will be having a meeting with someone from Tobacco Free CNY to see how they can regulate these shops.

Monika Salvage updated on the opioid 2021 numbers.

- ❖ Overdoses for all substances have increased.
- ❖ Fatalities, which are mostly opioid-related, went down 24% from 2020.
- ❖ Over one-third of the reported overdoses are suspected to involve opioids.

HEALings Communities Study is in its last grant year. They will be doing one final communications campaign for the public which will be around stigma and addiction. They have also put together a pamphlet which discusses what stigma is and how it effects people with substance abuse disorders. They are in the process of printing these pamphlets to be sent out to households in the county.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Timothy Donovan updated on the Salt City Round-Up Conference that took place on February 11th-13th. This conference was well-attended by Cayuga County residents. Also noted his article, *Nicotine Addiction during the Pandemic*, that was scheduled to be published in the February issue of the Citizen will now be published in March.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:46 p.m. on a motion by Timothy Donovan and seconded by Laurie Piccolo. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Paula M. Rubano, Senior Clerk
Cayuga County Mental Health Center