

## Community Services Board Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2019

Present: Sean Eagan, Leisa Alger, Joe Cevette, Jennifer Emery, Ellen Topping, Heather Hargraves, Michelle Johnson, Alan Yeck, Michelle Pavillard, Brian Hart

Absent: Rosemary Anthony, Dr. Alves

Excused: Rene Snyder, David Andreine

➤ Sub-Committee Reports:

- **Mental Health-** Brian: Flower planting will take place on Monday April 29, 2019. T-Shirt pick up day will be May 2, 2019 from 7am to 7pm. We will need 6 people will need to be there at all times. If you can't stay the entire time, please contact Shannon to sign up for a period of time that you would be available.
- **Youth Mental Health First Aid:** Had a training here at the DSS/HRC building on March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> with great attendance. There will be another one held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> and will probably fill up.
- **Local Planning:** Let's work on a plan to accomplish the 5 issues that we came up with during our February meeting.

1. Geriatric Psychiatric Services in the community/homebased –

- There is a partnership between Family Services and Office of the Aging – they just filled a part-time position for a short term therapist, but would love to see it increase, and that would mean we would need more funding as it is not a billable service.
- Need to review billable options as well as prescriber options.
- Need transportation to appointments that are not covered by Medicaid, and for those who are not eligible for Medicaid.
- Need age appropriate PEERS to spend time with the clients.
- Need training/education for the medical community regarding the psychiatric needs of this population. OFA/LTC does training in the community, but they determine the target of the education. We can ask them to make this a target.
- Work with Skill Nursing Facilities to increase prescribers billable service (geriatric psychiatric nurse practitioners)
- Explore options with pharmacies to waive the blister/bubble pack fees.

2. Adolescent Children's Unit – with a Children's Psychiatric Specialist –

- This is in addition to EPC. The demands exceed the supply.
- Need Emergency Room Psych Specialist to evaluate the children.
- If any hospital would want to open an acute unit, OMH would approve, because the State will not expand. This can be costly due to providing education and repairs to the building and other items. If the building has other entities, they need to build walls to make it a secure unit.

- Explore the willingness with St. Joe's and University of Rochester.
- Brian Hart has had discussion with St. Joe's in the past on sharing staff (BSU/Adolescent/New Dawn).
- Explore options of vacant property/buildings with EPC.
- Enhance the training of the ER staff specific to pediatric psych issues.
- Consider Tela-Psych services with the University of Rochester.
- Explore options of having psychologist instead of psychiatrist do evaluations.

### 3. Housing –

- OMH Housing
- Increase Supported and Supportive Housing (with medications/cooking) – staff on site.
- Create ADC teaching program for basic living skills or connect with existing aide programs. This will assist with meals/meds/sense of security.
- Need more providers in family care homes – revisit Melanie's option.
- Independent Living Skills Trainer
- Increase affordable one bedroom apartments.
- Purchase reasonable property and have a case manager checking in on the individuals on a regular basis, to make sure they are taking care of themselves as well as their apartment. This will help clients have some accountability.

### 4. Workforce –

- Explore the ability for incentives to help residents stay in the area.
- Increase the number of Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners for long term and regularity relief.
- Create more job shadowing/internship opportunities by connecting with colleges. Reporting requirements can be an issue.
- Brian Hart has offered to supervise interns if it will benefit your agency, as they have to be under an MSW.
- Attend Job Fairs

### 5. Adherence with medication regime –

- Utilize the MIT to be a transition coordinator between inpatient and outpatient to assure that their needs are being met (transportation/medications/housing/care management/medical provider/benefits).
- Encourage Medical Doctors to consider long acting medications and injectables.
- Home visiting Nurses

- **Substance Abuse-** Jennifer: After being notified that Chemung County would be receiving \$60,000 for Jail Based Services and working to have it go through Trinity to continue to provide the services, the Chemung County Jail has stated that they do not have any space for them to be there full time. They stated that they can continue to share space (Family Services/Trinity/Medical) and be in the jail 6 to 7 hours a week. There is a need for private space due to confidentiality. The money that is being provided is only to be used for the jail.

Brian Hart has a meeting coming up in mid-May with Sheriff Bill Schrom to discuss this further and see if there are other options.

➤ **Local Planning:**

Under Housing – the objectives are: to develop more congregate care housing, expand upon respite options, develop supported housing-including but not limited to mixed use options, and develop affordable housing options.

Under Transportation – the objectives are: to assemble or join an existing coalition/task force, track the scope of the problem throughout the year, and evaluate and implement alternative options.

Brian Hart reached out to C-Tran and they said they would reach out to all the providers to discuss the “Smart Tap System”. Users will need a Smart Phone or access to email to upload on their card. If users lose their card there is a fee to have it replaced.

Under Workforce – the objectives are: Develop videos with use of staff from multiple agencies to promote the fields, engage in local high schools/colleges to promote the field, participate in career days events, evaluate loan forgiveness programs, shared staffing models and other incentive options for all employees, and explore options of reimbursement for college in exchange for commitment to the agency.

Under Inpatient Treatment Services – the objectives are: Explore options for alternatives to ER visits and behavioral health hospitalizations, train all ER/BHAT staff to provide a comprehensive emergency psychiatric assessment, and explore options for opening an additional children and youth acute unit to complement an existing service.

We need to make sure they are doing a comprehensive job in the ER and that they are trained. They now have a Psychiatrist devoted to the ER and an Nurse Practitioner working on weekends. They are showing up on more in the New Dawn unit as well.

Outpatient Services – the objectives are: Expand the care in the jail to maximize funding, and open satellite clinics in close proximity to primary care and mental health clinic settings.

Might need to reword it slightly to say “utilize funding to its fullest capability”. There are a high percentage of inmates who have Mental Health and/or Addiction issues, so not having services in there full time is not ok. Trinity is doing a lot of outpatient services.

- **New Dawn** – Staff are registered with FIT & CORE Program. As for Dual Diagnosis groups being held, OASAS is still telling them that they cannot include anyone else in their groups. Brian brought up McPike and the tour they did several years ago, in which they held dual diagnosis group meetings. If the staff have FIT & CORE training, then all they would need to do is have a consent form signed in order to hold dual diagnosis group meetings (New Dawn/BSU). No separate license is needed. Brian will call OASAS to discuss this with them. Dual Diagnosis has been discussed forever. If MOA's and Release of Information is in place, there should not be an issue.

- **Salvation Army** – A flyer was passed around to invite everyone from the Committee meeting to the Our House Annual Picnic. It will be held at 401 Division Street, Elmira, NY 14901 on June 5, 2019 11:30am to 2:00pm. You can RSVP by calling 607-734-0032.

- **Developmental Disability- Leisa**

- **Local Planning:**

We need to determine objectives for support for transitioning youth from Early Intervention, but don't qualify for OPWDD services. Perhaps we could utilize other supports, such as Family Support Services. Utilize redefined/consolidated waiver services and SPOA. SPOA meetings occur in Chemung County on a weekly basis. We need to bring all the possible players to the table quarterly to talk about what each offers.

We need to determine objective for housing (residential). This is on our local plan every year. We will probably never have enough housing. There are some mixed housing options becoming available in our area in the very near future. Another option is to have agencies/individuals purchase properties and become landlords to assist with the need in our community.

We need to determine objectives for regulatory reform allowing for the use of technology as well as funding for it. It would be helpful if they would allow skyping/telemedicine for visits. The regulations do not match with the technology that is available today. Technology should enhance those providing services to individuals. There needs to be regulatory reformatting for the use of technology, due to some consumers living out so far from their care coordinators. OPWDD is still using paper forms. Agencies need electronic systems that are flexible when it comes to collecting data.

We need to determine objectives for workforce issues. We need to advocate for the front line staff who have not had a cost of living increase since 2010, and salaries need to increase. As for Direct Support Professionals, there are not a lot of good work force out there. We need to increase employment recruitment for attracting specialist (OT, PT, and Speech). We also need traveling doctors for those who are unable to go to a doctor's office.

- **ARC of Chemung** – The Director of ARC of Schuyler will be retiring on July 1, 2019. They are looking at unification of Schuyler & Chemung down the road, with the Boards working together. Both agencies are in good shape financially. This will be a good opportunity for both agencies.

On May 4, 2019 at 1:00pm at the Elmira-Corning Regional Airport will be "Wings for Autism/Wings for All". This is an airport "rehearsal" program created to help prepare families for future travels. Participants will be able to go through check-in, TSA security, and will be able to board a plane to help become familiar with the process. If you have a family member with an intellectual or developmental disability including autism, this may be the event for you.

➤ **Nomination Committee-** Jennifer

- Jennifer Recommended Tara Fethers, the Chief Program Officer for Trinity-East. She has worked for CASA of Livingston dba as Trinity of Chemung since 2014, with six years of dual recovery experience with Family Services prior to that. Leisa made motion to approve recommend her for board appointment. Seconded by Alan. All in favor with no objections or abstentions.

➤ **Director's Report**

- **SmartTap**-The local transit system has begun a new system called SmartTap. All individuals riding the bus will need a smart phone and/or an e-mail to obtain a loadable card to ride the bus, and if they lose the card they will they will have to purchase a new one. Virtually none of the agencies serving persons with disabilities is aware of these changes despite the Transit Authority claiming they had informed the community. In addition, they had not thought through how to work with repayee services. After learning about this, I asked that they set up meetings with local agencies.
- **CEO Changes**-EPC has submitted a name for their new Executive Director to Central Office for approval. Family Services and Glove House are searching for new CEOs. Ed Lukomski from Pathway's will be retiring in June. Brian remains as Acting Commissioner of Human Services.
- **Local Plan**-Brian reviewed plan local plan as attached with recommended changes from committees and Community Services Board. In addition, the Developmental Disability Committee recommended that a section be added to the Executive Summary noting concern about the process for addressing local housing needs versus a regional process requiring refusal those hiring on the list who are often hiring on the priority list, but often 2 or more hours away. Michelle recommend that the plan be approved with all changes as noted. Seconded by Heather. All in favor. No objections, and no abstentions.