Mental Health Sub-Committee
March 21, 2018

Present: Brian Hart, Shannon Oakes, April O’Laughlin, Cynthia Cuyle, Rebecca Robertshaw, Tiffany Bloss, Katie Allard, Beth Beckwith, Marilyn Cristofaro, Lisa Daley, Annheleen Smith, Brittany Clark, Joyce Karl

Excused: David McCausland,

Minutes:
Approved without changes

Introductions:

Suicide Prevention Update–Shannon Oakes:

- **Walk A Mile Event:** Saturday May 5, 2018 at Eldridge Park. There is already a couple hundred people registered, and that will rapidly increase next month, as we get closer to the event. Remember that we give out trophies to the largest teams. There will be raffles for prizes (usually between 30 to 40) and tickets will be available to sell in April. Please contact Shannon if you want to sell any tickets. Vitamin L is returning this year and we have the new canopies to utilize. We need volunteers to make this event happen. Assistance is still needed on t-shirt day, Thursday May 3, 2018 at the YWCA 7:30am to 7:00pm. There will be a T-Shirt folding day here at the DSS/HRC building. (**Monday April 9th 2018 10:30am to 2:30pm in room 319***** Your help would be appreciated). Meeting with Wink 106 on advertising for the event on 4 stations. Will also be reaching out to a lot of the teams from last year to remind them to register.

- **Website:** [www.walkamile.net](http://www.walkamile.net) – It is up and running and you can register online for the Walk-A-Mile Event.

- **ASIST Training:** The two days of training was done here in the DSS/HRC building at the beginning of March. Waverly School District contacted Shannon looking for resources. They are writing grants, but they need to connect and network to know what is already available in the community. Leprino Foods has a leadership grant with suicide prevention.

- **Signs of Suicide (SOS) Training:** Will be at the Elmira High School today during the Health Class. Edison High School did SOS but the Health Teacher takes the lead on it.

- **Suicide Safety for Teachers:** The Superintendent Day Training On March 9th at Elmira City School District was well received. Will repeat the training in other buildings during the summer months.
- **Youth Mental Health First Aid Training:** The two days of training was done here at the DSS/HRC building at the end of February.

- **SafeTalk:** Brian will be doing this training in Owego (Tioga County) on April 12th 2018.

- **Committee News:** Working on the Walk-a-Mile event.

**Director of Community Services report - Brian Hart:**

- **Governor’s Suicide Prevention Task Force Update:** The final meeting keeps getting pushed out, as they need to meet one last time to finalize what is being sent to the Governor. Chemung County is being used as a Resource as they keep asking questions about the things occurring within the County.

- **5.07 Plan:** With the Mental Health Law it is required for every County to submit a plan from the three separate committees (Substance Abuse/Developmental Disabilities/Mental Health). Once each committee votes on what they would like in the 2018 plan, then it is sent to the CSB who will vote to accept the plan and send it to the State. It is the committee’s due diligence at working toward changes in our community. Looking at licensed services and unmet needs. Next month the committee will vote to approve what will be sent to the CSB. These are the top 5 Priorities that the committee has come up with:

1. Decreasing caseloads in clinics – more staff is needed, and they need to have a discharge plan from the start. Proactive discharge planning for cases in a clinic, as it should be ongoing only if it is a medical necessity. An individual should not be in care for more than 1 ½ years. They need to be referred to more community supports and more collaboration needs to be done with community supports. If an agency is seeking additional staff, OASAS has to give permission. But if they are hired per diem, they do not need to have permission. Individuals need to be evaluated to see if they need therapy. If they don’t need it, then what do they need? Productivity standards might help clinicians. They need to evaluate productivity by looking at quality vs. quantity. Look at evaluating if the PCP can possibly prescribe.

2. Community triage to avoid the ER – this relates to last year. Explore the possibility of additional children’s beds. Open up an acute children’s unit – OASAS detox. There is a DISRIP issue with people not being seen within 7 days or within 30 days of their release. Chemung County has the worst numbers. The moment an individual enters the ER the hospital has to treat them. If they have other supports and are they are entering the ER then they are making that choice. Local police bring individuals right to the ER. The police utilize pick-up orders. EPD has the biggest numbers of pick up orders. Family Services needs to meet with the police to brainstorm issues. The EPD do not want to deal or wait, they just send them to the ER. Can Social Workers work within the police department? How can they afford it?
The police need to call crisis to help make determinations. If there is a pick-up order then that needs to be done for mental duress. Can we change law enforcement? We need to ensure that we have law enforcement meetings at meet on a quarterly basis. Those involved in those meetings are law enforcement/crisis/Brian Hart. We also need to address college referrals and Glove House evaluations.

3. Pediatric Psychiatry – Having a hard time finding one in the community. Maybe doing some Tele’ Psychiatry, and using federal and state funding/grants for recruitment.

4. Enhanced ER Assessments – There are some training issues for psychiatrists. Children go to the hospital, St. Joseph’s evaluates and are in the ER for 2-3 days because there are no beds available. Then once a bed opens they re-evaluate and the child no longer is in need. They need to know what is available in the community. This is a huge training opportunity. We need to address training needs and assure access to community resources if the child is not admitted. Maybe do a flow chart for the Doctors and Judges so they have knowledge of all the community resources.

5. Enhanced Collaboration – We need to support PCP referrals to Home Health Care Management. This is being worked on by FLLP’s partners. Maybe do agency health fairs, or lunch & learns to do some networking to see what is available in the community agencies. There would be a need to identify a time to coordinate, so we know who people are and modify agendas. Frontline workers know each other and come up with some ideas. Even crossing over with other Counties.

There is an item that did not make the list:

1. Mental Health Housing – There are individuals who need assistance with medication. There is a need for licensed supportive housing, as there is no back door. We need permanent affordable housing and have services brought to them. There are individuals who are discharged and have no housing, so they go to the shelter, then are re-admitted, and the cycle continues. OMH will not build another home. Catholic Charities and Trinity are collaborating on mixed housing.

There will be a formal vote at the April meeting.

Sharing by Community Members:

➢ No Information was shared.

 odomal The next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2018.