

Cayuga County Community Services Board

Laurie Piccolo, Chair

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PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

April 14, 2022

Members Present: Stephen Smith (Chair), Timothy Donovan, Katherine Dunchak, Kimberly Granato, Lorie Fischer, Joan Meyers, Elizabeth Signorelli
Members Excused: Andrea Hansen, Shannon Abate
Members Absent: None
Staff/Guests Present: Lauren Walsh, Director of Community Services; Daniel Lesinski, Cayuga Centers; Michele VanGiesen, Mozaic; Daniel Kelly, Onondaga Community Living

- I. **ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER** – Called to order by Steve at 12:04pm.
- II. **PUBLIC TO BE HEARD** – None at this meeting.
- III. **REVIEW OF MINUTES** – Members were emailed a draft of the March 10, 2022 minutes. On a motion by Lorie, seconded by Kimberly, the minutes were approved as submitted. All in favor, motion carried.
- IV. **LOCAL SERVICES PLAN** – There is a small delay in starting next year's LSP. Lauren will keep the committee updated.
- V. **AGENCY REPORTS** – Agency reports were requested and sent prior to the meeting. Updated copies of the Agency Service Openings Chart were sent prior to the meeting.
 - **ARISE** – No representation.
 - **Cayuga Centers** – Making progress in filling open positions. Continue to provide full slate of services to those already enrolled; new staff will help with offering services to new enrollment. Working on capacity for respite, which is a growing family need. During school breaks, Cayuga Centers will be offering Fun Days; today there's a group headed to the Buffalo Zoo and yesterday a group went to the Ithaca Science Center. They will also be offering Fun Days in the summer after school is out. Continuing to accept referrals for DayHab and CommHab. Steve asked if anyone had heard about summer camp offerings this year. Michele shared that Camp Columbus will not be opening this year; process would have had to start in January with the Health Department. Concerns around staffing and COVID.
 - **Cayuga Counseling** – No representation.
 - **DDRO** – No representation.
 - **Gavras Center** – No representation.
 - **Mozaic** – Have been able to hire staff. Going to be able to bring back people who were previously in CommHab who weren't able to come back before in addition to people on the waitlist. Looking to bring more people back to Clark Street. Creating a small senior citizen site-based group to replace DayHab without walls for that age bracket, which will open on May 16. This will initially be located at the Clark Street location, then will move to Hulbert Street. Gavras Center and Mozaic have been working with Cayuga County for the past two years with the 182 building. Gavras Center has now taken ownership of that building, and Mozaic continues to have the 25-year lease that they had with the county, so they are the landlord for the North Street building. Looking at renovating 180 building for programming purposes instead of an industrial work center. DayHab and PreVoc will remain in 182. Creating a gaming club to incentivize people to game socially. Steve mentioned that there is not a lot of programming for senior citizens.

- **Onondaga Community Living** – Officially and effectively running as one organization with Exceptional Family Resources. All staff have made the transition. Were able to get out of lease at previous building. Looking forward to the future and will keep the subcommittee updated. He will also reach out to Kelsey with new contact information as needed.
- **Unity House** – No representation.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Walk-Out for Mental Health Appreciation on May 6 at noon at the Equal Rights Heritage Center. Lauren will be speaking at the event and there will be a food truck and a walk. Waiting for analysis on NYS budget re: how it will affect PWDD/Mental Health services and agencies. Crisis intervention: looking to roll out a crisis number in July that will take the place of multiple crisis lines. Will be getting a crisis service called START for OPWDD. Lauren did provide Steve's contact information to the organization and hopefully they'll be able to present to this subcommittee regarding timeline/services. Mobile crisis after hours no longer needs to be accessed through law enforcement. All calls from all populations will be answered. Still waiting for County Legislature approval for start-up costs to begin daytime mobile crisis services at CCCMHC. Lauren is aware that psychiatry continues to be a gap in the system; Michele updated that Mozaic is searching for more psychiatry coverage but hasn't had luck yet. Daniel knew of a psychiatrist who may be looking for another position; he will link her up with both Michele and Lauren.

VII. OLD BUSINESS – Steve reminded the group that he maintains a list of possible subcommittee members. He would really like to see a program participant as a member of the subcommittee. Parents would also be welcome.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS – None discussed.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Timothy suggested a PWDD community night with the Auburn Doubledays at Falcon Park in July. Tickets would be free for the PWDD community. Timothy previously organized this event in 2014 and 2015 and would like to bring it back. Stephen would be interested to know about a sponsor for the event; it was previously sponsored by the Sheriff's Department. Elizabeth thought this was a great idea and would be interested in volunteering.

X. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 12:55pm on a motion by Timothy and seconded by Kimberly. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelsey R. Marquart, Senior Typist