Present:  Brian Hart, Nicholas Moffe, Glenn Jarvis, Bailey O’Rourke, Erin Doyle
Desiree Rogers, Katie Hicks, Jennifer Emery, Mary Vosburg, Brandon Beuter

Excused:  David Andriene

Minutes:

Approved without changes.

Director of Community Services Report – Brian Hart

- **Vaccine Plan:** Brian had a phone conference with OMH in Albany and they still have no idea how much of the vaccine they will receive. Some of the debate was focused on who will receive the vaccine first. A priority for them are the staff who are working in the licensed programs and the people that they serve. OASAS said their top priorities are hospital programs, inpatient rehabs, methadone programs, and the staff and individuals they serve. They are in the Phase 1-B category, and there is no date range for this category. The phases and categories are how they are prioritizing. Phase 1-A category is for hospitals and nursing homes, focusing on the individuals who are working with high-risk patients and the actual patients. Brian asked if any of their agencies would want to be a vaccination site. Family Services received an email about being a designated site. They have requested more information. Brian stated he presumed that they would have to have nurses on site and a prescriber. New Dawn stated that they would have to have a special refrigeration unit. They have complied a list of what staff at New Dawn would be interested in the vaccine and it is about 60/40 in favor of receiving the vaccine. Brian stated that this creates an artificial sense of security, where those who receive the vaccine might not be as diligent with Covid-19 protocol (wearing PPE, hand washing/hand sanitizer, and social distancing). At St. Joe’s, frontline workers will receive the vaccine first and then only long term residents/patients. It was mentioned that they might see those who initially did not get the vaccine, change their mind when they see that those who received it have had no issues.

- **Meeting Frequency:** Brian proposed that this Committee move to meet every other month, instead of every month. He stated that due to Covid-19 there really has not been many issues to discuss. He stated that once we get through Covid-19, we could always change back to a monthly meeting if issues start to present themselves. Committee members agreed and no one opposed. The Committee will meet on even months starting with February 17, 2021 at 9:00am.

- **New Dawn - Vivitrol:** Dr. Foster has to administer, and five patients have received their first shot of Vivitrol. They then will go out to the community and connect with either Trinity or other clinic from the County in which they live in, to
receive their second shot. Each patient receives their initial shot 7 to 14 days prior to being discharged. Brian asked if the individuals have had any issues connecting with Trinity. The answer is no, three out of the five are working with Trinity, and the other two went back to the Counties in which they live and made connections to receive service.

- **SARA Update**: Our County continues to be relatively low in terms of reversals with Narcan use. We are doing tremendously well with overdoses. As of 12/7/2020, there have been ninety-five reversals for the year, one fatality (we do not know the number of fatalities that occur in the hospital). Three of the overdoses are documented as suicide attempts. For the first time in our County, we had a 15-year-old overdose. As for locations of where they are occurring, it seems like most are in hotel rooms/parking lots, and retail parking lots. The overdoses in the prisons are way down. The coalition in Bradford County is alive and well, and they are doing a lot of work with Penn State University. The Drug Free Coalition that Erin runs is doing well.

- **Fidelis insurance**: Fidelis is eliminating Pharmacy benefits at Walgreens and CVS as of January 1, 2021. Individuals who have Managed Care Medicaid will have significant issues. It will be challenging to switch to another pharmacy. Individuals will need to contact their provider(s) to have all of their prescriptions transferred to another pharmacy. A committee member stated that it is very unfortunate that this is happening with it so close to a holiday. It does not give much time for them to get things switched over.

A committee member asked Brian if he has more information on the merger of OASAS and OMH. Brian stated that he did not have any new information. If they actually do go through with it, the first thing they would be working on is bringing things together that will not have union complications. The could also do a simple item such as a name change. The second item they would work on is merging the regulations as they each have very different regulations and CMS would have to bring them together. A total merge to properly align could take four to five years.

**Sharing by Community Members**

- **AIM** – Brian Beuter who provides PEERS services at AIM has been working on a project in Steuben County using ODMAP. He has been working with Trinity and Friends of Recovery as well as other grass root coalitions with more to come. He has also been working with 911, the Health Department, and the R2SAY Network. They are working on doing some different things for those individuals who do not do well with 12 step programs. ODMAP gives him the general area of the location where someone has overdosed. He will go to that area by himself and at times with the sheriff department and canvass the area talking to individuals and trying to find the individual. He stated that it has been working great so far. The question was asked if he knew for sure there was an OD in the area he is canvassing or is he cold calling. He said generally he has information on the location within a house away. He introduces himself and starts dialog with those in the area. This has given him the opportunity to
gather enough information to know what neighbors where there are issues. He then puts fliers out around the neighborhood. A committee member asked what the end game is for this program, engagement, treatment? He stated yes, to encourage engagement and treatment. He started this project in May, and then because of COVID-19 there was a lapse. The last 2 months he has six engagements. He wants to plant the seed, and give information to individuals so they can make a decision. Brain Hart suggested that he connect with the Steuben County CRISIS program, so that he could go with them, as they would have the name of the person and the exact location of the overdose. This would allow you to respond in a short period of time, so that you can assist in going with the individual to the hospital. He stated that due to COVID-19 they ER will not allow him to go in with the individuals. He stated that the State Police are usually really good about putting information into ODMAP within 15 minutes of the occurrence, but AMR do a lot of “dumps” (entering in several into ODMAP all at once that happened within the last week. He stated he is trying to work out the kinks to help these individuals.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2021