Mental Health Sub-Committee  
November 21, 2018

Present: Brian Hart, Tiffany Bloss, Leeah Fazzary, Dina O'Herron, Shannon Oakes, Lisa Daley

Excused: Kellie Traugott-Knoll, Tarry Jochem, Rebecca Robertshaw, Lois Bocchicchio, Marilyn Cristofaro,

Minutes:
Approved without changes

Introductions:

Suicide Prevention Update—Shannon Oakes:

- **ASIST Training:** Shannon did the ASIST training in Allegany County (2 Full Days) in October. She also did an ASIST training here in the DSS/HRC building on November 7th and 8th (2 Full Days). Each class has to have a minimum of 10 people in order for it to count. You can receive 15 CEU’s for taking this training.

- **SafeTALK:** A safeTALK training was incorporated with the SafeTALK T4T training last month. There have been 3 trainings this fall. People have been turned away from each of them. Those who have been turned away are put on a list for the next available training. There has been another training set up here at the DSS/HRC building in room 322 on December 20, 2018 at 1:00pm. Each class has to have a minimum of 10 people in order for it to count. Social workers can receive 3 CEU’s for taking this training. Trinity will be doing a training for the Peer staff in January.

- **Signs of Suicide (SOS):** This program is for middle/high school students. Shannon has done 2 trainings in Elmira City School District, and 2 trainings in the Waverly School District.

- **Suicide Safety for Teachers:** This was done for Elmira City School District staff at their Conference Day in October. Shannon will be doing another training next week for Waverly School District that will start at 3pm. Will have to see how many attend as it is optional but they are encouraged to attend.

- **International Suicide Survivor’s Day:** It was held Saturday November 17, 2018. Shannon partnered with Care First in Steuben County. Family Services, and Steuben/Chemung Support Groups in attendance. We gave some money for support of the event. There were 16 participants and guest speakers. They also make wind chimes in remembrance.
Committee News: “TO ALL AGENCIES” - The Suicide Prevention Committee is in real need for Community Members. For the last few months only Shannon and one other member has shown for the monthly meetings. The meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10:30am here at the DSS/HRC building in room 336. The meetings generally last about an hour. In the past we have had individuals from Catholic Charities, EPC, and Glove House. Please spread the word and come join us!!! The members generally volunteer at the Walk-A-Mile Event and T-Shirt Day. They have also assisted at Health Fairs in the community, Survivor’s Day, and planting flowers in Hope Garden at Eldridge Park. Shannon passed out “Coping Cards” that they had printed to hand out. The Cards have the CRISIS Test Line, the Chemung County Crisis Program phone number, and the National Hotline phone number.

Director of Community Services report - Brian Hart:

Core Presentation Update: This is part of TEACH and NYS OMH came to Arnot to and allowed ER physicians as well as Primary physicians. They received 5 hours of CEU credits. This presentation teaches the physicians about Mental Health in adolescent and young children. It was well attended with 14 Arnot & Guthrie physicians. They are in negotiations to have NYS OMH come and do a Full (All Day) TEACH presentation. By doing this, those physicians who attend, the Full TEACH training/presentation will have an opportunity to have ongoing consultations. The cost of TEACH is $50,000.00, so hopefully Arnot and Guthrie will use their DISRUP money to pay for the training. This training will help avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and teach physicians how to treat adolescents and young children appropriately. Out of all the pediatricians in the area, there is only one that has been trained. Brian Hart has spent 4 years talking to OMH to get ER physicians involved in TEACH.

BREATH Proposal: Because the Geriatric NP program is going away as they realized it is a billable service, there is a need to reassign the funding. The BREATH program would provide respite for mental health issues. It would be available to CRISIS to see if an individual needed respite. Arbor would provide the housing. It would be for adults who do not need hospitalization, but need a temporary short term change of environment, and a support system.

Ombudsman Program: This is a new OMH & OASAS regulation. They will assist individuals with mental health and substance abuse, and connect them with health insurance.

Breath-Body-Mind in Horseheads School District: A grant has been proposed to the Community Foundation for the Horseheads School District to train their staff. The staff will then be able to use what they have learned on the children in the district. The staff can then show the children how to self-regulate by using breathing techniques, meditation, and yoga.
Governors Report: The Task Force on Suicide Prevention report has been issued to the Governor and they are awaiting final approval, but it names Chemung County specifically in a couple of instances as providing an approach worth replicating.

Home Based Community Services: Brian has been having some conversations with OMH over this issue. Peer empowerment has the highest demand and is the least provided. Three or Four months ago OMH contacted a provider out of Chemung County to provide this service instead of using someone in the county. Brian Hart spoke with OMH and resolved the issue. Two weeks later the issue was brought up again. Family Services is transitioning staff. OMH received a complaint that someone was not receiving service and they wanted to add Pathways and Catholic Charities. Brian Hart spoke to the field office to explain that Family Services has met with the 7 cases and resolved the issue. OMH is not calling Brian Hart or the agency to resolve, they are just inviting agencies to apply, then checking with the county to determine the need.

Peers have to be certifiable, so how are they being certified. To be credentialed to provide the service they have to have 2000 hours of training. There are no guidelines as to the maximum about of caseloads per Peer. Those who are eligible for this service must be HARP eligible and receive Health Home Care Management.

Sharing by Community Members:

EPC – The Executive Director position is still in limbo. There has been no word as to when there will be interviews.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2018.