Substance Abuse Committee  
November 15, 2017


Excused:  Erin Doyle

Minutes:

Approved without changes

Director of Community Services Report – Brian Hart

- **Opioid Coalition Update**: The fourth meeting will be held here on Monday November 20, 2017 at 10:00am in room 322. In this meeting we will formalize the name of the coalition, which will be SARA – Substance Abuse Regional Alliance. Attendance for these meetings has been good. There has been consistent attendance from Guthrie, Bradford County PA Government, Chemung County agencies, Law Enforcement, News Media, and reps from other Counties in our region. A proposal went to the County Legislatures to approve funding for the development of an App for smart phones, to use this App for a vast messaging push, and develop a messaging campaign with TV ads and social media. To get all this done we have contracted with the iMatter Foundation. The Coalition can't do it all; there are other resources out there to tap into. Monroe County has a mature coalition that we are keeping in contact with for ideas and resources. Moving forward we hope our coalition will increase the coordination of services in the community. At the Country Club there will be a Resident/Medical Student Health Fair. They will listen to patients talk about their own personal recovery. Law Enforcement (Sheriff Department) and a DEA Agent will also be presenters. The idea is for young doctors to be more comfortable working with patients who are addicted. On November 30, 2017, they should be receiving the data waivers to start prescribing suboxone.

- **Reversing the Stigma**: Attempting to organize a public viewing of this documentary at the Journey Center on Tuesday November 28, 2017 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Still trying to finalize the panel, if unable to schedule for that date, it will be rescheduled for a future date. You can go to the website and see the trailer. OASAS shows this documentary all over the state. It profiles several people in various stages of recovery, who share their stories and experiences.

- **Tompkins Open Access**: The Alcohol and Drug Council of Tompkins County have opened an Open Access site about a ½ mile from the hospital. It is not currently open 24 hours, but hopes to be in the future. They are following the same concept as the one that was started in Rochester. It is not licensed, but the specific agency that is scheduled to be there that day will bring their license with them. Use of the site has been slow, so not sure if it will work in a rural community. They Law Enforcement Diversion Plan, that in some cases the
police can recommend and individual seek treatment to avoid being arrested. There was discussion on the difficulty of finding 24 hour staffing for one of these sites in a rural community. Maybe having the site at a halfway or residential house could help cover the hours? Maybe having a site at a Hospital or would that be a JACHO issue?

- **BHCC:** Behavioral Health Care Collaborative – Has anyone been approached? I believe Trinity has been approached. Hospitals are not allowed to belong to this type of network. Clinics are encouraged to belong to the network. There are three different networks, one is Catholic Charities and Hillside, one is Trinity/FLACRA, and one is a group of co-directors. They want agencies to be prepared for VBP. If you are not a network provider they are asking you sign an attestation. You really need to read it and know if you want to sign it or not. Office of the Aging has been approached and did not sign one. Why are they approaching agencies to sign? They are organizing Behavioral Health so it is prepared for VBP. This is another pot of money to get Behavioral Health to be part of the table and with Managed Care. Can a local government that doesn’t have a clinic be an affiliate? What are the advantages and disadvantages? There are always debates if we should belong to this one or that one. Suggestion was to network with one and be affiliated with all.

**Sharing by Community Members**

- **iMatter:** In the process of acquiring and opening a woman’s house. We are in moving forward as there is a huge need in the community. The men’s house is doing very well. There are 8 beds and if a pending referral goes through, the house will officially be full. The three funding sources are self-pay, Social Security, and DSS. A year ago, everyone in the house was either SSA or DSS, now 5 out of the 7 are working. All are in treatment and some have graduated to aftercare. These men came from a halfway house and do their own medications, cooking, cleaning etc. This is a safe place where there are no drugs or illegal activity. We can’t wait for the state to give out money for housing; we need to open more unlicensed housing.

- **Trinity Club House:** The OASAS Commissioner came down from Albany to do the official grand opening of the Club House. In the morning they have an “invite only” forum. This included breakfast and the 1½ to hour forum was a group of people from the community as well as young people. It was enlightening, not a lot of ideas, but the young people did feel heard. The ribbon cutting had nice coverage. Staff from OASAS showed up as well as Chemung County Executive Thomas Santulli. The Club House is located at the EOP building. The Club House is going well and kids are attending. This is for youth at risk, who may be using or in recovery, or have family member who is using or in recovery. Several at risk youth attended the Halloween Party at the Club House. On average there are about 15 kids attending daily. While the kids are there they have a structured based program. They have a group time in which they discuss drug use and focus on sports and education.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2017.