Substance Abuse Committee  
December 18, 2019  

Present: Brian Hart, Glenn Jarvis, Erin Doyle, Desiree Rogers, Lisa Willson, Victoria Wagner  

Excused: Linda Waite, Jennifer Emery  

Minutes:  

Approved without changes.  

Director of Community Services Report – Brian Hart  

- **New Field Office Director:** Donna Stott is retiring and they have named Colleen Manns as the New Director. Donna has not been very visual or vocal lately. Colleen is very knowledgeable and knows us, so this will be a good thing for us. Do not know who will be in placed in Colleen’s old position.  

- **OASAS – New Hope New Life Video Series:** I keep seeing commercials about these New Hope New Life video that are on the website. One of the committee members said they saw one of the videos and it looked good, and anyone can watch it online. No other significant changes from Albany.  

- **Methadone Clinic:** Brian has been informed that the Methadone Clinic continues to grow, and it’s concerning. He also heard that they are going to do these clinics at every prison across NYS. Brian has an upcoming meeting with OASAS and he will update once he receives any information from this meeting. OASAS continues rolling things out at the last second.  

- **Trinity Update:** Things are moving slowly to transition to the building by the Dandy. They are looking at proposing a Methadone Clinic there. Brian wants to remind everyone that any new proposal of add services need to be presented to these committees and the CSB. You also need to establish a need. In this case Doctors need to show Suboxone use, you can’t just go by the number of those who are addicted. Not sure if there are enough people in Chemung County, might have to look regionally. The new location by the Dandy might not be popular due to the fact it is so close to an elementary school. There is a lot of planning that goes into this and it is not a simple process.  

- **Bail Reform:** The question was asked if anyone had any concerns about the new Bail Reform that goes into effect January 1, 2020. A committee member stated that Steuben County has already closed 2 pods in their jail. Have not heard of any pod closures in the Chemung County Jail. There is a concern about housing as approximately 30 will be released from the Chemung County Jail and how many of those will have an immediate need for housing? There is no plan to expand the homeless shelter. They will be sending a plan to the State to open up an additional warming station. Eventually those individuals who have been charges and found guilty will be sentenced and the Jails will fill
back up. The question was asked what does the State think about how this will
effect Specialty Courts. A committee member stated that the Judge says it is
not going effect our Drug Court. Arrests in general will drop, because they can’t
put them in jail, and because the DA will only have a 30 day window to present
the case in court. Tioga County is hiring another ADA (Attorney) to help with
the added work load of churning the cases so quickly. The challenge for the
DA’s office is that it takes time to prepare a case for court. The only good news
in this Bail Reform is that some levels will not be included in this (Murder and
Felonies). A committee member stated that in NYC if you are a “no-show” for
Drug Court Assessment, it is counted as 3 missed court appearances and they
send out a warrant for your arrest. This is not the law, and they don’t know how
they are getting away with it. It was mentioned that a solution to this Bail A
committee member asked what was going to happen with Project for Bail?
They could redesign service. Chemung County has been diligent in preparing
for Bail Reform.

Sharing by Community Members

➢ Nothing to Share.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2020.