

COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

APPROVED

February 17th, 2022

Via Hybrid

Member John Bezirganian, MD

Attendance: Fran Bialy
Christine Schweitzer
Carolyn Galatzan
Bob Williams
William Standinger, III
Denise Brown
Shawn Nalepa
Larissa Pierce
Tina Lounsbury

Guests:

Mental Hygiene Attendance: Lori Morgan, Director of Community Services
Sue Graves, Secretary to the Director of Community Services (minutes)

Meeting called to order at 9:34am

Category: Meeting Minutes

Topic: Review of minutes from January 2022

Discussion: Approved with changes

Topic: Director's Report – Lori Morgan

Discussion: Lori provided the following updates:

- Staffing Changes
 - Linda Wagner resignation effective 2/22/22
 - Michelle Dunham resignation effective 3/11/22
 - Sarah Secor starting 3/1/22 – Waverly Site
- SUD (Substance Use Disorder) & MAT (Medical Assisted Treatment) Program for the Jail
 - Starting in October 2022
 - Tentative plan sent to OASAS to obtain training
 - Jails to receive additional funding for medication itself
- Proposed New York State Budget Highlights
 - Mental Hygiene slated to receive 1 ½% (approximately \$100,000) back for Medicaid & Fee-for-service
 - All “O” agencies received 5.4% in COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) increase

- Telehealth reimbursement
 - Aligning rates for in-service delivery
- 730 legislation
 - Hoping of have 50% of expense returned to the county for in-community services
 - County has gotten a number of Criminal Psych individuals over the past year
 - Hoping for the ability to help monitor those
- Working to increase SUD & MAT funding to \$ 7.5 million.
 - Currently receiving \$100,000 at the County level
 - Conference advocating for \$15 million in additional funding
- Workforce Funding
 - Additional \$1,000 per employee
 - Challenge for Tioga County to spend because of the collective bargaining aspect
 - A Resolution passed in Saratoga allowing money to pass to union employees
 - Lori is using the funding for staff trainings
- Working on 988 Suicide Hotline
- Tenders Law (AOT) extended
- Peter Dwyer Grant (Suicide Prevention Funding)
 - Mental Hygiene pass through funding to Veterans Agency
- No negatives with the proposed State Budget
 - More funding to be accessed
- Community Services Board – Expiring Terms
 - Denise Brown & Christine Schweitzer expire 3/31/22
 - Both have served two full terms
 - Must wait 1 year before applying for Board Membership
 - Larissa Pierce expires 3/31/22
 - Larissa currently serving out a partial term
 - Eligible for two full term appointments
 - Resolution to be presented to Legislature
 - Open seats and potential members discussed
- Lori & Sarah will be attending the Spring Conference in Saratoga in April
- Data is being collected on Telehealth & In-Person Services
 - Telehealth services make up 40% of the clinic's services
 - Telehealth gives staff to work from home on a part time basis
 - Lori is advocating for the staff to have this option
 - Would help with staff retention
- Staff Survey
 - Carolyn asked Lori to create a survey and have staff complete
 - Survey could offer insight and assist with staff retention
- County Plan
 - Plan is being reformatted and won't be ready until July 2022
 - May be a COVID only survey
 - Lori asked all to review the current goals and objectives

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: Chair Report – Dr. Bezirgian

- Discussion: Review of Incident Trend by Age Report
- 5 years of trends by age reviewed
 - Though suicide attempts were up starting in 2020, no particular age group seemed so be more prevalent than another
 - Age tracking will continue for future reference/use

Subcommittee Highlights

- MH Subcommittee:
 - No meeting in February
- ASA Subcommittee:
 - OD Maps – getting local police department to comply with data input
 - Narcan Boxes – few up throughout the county
- OPWDD Subcommittee
 - State saying CSIDD services coming in April
 - Racker holding virtual activities
 - Wait lists are decreasing
 - Racker lost some staff resulting from mandates

Status: Informational Complete

Topic: Other Business

- Discussion: Sheriff's Department – Shawn Nalepa
- Fentanyl being mixed with all powdered drugs
 - Dr. Bezirgianian is seeing it in drug tests where people didn't realize they were taking it
 - Sticker Shops
 - Shops were busted last week
 - All shops are illegal
 - Massive amounts of product found in each location
 - State Cannabis Control Board issued cease and desist orders
 - Control Board has been ordered to no longer cooperate with law enforcement agencies.

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: New Business

- Discussion: Nominating Committee
- Nominations:
 - Chair – Dr. Bezirgianian
 - Co-Chair – Fran Bialy
 - Secretary – Tina Lounsbury
 - Alternative Nominations - none
 - Vote on nominations to be held in the March meeting

Status: Informational - Complete

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:29am. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 17th, 2022 at 9:30am.

