Mental Health Sub-Committee
August 15, 2018

Present:  Brian Hart, Shannon Oakes, Marilyn Cristofaro, Tiffany Bloss, Rebecca Robertshaw, Tarry Jochem, Lisa Daley

Excused:  Melanie Rahr, Lois Bocchicchio, David McCausland,

Minutes:
Approved without changes

Introductions:

Suicide Prevention Update—Shannon Oakes:

➢  Committee News: Shannon is on vacation and will update in the August meeting.

➢  “Got 5 to 741-741”: The NYS Office of Mental Health is marketing a new Crisis Text Line. They are encouraging people to type “Got5” to 741-741 to participate in conversation. Congress wants to change the National Suicide Prevention number to a “N11”.

➢  SafeTALK: Training will be held on Thursday September 13, 2018 at 1:00pm to 4:00pm in this building (DSS) in room 322. The training session is full, and Shannon is in the process of setting up another session. She has a list of people (at least 10) that weren’t able to get into this class. Shannon will be setting up at a couple of the Wisner Market days. It was supposed to be to get people to sign up for the training, but now that it is full, she will be giving out handouts to raise awareness. She is working on a Table Top Display.

➢  Suicide Prevention Conference: The annual conference will be held on September 20th and 21st in Albany. Brian handed out information on the Conference. The main topic is the report from the Governor on the recommendations that were given by the Suicide Prevention Task Force.

➢  International Suicide Survivor’s Day: It is the third Saturday in November (11/17/2018). Last year Shannon shared the event with Care First in Steuben County. She is going to talk with them to see if they would like to collaborate again. Shannon would like to see if they would allow her to set up a Life Coach Seminar/Workshop with Annah Elizabeth (www.thefivefacets.com) at the event.

➢  Youth Mental Health First Aid: Need to reschedule this class.
Suicide Safety for Teachers: Contacted several school districts about this training. Elmira City School District did respond, and she is trying to get back in touch with Waverly School District.

NYS Suicide Prevention Conference: It will be held in Albany on September 20th and 21st.

Director of Community Services report - Brian Hart:

Psych NP Pilot Update and Proposal: The OMH Field Office has figured out that this is a billable service. So OMH is going to stop the state aid for this pilot program. The NP that was hired by Family Services will continue to work with individuals at Elcor and CCNF because they can now bill for the service. Family Services can now work with various local Skilled Nursing Facilities to offer this service as a contracted billable service, and will try to make this transition by October 1, 2018 (Depends on the Central Office of OMH). So, we now have just over $100,000 of State Aid that was utilized for this pilot that we can utilized elsewhere. Do we have any unmet needs in the community? Thoughts/Ideas? It has to something in Mental Health that is already not billable. No one had any ideas, so Brian will come up with something, as they need a proposal soon.

Arnot/St. Joe’s Phase PARs: There are two Phase PARs (Prior Approval Request). The first will be submitted to the state to have a full asset merger that would result in the two hospitals being under one National Provider Identification number (NPI). The second will take a couple of years to complete and they already have a Grant to expand the Arnot ER and close the St. Joe’s ER. The expansion to the Arnot ER will have devoted psychiatric beds, but the BSU and New Dawn will stay at St. Joe’s. By doing this it can increase elopements, and there is no legal psychiatric status for them to be on as a transport. This is a very complicated issue and OMH has been unable to offer guidance. Arnot needs to put it writing that they are going to step up. They need to be doing top notch assessments and know the community resources. Things need to change and Brian Hart has told Arnot that it all has to be done in writing before any consideration is done on this PAR. Rochester and the Mid-Hudson area have received a waiver for this, but Brian is not sure how they got it approved. At some point the BSU/New Dawn will move to Arnot, but until then they will need this waiver.

Project TEACH-Maternal: This is a model out of OMH that teaches Pediatric Physicians, how to recognize mental health symptoms in children, and gives them access to consultation services. This is now expanding to the OBGYN Physicians as well to target postpartum depression. Brian has spoken to OMH and they are now going to offer this to ER Physicians in our area. Brian explained how there some children are in ER beds for 3 to 4 days, because there are no beds. OMH is up for the Challenge, and are going to do a survey during their next class offered locally and ask the ER doctors about what they would like to hear more about, and then they will come back with even more information.
SafeTALK T4T: This has been prompted by EPC, as they would like to have a trainer for this. Brian is arranging for a safeTALK train the trainer in October, because we are in need of trainers. The training is for two days and the cost is $300.00. They need 10 people to be trained. When they complete the trainer course and received certification, they can then teach SafeTALK to others which is a 3 hour training and OMH provides the materials. You have to provide three trainings a year or you lose your certification from Living Works. Those who want to do this must have prior ASIST training and provide an Agency Support letter (they need to know that the agency that you work for is behind you and will allow you to teach this class). If you know anyone who wants to do this please have them contact Brian Hart.

Sharing by Community Members:

- Katie Allard (Family Services) and Tara McLaughlin (CIS) will be leaving their positions and will be working in the school districts.
- Family Services is hiring another full time Crisis staff person to work Monday through Friday after hours.

1. The next meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2018.