

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE
OF CORTLAND COUNTY
Community Services Board

Meeting Minutes – April 2, 2019
1:00 P.M.
Room 302 – County Office Building

Members Present: Jeff Beal (Chair), Aaron Hammond, Elizabeth Haskins, Marianne Odell, Amanda Rainbow, Kathy Reynolds and Ken Woodman

Members Absent: Kimberly Corbett

Others Present: Mark Thayer (Director), Michele Gravel (JM Murray), Jaclyn Fahey (MC ARC), Aaron Wilson (Person to Person Citizen Advocacy), Michelle Langdon and Samantha Glenn (DDRO), Dora Gorman and Carey Peters (Southern Tier Connect), Alexandra Mikowski (Liberty Resources), Patricia Schaap (CCMHD) and Gail Spitzer (Secretary)

Call to Order: 1:02 p.m. by Chair, Jeff Beal

MINUTES

Introductions

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes from March 5, 2019 Motion requested by Chair, Jeff Beal

✓ Motion made by Marianne Odell, seconded by Elizabeth Haskins – unanimously approved

Agenda Item: MC ARC Clinic Jaclyn Fahey

Oversight of Cortland County Clinic since January 2008 – currently provide services in six counties; Madison, Oneida, Lewis, Herkimer, Oswego and Cortland – serving approximately 800 individuals, 240 in Cortland County – provide testing and assessments – new chronology of comprehensive evaluations (interview, observation and record review) – also offer ongoing services, psychiatry and medication management, social work counseling, behavioral and mental health counseling, along with a variety of therapies / main building on Crawford street undergoing some renovations / waiting for tele-therapy authorization to be approved by Department of Health – set to pilot tele-health out of a few satellite locations between Madison and Oneida Counties – will expand to other locations – main focus psychiatry, medication management and counseling / no capacity limits – no waiting lists for ongoing services – some waiting time for eligibility testing – recruit staff from other Counties when there are staff shortages / no county residency restrictions / mental health services for ages 6 and older – OT, PT and speech therapy cannot be provided if a child is enrolled in school per State law / website: www.arcofmc.org / expansion of additional clinics continuing / discussion of referral process

Agenda Item: Person to Person Citizen Advocacy Aaron Wilson

Small non-profit organization in three counties: Onondaga, Oswego and Cortland – connect people with developmental disabilities (protégés) with volunteers (advocates) “neighbors helping neighbors” – partnering matches based on needs, interest and ability / events scheduled throughout the year (i.e., Erie Canal boat ride, bowling events) / always looking for protégés / the advocate role is “doing something fun and inviting someone to do it with you” / advocates undergo a background check and protégés must be OPWDD certified / Elizabeth Haskins suggested Retired Senior Volunteer Program might be a good resource for finding advocates / in Cortland County, there are currently about 10 advocates and 25 protégées / advocates are invited to attend events and develop relationships / most funding comes from OPWDD and fund raisers / website: www.ppcadvocacy.org / Aaron is working to inform people of this program / Jeff Beal: this program could be used to bridge the gap in care and companionship when a person with a developmental disability moves from a group home to a nursing home, as they generally are alone and more vulnerable and no longer eligible for case management

Agenda Item: Annual Plan Discussion (packet of information provided) Mark Thayer

Mark described the fundamentals of this annual process and a copy of last year’s working plan with updates, provided – (homework) everyone asked to review the priorities and strategies as related to OPWDD (bolded in document) to discuss in more depth at May 7 meeting – review to determine relevance of priorities – any goals achieved – move up in priority – remove from document if complete or unachievable / as a subcommittee, there is the responsibility to meet the needs of individuals in Cortland County – Plan is approved by Community Services Board at the Joint meeting May 28 and submitted to the State by June 3 / the document is then used to guide the work of the subcommittees during the year / Mark asked everyone to keep and bring to next meeting / additional information provided: Statistical, demographic data from OPWDD (2017) and survey requesting the ranking of gaps in service to be completed and returned / packet can be shared with staff, families – intended to be proper representation of the community needs

Agenda Item: Director’s Report Mark Thayer

State Budget passed – getting a brief sense of what it includes – 2% cost of living increase across all the “O” agencies – generally positive budget as it relates to behavioral health overall – no cuts – more details to follow – new items included integrated licensure which would lead to progress in the year

Agenda Item: Agency / School / Other Updates:

- Marianne Odell (Racker Center) – April 11 Event at Greek Peak, speaker Al Condeluci – discussing The Power of Relationships – 90 people signed up so far
- Michele Gravel (JM Murray) – Integrated business still going well / new PR person hired – working on Annual Dinner and Annual Report / still working with Kurt Warner of Catholic Charities – with his help, one gentleman placed and doing an excellent job and so appreciative of the employment opportunity – had not worked for 10 years due to mental health problems – working with Access VR and Employment Connection to assist him in finding a permanent job after 90 days
- Samantha Glenn (OPWDD – DDSO) – Resource Center for Independent Living out of Utica has partnered with a property management company and renovated an apartment building (327 Bleecker St., Utica) – have rooms available for anyone with a DD or IDD diagnosis (call Mary Brognano 315-797-4642 ext. 2976) / Michelle Langdon: ten apartments are designated for developmentally disabled individuals – other similar projects being developed all over Central NY – agencies partnering with property management building affordable, beautiful, uncertified, integrated living options – assistance from OPWDD to ensure no apartments are vacant, building waiting lists
- Alexandra Mikowski (Liberty Resources – Mobile Crisis) – partnering with Cortland County Mental Health in organizing the May is MH Awareness Month Walk on May 16 – registration deadline April 26 to get a tee shirt – register on the Seven Valley Health Coalition website <https://www.sevenvalleyshealth.org/>
- Patty Schaap (SPOA Coordinator, Youth Development Services Director, President MHA) – Cortland County Suicide Prevention Coalition establishment, planning meeting scheduled for April 30 – helping to facilitate is Garra Lloyd-Lester (Associate Director NYS Suicide Prevention Center) – meeting to be held in the Hospital’s assembly room from 8:30 to noon, breakfast will be served – anyone who would like to participate is welcome
- Carey Peters (Southern Tier Connect) – introduced Dora Gorman, new to STC – responsible for intake and eligibility in Cortland County and other counties / STC a small Care Coordination Organization (CCO) – this is a very confusing time with the change to CCO processes, Carey will be available to answer any questions and provided her contact information / biggest challenge? Technology – working with Healthy Connections, Healthy NY, working with RHIO’s – www.southerntierconnect.org / important that those served by CCO’s do not feel negative effects of the transition / Mark requested an OPWDD process map – Carey will forward

Jeff Beal: Reminder Joint CSB and Subcommittees meeting is May 28, 2019 – 3:00 p.m. at the Cortlandville Fire Department meeting room / these are open meetings and everyone is invited to continue attending and thanked everyone for attending today

Agenda Item: Adjourn Chair, Jeff Beal asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting

- ✓ Motion by Marianne Odell – meeting ended at 2:16 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 7, 2019

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ROOM 304 of the County Office Building

Minutes submitted by Gail L. Spitzer
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Approved minutes available on County Website:
www.Cortland-Co.org/433/Mental-Health