Mental Health Sub-Committee  
June 20, 2018

**Present:** Brian Hart, Cynthia Cuyle, Marilyn Cristofaro, Lisa Daley, Katie Allard, Lori Murphy, Tiffany Bloss, Shannon Oakes, Sarah Mattison, David McCausland, Taylor Ayres, Melanie Rahr

**Excused:** Lois Bocchicchio, Beth Beckwith, Laurie West, Tara McLaughlin

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**Minutes:**

Approved without changes

**Introductions:**

**Suicide Prevention Update—Brian Hart in Shannon’s absence:**

- **Committee News:** They discussed and received feedback about the walk. They will be doing more advanced planning. They discussed some goals for the summer. In the second week of September it will be Suicide Prevention Week. Suicide Prevention Day is Monday September 10th. They are looking at doing a Safe Talk Training that same week. They are looking into doing a dress down donation that week in which those who participate get a sticker that says “Dress Down for Suicide Prevention”. They are going to set up a table at Wisner Market in advance of Suicide Prevention Week to spread the work about the training.

- **Youth Mental Health First Aid:** They will be doing the training class this summer. This is for anyone who works with youth. It will be 2 half days (4 hours each day). Shannon is trying to set the days with the other trainer, and will let everyone know as soon as the days are finalized.

- **Suicide -The Ripple Effect:** This is a movie about a Golden Gate suicide attempt survivor Kevin Hines. There will be a public showing at the Arnot Mall on August 12th at 3pm. The link is on the website, so please share and promote it. Deb Maxwell from the local Survivor’s Group is heading it.

- **Health Fairs:** Shannon will be participating in the health fairs being held at Arnot and St. Joe’s.

- **Steele Memorial Library:** YWCA will be hosting another Teen Lock Down Night on July 27, 2018 and Shannon will be participating. They make great connections with the kids there. Planned Parenthood and Trinity will also be there.
Director of Community Services report - Brian Hart:

- **Changes at BSU:** Cindy (“CC”) will be leaving the BSU and is going to Elmira High School. Dr. Fidan is leaving in mid-July, and Dr. O will be on his own. They are looking for replacements. At the same time Jeanne Chapple has left as Director of New Dawn and has been replaced by Glenn Jarvis. There may be some struggles during this transition, please try to have some patience.

- **Final Governor’s Task Force Recommendations:** This is the second time we all met as a group of 45 people. Out of all the ideas, 35 were prioritized. One person wanted to know why Chemung County has to be referenced so much, because other counties/programs are equally worthy of noting. OMH had predetermined that three focus groups needed to be addressed at a minimum in the Task Force (Latino population/Veteran population/LGBTQ Population). The Committee has until the end of the month to respond and finalize the proposal that will be presented to the Governor, and the details will follow after the recommendations are formally released. The annual Conference will be in mid-September (20th & 21st) and it will be presented during this time. They need to have Advisory Groups at the local level and use local timely data. We need to bring key partners together such as Crisis/Law Enforcement/Non-Profits/Media etc. There is a need to get more timely data. How do we get information in a timely manner from the medical examiner? This is a slow process as they are inundated with work. We need to have suicide prevention in primary care. It was mentioned that Chemung County should teach other County Directors how we created our system and Brian Hart was asked to present it. We need a universal tracking system that is available to everyone.

- **HARP/HCBS:** Brian reported on a recently issued spreadsheet from OMH indicating that in the 1st qtr. of this year there are 980 HARP eligible individuals with 648 (66%) enrolled) and that means they are all automatically eligible for health homes care management, but only 117 are enrolled in HHCM. Of those 117, 44 are eligible for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS), but in the last 9 months there have only been nine services billed for. Not sure what the barriers are, but suspect that the system is far too complicated in design. Brian suggested that perhaps it would be helpful to have a meeting with the HHCM and HCBS agencies to discuss this further. The system is ever changing and Health Home Care Managers need to know how to get an individual the services they need. Finger Lakes Parent Network lists all the Services they provide.

- **Psych NP Pilot Update:** The OMH field office had proposed an idea about 1 ½ years ago to hire a psychiatric Nurse Practitioner to serve the local nursing homes with a particular focus on residents with a history of state psychiatric care. While the number was known to be small, all were in agreement that the balance of this part time position would be occupied in consulting on other mental health cases at SNFs to assist at keeping them out of the hospital. The majority of the time is being spent on the latter so the field office is having second thoughts about the project. The numbers were low until recently when a CCNF staff member retired and then the individuals were turned over to the Psych NP. They are looking at names to track individuals back to State
Facilities. This is not limited to just nursing homes in Chemung County, as they have expanded to other areas. There is a concern if the Psych NP discontinues that Nursing Homes will not be willing to take patients with psychiatric care. If a Nursing home patients need to go for ECT Treatments, the staff will not be able to accompany them all day long. Can the MIT Team do it? There is a concern that they are not allowed to do it. If they are going to try to keep the Psych NP, they will need to prove the need.

- **Geri-Psych Acute:** Ira Davenport Hospital, as part of the Arnot Healthcare System, is proposing that they submit for the opening of an acute geri-psychiatric unit. Their consultants recommend that this is good way to fill beds and draw down Medicare, but they don’t appear to have surveyed EPC, the BSU or SNF in the region to determine possible referrals that could support the need as the previous proposal from St. Joe’s several years ago was rejected for this very reason.

**Sharing by Community Members:**

- No one had anything they wanted to share.

📍 **The next meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2018.**