

COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
OF CORTLAND COUNTY

Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2021 – 3:00 p.m.
VIRTUAL MEETING – WEB EX

Members Present: Matt Whitman (Chair), Kathryn Reynolds (Vice Chair), Douglas Bentley, Christopher Hyde, Elizabeth Larkin, Timothy Lockwood, Donald Noble, Tiffanie Parker, Leslie Wilkins

Members Absent: Martha Bush, Elizabeth Haskins and Julie Partigianoni

Others Present: Sharon MacDougall (Director Community Services), Lisa Roos (Guthrie Cortland Medical Center), Kimberly Corbett (Spring Brook DD Subcommittee Chair), Nicholas Lynch (Captain CC Jail), Mark Thayer (OMH Field Office Director), David Phetteplace (Cincinnatus Schools), Sara Watrous and Jackie Adams (CACTC and HEALing Communities), Amanda Rainbow (DSS), Beckey Lumley (CCOCC), Rene Hettich (AFFCNY), Jodi McNally, Ellen Wright (Retired MH Nurse and Vice Chair MH Subcommittee), Aris Dysert (Conifer Park), Amy Carlson (Family Health Network), Jamee Sobko, Teresa VanHeusen, Chandra Thompson and Patricia Schaap, (CCMHD), Haile Cutter (Intern for Patty Schaap) and Gail Spitzer (Secretary) (29)

Call to Order: Welcomed by Chair, Matthew Whitman and called to order at 3:06 p.m.

Agenda Item: Introductions – Chair requested everyone sign name and association into the WebEx Chat

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes January 28, 2021 Motion to approve requested by Chair Matt Whitman

✓ Motion made by Tiffanie Parker, seconded by Douglas Bentley – all in favor, no discussion – minutes approved

Agenda Item: Impacts of Covid in Community – Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Matt Whitman: Asked for a recurring item on the CSB Agenda to discuss the challenges of Covid 19 on our community – what are we doing to address these issues – increases in overdoses and mental health crises / CACTC will be submitting a grant application Rural Community Response program federal grant \$1M over 2 years – will be forming a consortium with local partners

Sara Watrous – Pop up events F&CCS and CACTC – next one tomorrow outside the Salvation Army – events have been very successful in training and dispensing Narcan kits – getting positive reactions – goal to hold two events per month – will be going into the rural areas also

Tiffanie Parker (DSS) Federal allocation of \$50,000 to fund on-site behavioral health specialist – will assist child welfare caseworkers assess and refer individuals (children or adults) to substance abuse and mental health services as needed – money is good through November 30th – working with Cayuga Addictions Recovery Services (C.A.R.S.) funded to work 20-25 hours per week – up and running by March – part of this will be in the field

Patty Schaap: University of Albany School of Public Health is hosting two sessions for Cortland County; one for stakeholders and one for community to gather information about the impact of Covid on behavioral health



Community flyer.pdf



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Elizabeth Larkin: when an individual is released from rehab or a mental health treatment facility what is the follow-up plan for getting them involved in the community and help to secure a job – Patty: it is based on the individual’s capacity – some discourage work; i.e., cannot be employed to receive Social Security and paid housing – there are care managers that promote employment – Catholic Charities works with individuals to set the up with what they need

Matt Whitman: CACTC’s epidemiologist working with data collected from the youth surveys conducted at all schools in County – getting ready to release a disparity report breaking down data by sub-populations; i.e. gender, geographic location, sexual identity, race – reflects some disparity in areas of drug abuse or mental illness – cause of concern/ report should be released within the next week – will be helpful in focusing services / have been meeting with the schools – they will have their own “dashboards” of data for their use

Donald Noble asked Mark Thayer (Director of OMH Field Office) to discuss the proposed merger of OMH and OASAS – in general, strong census that integrating the services, especially for co-occurring diagnoses, would be incredibly impactful in engagement and treatment – process complicated and will take years to happen, with State Legislative approval necessary ultimately – will require planning but ultimate purpose to make it easier to receive services – Mark encouraged everyone to be involved, as much as possible, in the planning portion / Sharon MacGregor: Lisa Hoeschele (Family & Children’s Counseling Services) is on the steering committee put together by OMH and OASAS, representing providers in Cortland

Mark Thayer: OMH conducting surveys to help determine allocation of vaccinations – also concerned about the percentage of people who are resisting the vaccination – outreach and education is ongoing

Tim Lockwood (Catholic Charities) – OMH is helping with a mobile vaccination event at Riverside Apartments

Agenda Item: Director's Report (copy emailed earlier) Sharon MacDougall

Director's report includes links for more detailed information – Cortland and NYS data dashboard links on report regarding vaccinations and testing / O-LOV (O-Agency Link-Outreach-Vaccination); website for access to individual appointment scheduling / County Mental Health Clinic gifted "Cookies for Caregivers" – thank you to Kathy Reynolds who made the nomination and delivered the homemade treats – also nice meeting Sadie, Kathy's therapy dog



2-2021 CSB Directors
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LGU (Local Government Unit) Timelines – Annual Report and County Plan are coming due once again – goal presentation of Annual Report in March or April – there will be surveys to help complete these / County Planning is due in June – planning meetings March through May – heavy focus on effects of pandemic on populations / will be planning orientation meetings for new and current membership

Mark Thayer: Just received word that OMH is releasing the "withholds" from the last two quarters of 2020 and processing full payments for next quarter / Have not received any news about the other "O" agencies following suit

Chair, Matt Whitman: Adjourned the meeting at 3:53 p.m. – Next meeting March 23, 2021

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 23, 2021
Minutes and notes submitted by Gail L. Spitzer
Inquires may be made to:
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