

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE
OF CORTLAND COUNTY
Community Services Board

Meeting Minutes February 1, 2022
1:00 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING – VIA WEB EX

Members Present: Kimberly Corbett (Chair), Renee Hettich, Marianne Odell and Amanda Rainbow

Members Absent: Aaron Hammond

Others Present: Michele Gravel (JM Murray), Laura Spencer (Person to Person), Angela VanDeWeert (Public Defenders' Office), Renee Nurek (OPWDD-DDRO), Jeff Beal (Retired OPWDD, former Chair, CSB and DD Subcommittee), Christopher Moore (Director Special Education, Homer High School), Madison Saufley (Southern Tier Connect), Cynthia Van Patten Young (Area Agency on Aging), Patricia Schaap (Deputy Director, CCMHD) and Gail Spitzer (Secretary)

Call to Order: 1:05 p.m. by Chair, Kimberly Corbett

MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions: Chair Kimberly Corbett welcomed everyone to this DD Subcommittee meeting asked everyone to sign their names and affiliations into the "Chat" and facilitated introductions (Elizabeth Larkin resigned)

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes from November 2, 2021 and February 1, 2022 Chair, Kimberly Corbett – No quorum

Agenda Item: Discussion and election Chair and Vice Chair No quorum – tabled until next month

Agenda Item: Agency Updates / Reports

*Sharon MacDougall (Cortland Mental Health) big news is the appointment of Patty Schaap as the Deputy Director of Community Services, a new position with the County and Mental Health Department – Patty has been incredibly dedicated to the community – will develop quality initiatives – will be trained to be the Corporate Compliance Director / Filled one of the LMSW positions – hired Dana Todora (present at this meeting) other vacancies and work progress to hire new Clinic Director by March or April

*Ann Seepersaud Life Plan CCO – have staff in place dedicated to Cortland area – supporting efforts to keep members safe – promote Covid vaccinations

*Michele Gravel (JM Murray) – rough week – unable to find residential placement for young person whose parents will not let her go home – staff of JM Murray have been staying at hotel with her to make sure she is safe (will meet with Patty after the meeting) / employment placement has been good – have placement at Price Chopper

*Aaron Hammond (MC ARC) – providing services increasingly difficult with houses closing, employment vacancy issues – bad shift work situations due to personnel shortages (Kim Corbett – all ties back to the largest priority of the local services plan; workforce)

*Chris Moore – completed a slide show, power point presentation Access VR students – continue to work on website – hoping to have OPWDD information available on the site also / some students going through the Front Door (FD) process now

*Amanda Rainbow (DSS – children's services director) – State taking over authorizing long term services – requiring independent medical assessors – starting March 1 – DSS will help advocate

*Renee Hettich, (Parent of children with developmental disabilities) – son will soon be 15, his self-direction funding was approved – thanked everyone – work is proving successful

Erin Valley (ATI) – closing down homes will send people back to nursing homes, costing more money

Agenda Item: OPWDD School Transition Coordinator for Region 2 – Dave Kudgus, Coordinator

Help to transition people from school to adult services or to any next education – liaison between school, families and teacher – help students get connected with FD – can provide in person or virtual presentations – with representative from Front Door – he is a resource to help people more comfortable with the OPWDD process / (David Kudgus David.e.Kudgus@opwdd.ny.gov) / Vanessa Smith (OPWDD) – changes in personnel – no one going through FD in December – had NY Connects referral – 56 active self-direction (budgets) in 2021 / housing – 7 individuals on emergency need list – 7 on substantial needs list – 5 on current need list / CSIDD START-certified program – one "crisis" team from NYC area handling 20 counties – Director, Sharon MacDougall asked if they would be able to present to this Board – Vanessa said they would / workforce incentives are coming and OPWDD Surveys -

Agenda Item: Director's Report Director Sharon MacDougall



DD DCS report
2.2022.docx

Many Personnel changes at State level of OPWDD – Acting Commissioner is Kerri E. Neifeld / OPWDD Organizational Chart needing newer version / Regulation updates / Consolidated Fiscal Report training for providers / Covid and pandemic changes throughout the State / Care Coordination Liaison OPWDD attached /

Agenda Item: Targeted discussions / presentations – topics TBD for 2022

Kimberly Corbett – Laura Spencer, Program Coordinator for Person to Person Citizen Advocates invited to speak at March 1 meeting / Jeff suggested “environmental modifications”, waiver service – how is it being used; specific to Cortland County / Chris Moore – gym memberships, require some environmental modifications to be able to serve some of this population / Vanessa Smith – presentations and updates from the various OPWDD Departments; i.e. Self-Direction, FSS, etc.

Kim thanked everyone for attending today – there being no other business or objections, Kimberly Corbett adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

Next regular meeting March 1, 2022
Virtual Meeting – via WebEx
1:00 p.m.

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