

MINUTES
Saratoga County Community Services Board Meeting
July 26, 2017

Present: Dr. Edmond Amyot, Ranjit Bhagwat, Ph.D., Joseph W. Carr, Erin Christopher-Sisk, Ph.D., Amy Hughes, Katie Lewis, Ph.D, Maureen Lewsey, Lillian McCarthy, and RJ Stutzmann. Also present: Megan Johnson, LCSW and Carol Lyte from the Mental Health Center.

Absent: James Colamaria, Maria Morris-Groves, and Matthew Sickles.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Amyot called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken. Quorum was established.

III. MINUTES

A motion to accept the minutes from 6/28/17 was made by Ms. Hughes, seconded by Ms. McCarthy. Motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

None present.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT/OLD BUSINESS

A. On-site Pharmacy Services Update- Genoa Pharmacy, a nationwide company that specializes in behavioral health providers, is interested in running an on-site pharmacy at the Center. They currently run one at an OMH program on Long Island. The County Administrator is supportive, and the company is looking into regulations to make sure they will be in compliance.

B. EHR Update- A letter of intent has been sent to purchase the EHR product of Ten Eleven. About half of the County providers use it as well as other providers including PROS and addiction services. Extensive reference checks were performed. The cost is about the same as we are paying for the current EHR, but it will include all the upgrades that are needed. Hoping to solidify the contract soon and be fully functional by the winter.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Enhanced Supported Housing proposal- One of the goals identified in the 2018 Local Services Plan was to expand the types of residential alternatives. To that end, an Enhanced Supported Housing proposal has been submitted by RSS for 15 beds with 3 staff. Albany County has run an ESH program since 1995 that has been very successful. This provides clients with an apartment in the community, paid for

through client funds and program funding, that has 24/7 on-call support, daily support on-site, weekend hours, and more intensive and individualized services. OMH has given a good response but would like to cut the program to 10 beds. The field office has funding questions but is supportive. More to come on this.

- B. July Stakeholders- Assemblymembers Carrie Ann Woerner and Mary Beth Walsh, as well as a representative from Senator Jim Tedisco's office, attended the July stakeholder's meeting. They asked insightful questions regarding access and barriers to treatment. The focus was on addiction and the opioid epidemic. Assemblywoman Woerner has reached out to Dr. Prezioso regarding legislative options. There is legislation in Pennsylvania that would allow hospitals to designate inpatient medical beds to be used as detox beds. The proposed legislation helps remove some regulations and streamline the process so they can change how beds are utilized as needed. She is looking into sponsoring this type of legislation for NY.

Stuart Rosenblatt from New Choice Recovery Center presented on a program they are starting. They received a grant from OASAS to start a mobile outreach and telehelp program for addiction services. Assessments would be done on-site then they would connect that person to the services they need right then. There would be an increase in peer support in communities and telehelp would also be available as needed.

- C. Other- Mr. Stutzmann discussed that TSA may be closing the female beds at Hedgerow House, their chemical dependency residential house and become an all-male facility. OASAS regulations are making it difficult to keep a mixed gender house open. The reasoning behind it is that there is currently a female house open now in Granville, but no male houses. It is unclear whether or not TSA wants to make this a female-only or male-only house.

A motion was made by Ms. Lewsey to have the Community Services Board ask Dr. Prezioso to investigate support to keep the Hedgerow House open. Seconded by Mr. Stutzmann. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for September 27th at 4:00pm.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Hughes, seconded by Ms. McCarthy. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Cari Abatemarco