

Community Services Board
April 20, 2022

Present: Lori M., Michele J., Jennifer E., Susan B., Dr. Dascalu, Anthony Alvernaz, Bailey J., Lori M., Leisa A., Rebecca R., Ellen T., Brian H.

Excused: Joe C., Sean E., Rene S.

Absent: Rosemary A., Dr. Pavillard

Guests: David Andreine

Minutes: Minutes approved.

Substance Abuse Committee: Jennifer

- **Meth use:** There was a discussion in the committee meeting about meth use continuing to rise. It was noted that many seem to be new users as they are discovering it is cheaper to purchase. Chief Alvernaz noted that the Elmira Police department has responded to 22 overdoses year to date. Recently, within the last six months to a year, there has been an increase in fentanyl being mixed in with the Meth, to the surprise of those using the Meth. They thought they were getting the Meth from someone they trusted. Brian looked up the numbers of those needing Narcan and he stated that at this time of the year in 2019 we had 20 overdoses. In 2020, we had 30 overdoses, and in 2021 we had 20 overdoses.
- **Local Plan:** Reviewed the priorities for the plan, and Brian will cover later.

Mental Health Committee: Brian on behalf of Lori

- **Suicide Prevention:** Things are falling into place for the May 7th walk. The Journey center will be running it for the first time, and Brian has been helping to support them. There are approximately 375 individuals registered, which is dramatically down from pre-COVID times. There is still time to register as it is open until April 22nd at noon.
- **Local Plan:** Priorities reviewed.
- **St. Joe's:** The healthcare system has hired Kyle Drehmer to be the new director of the Behavioral Science Unit (BSU) and New Dawn. He and Brian have met to discuss community needs and possible mechanisms for addressing unmet needs.
- **EPC:** The Youth crisis respite is back open after being closed during COVID.

Developmental Disability Committee: Renee on behalf of Leisa's

- **Local Plan:** Priorities discussed and approved.

Nominating Committee: Jennifer

- No report as all positions are filled.

Director's Report: Brian

- **Family Services presentation:** Looking for feedback. Not sure this is well thought out as it will likely pull youth from the successful school-based program, and lose that funding associated with such. Still not sure it is actually needed as the model is designed, and OMH is concerned that it is not up and running yet as funding was secured a couple of years ago.
- **Homeless Housing:** Catholic Charities has decided that they no longer wish to provide overnight homeless housing services. Brian and his staff have communicated with them several times a week since February, and as a result have issued an RFP. Catholic Charities would like to provide a day center, but there is no additional funding for such, and Brian is not supportive of splitting up the service provision. We are looking at a warming station dormitory model instead of the shelter setting, and that had been in discussion for many months.
- **Documents from County Legal Department:** Please make sure as CSB members that you complete the forms required by the Legal Department.
- **Local Plan:** Reviewed the priorities for the plan, and Brian will cover later. noted that even though the on-line system is not ready to enter all of this information due to revisions occurring, the committee has ranked the following issues.
 - **Housing:** With a need for supportive apartments, a possible second half-way house and a need to address the number of addicts who are homeless. We will also be adding objectives around medication management in homeless housing and a step down from inpatient care, a review of respite options and a need for transitions to a less supported level of housing supports.
 - **Work Force:** All three committees concluded that this needs to be a priority with objectives related to loan forgiveness, college reimbursement, finding qualified individuals and promoting the healthcare field.
 - **Access to address urgent needs:** Will have objectives to address waitlists, length of stays in programs, and how to enhance collaboration in crisis situations. This includes respite, medication management for individuals with developmental disabilities in crisis beyond the limitations of CISDD.

- **Youth Services:** Will be developing approaches to appropriately serve youth with cross systems needs, training staff to specialize with this population, and reconsider a recovery school for youth with an addiction.
- **Overdose Prevention:** Will continue to enhance opportunities for connecting individuals to services following an overdose. How to build peer engagement into the service array, and track data from the Emergency Room.

All three committees also reviewed last year's plan and opted not to remove any objectives or priorities

Sharing by others:

- Nothing to share.

Next Meeting- **April 20, 2022**