

**COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**  
**OF CORTLAND COUNTY**

**Meeting Minutes – October 22, 2019 – 3:00 p.m.**  
**Room 302 – COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING**

- Members Present:** Tiffanie Parker (Chair), Jeff Beal, Doug Bentley, Christopher Hyde, Elizabeth (Betsy) Larkin, Donald Noble, Rebecca Smith and Leslie Wilkins (8)
- Members Absent:** Jesse Abbott, Martha Bush, Christopher Driscoll, Elizabeth Haskins, Michael Johnson and Kathy Reynolds
- Others Present:** Mark Thayer (Director Community Services), Matt Whitman (Cortland Area Communities that Care), Jennifer Yartym and Lisa Roos (Guthrie Cortland Medical Center), Kristen Monroe (Commissioner, DSS), Kimberly Corbett (Springbrook DD Services), Michele Gravel (Director, Vocational Services – JM Murray), Aaron Hammond (MC ARC), Jeanette Diplo (American Federation for Suicide Prevention), Deena Dombroske (Helio Health), Marie Walsh, Timothy Lockwood and Julie Partigianoni (CCOCC), Renee Hettich (Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition), David Phetteplace and Michelle Hardler (Cincinnati Central School District), Catherine Wilde (Seven Valley Health Coalition), Mike Barylski (County Legislator), Angela Adams (Liberty Resources) and Gail Spitzer (Secretary) (20)
- Call to Order:** Welcomed by Tiffanie Parker, Chair at 3:02 p.m.

**Agenda Item:** Introductions

**Agenda Item:** Approval of Minutes – September 24, 2019 Chair, Tiffanie Parker, asked for a motion to approve minutes

- ✓ Motion made by Betsy Larkin, seconded by Leslie Wilkins – no further discussion – minutes were unanimously approved

**Agenda Item:** Guests

Jennifer Yartym, President – Guthrie Cortland Medical Center – Coming from Guthrie Corning, most recently VP of Operations – excited to be in Cortland, become part of this fabulous community – have recently begun doing telemedicine out of the Fisher Ave office – applied for and is part of the Mayo Clinic Care Network; e-counsels, second option / opened new walk in care clinic opened September 30, on Route 281 – have one mid-level provider offering services Monday through Friday during work hours – signed second provider that will begin mid-November – goal to expand services into evening and weekends / overall master facility plan; applied and approved for a new cancer center – anticipate ground breaking in March of 2020

This year, investing in a second CT Scanner, purchased a 3-D mammography machine to provide latest technology / transitioning original practice providers to Guthrie Medical Group, effective January 1 and have added 8 new medical providers; one internal medicine, two family medicine, full time pathologist, additional cardiologist and 16 other active recruitments / plans for 1-E and addition of behavioral health beds in ED have to be delayed due to the shorter timeline for completion of the Cancer Center – there will be multiple projects being developed at the same time / Legislator Mike Barylski engaged Ms. Yartym in conversation about the financial impact in the community, funding and fiscal health of Cortland Hospital – Guthrie has committed \$100 million in capital to the reinvigorate the institution – July of 2020 is the anticipated go-live date of Epic, electronic medical records system – Guthrie is one of the top 3 users of Epic – imperative for seamless care; a \$30 million investment

Kristen Monroe, Commissioner – Department of Social Services – Warming Centers – concept developed in answer to the “Code Blue” executive order which require providing shelter for anyone who reports themselves as homeless, when temperatures drop to 32° or below – there was a 7% increase in people needing to be housed last year, over previous year – Warming Center, not a shelter and not regulated by the state – whatever a community can develop using its own resources

Salvation Army, on S. Main St., will be partnering, utilizing a large activity, cafeteria room – allowing people to stay from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., providing light meal and cots – during evening hours, holiday days and weekend days Grace and Holy Spirit Church will provide shelter also location of Loaves and Fishes – Church is recruiting volunteers from other churches

This service is for individuals not eligible for other services, such as housing or temporary housing – they are non-compliant with parole, have challenges, behaviorally, substance abuse, etc. – there were problems when placed in hotels last year – warming center will allow enough support, keep them safe and possibly help to connect to services / another population that was challenging last year may have been abusing the system; had other options but cannot deny anyone and requires no proof of need or application, etc. – resulted in sale of hotel keys, parties, etc. – in turn, hotels, less likely to help in the future / third population are people who do not want Government assistance

Will be engaging community partners; i.e., COTI, Liberty Resources, City Police, other law enforcement – will be utilizing case worker, specializing in homelessness / Safety and security are major concern – staff will be trained in Narcan use, de-escalation techniques, cameras have been installed – just waiting for a green light from the State for approval (this would be for individuals only – families will still be referred to hotels)

**Agenda Item:** Agencies / Coalition / Hospital / Departments / Schools Update

- Deena Dombroske (Helio Health) – Elements Program; 75 bed site in Liverpool, scheduled to open in January – initially intended for people being released from incarceration: stabilization, rehabilitation and reintegration / ROACA still going strong – do not have to call first
- David Phetteplace (Principal, Cincinnati School) – completing some staff training; first cohort of Crisis Intervention completed yesterday – more will be trained next month, between 15 and 20 staff in total / also asking for connection to OPWDD to discuss PINS; Mark will assist

- Tim Lockwood (Catholic Charities Of Cortland County) – Update Solutions to End Homelessness grant – five year grant has begun, including – rapid rehousing and homelessness prevention / can house in a variety of ways with flexibility in the financial assistance; i.e., security deposits, first month’s rent, moving expenses, legal expenses, etc., once the person or family meet certain criteria – beginning with coordinated entry process (2-1-1) / for people already housed, can help to prevent eviction, delinquent utility payments, etc., connect with case management to help maintain
- Matt Whitman (CACTC) – September Drug Take Back Day event collected 1,139 pounds when combined with Guthrie and law enforcement kiosks – total year to date 3,339 pounds – 9% increase from last year and the most collected in any single year / currently administering the youth survey in all 5 school district, in grades 7 through 12 – hope to have the results back and analyzed for discuss in December or January – also will have a new epidemiologist that will be able to provide analysis / officially started year one (of 5) of the new SAMHSA grant relating to underage drinking (9 to 20 year olds) – 3 to 6 months of strategic planning – implementing in Spring – in process of interviewing for epidemiologist
- Leslie Wilkins (Cortland Prevention Resources, div. Family & Children’s Counseling Services) – SPEAK UP Cortland in process of coordinating a free training in Cortland – two, 3 hour, “safe talk” sessions – information will be shared when firmed up
- Doug Bentley (Legislator) – update on the Angel Program – had first “call out” – Angel stayed with person while waiting at Guthrie – training volunteer Angels with help of COTI, GCMC, Police, Mobile Crisis; who should they call, what is best process and how to follow up after the initial step
- Jeannette Dippe – “Out of the Darkness” suicide prevention walk in Liverpool – most participants (1,750), raised \$128K – SUNY Men’s Hockey team fund raiser on November 8 – tabling opportunity for providers of service
- Renee Hettich (Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of NY) – provides support services to adoptive and foster families in this community, beginning a few months ago – completed therapeutic parenting class and beginning a new parent support group last Thursday that was packed – contact or refer parents to Renee [renee@affcny.org](mailto:renee@affcny.org)
- Julie Partigianoni (Wishing Wellness Center, div. CCOCC) – working on referrals, HCBS services are up and going – working on a calendar for November – contact Julie to have calendar forwarded
- Michael Barylski (County Legislator) – Legislature budget discussion affecting Office of the Aging – proposal to reduce the manner in which our Senior Citizen Centers operate – many of the employees are less than full time staff – discussing staff reduction; overall proposal would save the County \$137K by reducing the number of days the Centers operate – disagreement as to which days have highest volume /
- Lisa Roos (Guthrie Cortland Medical Center) – continue to work on the ECT (Electroconvulsive therapy) treatment for use at the hospital – it is a work in progress – Mark asked if Dr. Levine would consider giving a presentation
- Angela Adams (Liberty Resources – Mobile Crisis Team) – Team still busy – in September, served 40 adults and 11 youth with 90% diversion rate from hospitalization
- Christopher Hyde (F&CCS – COTI Program) – Met with Helio Health; Jonathan Moe to coordinate services / have been doing transports to Binghamton, Auburn and Rochester to detox facilities and halfway houses – have been getting many referrals from Probation, Parole and Cortland City Police Department, etc. / there is minimal follow-up with people coming back into the community / Mark talked about (Deena) Helio working with COTI and agencies when people are being referred back to their communities to help stay connected to services, etc. / Giant van brought back from Herkimer County / training to begin for the telemedicine to begin

**Agenda Item:** Director’s Report (copy provided) Mark Thayer

Have received contract from HEALing Communities Grant – Columbia University want the first wave to be up and running by December 1 – first step is a community orientation, releasing much information at that time – hoping to have contract worked out by next month to hire the required staff to include project coordinator and epidemiologist

**Agenda Item:** Vice Chair Nominations / Membership Nominations – CSB and Subcommittees

Chair, Tiffanie Parker: last week was the final meeting for Shari Weiss, CSB Member and Vice Chair, as she accepted a new position outside the County – Shari was also member and Chair of the MH Subcommittee

Secretary, Gail Spitzer: Reference today’s packet of information – last pages include membership status of CSB and three subcommittees – anyone interested in membership, please contact Tiffanie, Mark or Gail / two members of CSB and CD Subcommittee (Michael Johnson and Christopher Driscoll will be completing second terms, leaving vacancies) / Tim Lockwood and Matt Whitman both members of the CD Subcommittee agreed to become members of the CSB, if asked / Gail discussed the DD Subcommittee efforts to balance family members and agency representatives in its membership – Renee Hettich from AFFC expressed interest in membership of that Subcommittee, parent of a multi-disabled, OPWDD eligible child – Tiffanie: the DD Subcommittee membership could vote on that at the November meeting – approve by CSB and the brought to the Legislature

Chair, Tiffanie Parker, asked for a motion to nominate Tim Lockwood for membership to fill the current vacancy on CSB (Shari Weiss)

✓ Motion made by ReBecca Smith to nominate Tim Lockwood as member of the CSB, seconded by Leslie Wilkins – no other nominations were brought forward – members voted unanimously to approve nomination – Resolution will be brought to the full County Legislature for final approval

Don Noble offered his assistance as interim Vice Chair of CSB until the CSB Organizational meeting election of officers in January, 2020 – Tiffanie thanked him for his support and offer

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**Agenda Item:**                    Adjourn                    Chair, Tiffanie Parker asked for a motion to adjourn meeting

✓ Motion by ReBecca Smith – meeting ended at 4:05 p.m.

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**NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 26, 2019 – ROOM 302 OF THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING**  
**\*\*Electronic Packets of approved minutes and Director’s Report available upon request\*\***  
Minutes and notes submitted by Gail L. Spitzer  
Inquires may be made to:  
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