

DELAWARE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES
ADDICTION SERVICES



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DOUGLAS ELSTON, LCSW-R
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Delaware County Mental Health Committee Meeting

- Regular Meeting Minutes
- Executive Session Minutes
- Draft Minutes
- Approved Minutes

July 15th, 2024

PRESENT: Joe Cetta, Art Merrill, Maya Boukai, Betty Scott, Doug Elston, Sara
Cirba and Deb Mierop
EXCUSED: Wayne Marshfield
GUESTS: JoAnn Miller

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 pm.. by Joe Cetta.

Minutes: The minutes from May 20th, 2024, were reviewed and approved upon

Motion from Art Merrill and seconded by Maya Boukai.

Motion carried by Joe Cetta

Census: Mental Health -- 555

Alcohol & Drug – 120

Supportive Housing – 40

AOT -- 2

Jail Program ADAS - 35

Jail Consults MH – May - 37

June -16

July - 22

Vacancies: We currently have the following vacancies:

Senior Staff Worker

Staff Social Worker

Staff Social Worker – position has been filled; Inda F. starts on 8/5.

CASAC— position has been filled; Amber M. starts on 8/19.

OLD BUSINESS

Building Accessibility:

Stanley Access Technologies came and installed the automatic door openers on the front doors.

Opioid Settlement Fund:

Received two new proposals (FORDO & Probation), will be reviewed at the next Opioid Settlement Committee meeting, as we expect to receive a few more soon. Jessica Vecchione will be presenting the DelCovery App. at the July 24th Board of Supervisors meeting.

Integrated Clinic:

Currently we are reviewing and updating Policies and Procedures that need to be done. MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) Policy is more complex with technical aspects being reviewed, once approved the application will be submitted. Could take 4-6 months for the approval from the state.

NEW BUSINESS

Disaster Mental Health Team:

OMH is continuing to push for development of county response teams that consists of both professional as well as non-licensed individuals. OMH will provide the two full days of training for free this fall: Psychological First Aid (PFA) and Fundamentals of Disaster Mental Health Practice (FDMHP). Doug Elston is communicating with neighboring directors to discuss the possibility of developing a joint cross-county team as Chenango and Otsego Counties are experiencing the same band-with issues (staff vacancies, commute times, training saturation & lack of interest).

County Jail Services:

On-going need for a prescriber to provide inmates with complex mental health and substance abuse issues on medication treatment. Doug has a meeting next week with the jail administrator to discuss. The jail did receive some money from the Opioid Settlement to help with the cost of hiring a medical provider.

Greater Binghamton Health Center (GBHC):

State Psychiatric Hospital announced that they will be opening 25 beds for adult in-patient in 2025.

- Joe mentioned that UHS Delaware Valley in Walton is doing an extensive addition to their building and what the possibility of putting some beds for a CPEP or in-patient might be. Joe will contact Boomer to see about setting up a meeting to discuss it.

BHF Crosswalk:

A client had informed a staff member that they had contacted Mayor Snow about putting a crosswalk in front of the clinic on Delaware Street. Then, he returned their call and stated that it'll be done. Doug plans to reach out to Mayor Snow to confirm this.

Delaware County Fair:

We will be present again this year 8/12-8/17 daily from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sara informed the committee that we will have to give an abundance of comp time to staff if

we must stay until 8:30 daily. Joe and Art both feel if anyone gives staff a hard time to let them know and they'll take care of it.

Fall Recovery Festival:

The clinic is planning on doing a Fall Festival for Recovery, in early October from 12:00-4:00 p.m. Possibly get a few speakers about recovery and have the community enter in some artwork/writing. Joe suggests requesting funding for advertising.

Permission to Upgrade/Create New Positions:

The following permission to upgrade or create new positions were brought in front of the committee and approved:

Motion by Art Merrill seconded by Betty Scott

Motion Carried by Joe Cetta and Maya Boukai

- **Clinical Director of Behavioral Health** – Miguel Martinez's current title is Supervising Senior Social Worker and Debra Mierop's current title is Chemical Dependency Clinic Director.
- **Housekeeper** – On going issues with the county maintenance department.
- **Intake Coordinator** – Currently this position is through RSS, this is an OMH required and funded position. With it being a county position, the clinic will have more say about employ performance.
- **Sr. Addictions Counselor** – Brittany Davis is currently a CASAC, and we would like to move her up to the Senior Addictions Counselor position.

Training:

The following training is being requested to be paid for by funds in the Mental Health budget.

- DBT – 3-day training for Dialectical Behavior Therapy Certification Training for Miguel Martinez and Kirsten VanSlyke for July for \$100 each for August 26th-28th, 2024.

Motion to allow the training by Mays Boukai seconded by Betty Scott

Motion Carried by Joe Cetta and Art Merrill

Threat Assessment Team:

ONC BOCES & DCMO BOCES will be sponsoring the 2024 Regional School Safety Summit on July 23rd at the Oneonta City School District.

Adjournment/Next meeting:

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Joe Cetta and seconded by Art Merrill

Motion carried by Betty Scott and May Boukai.

Meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m. by Joe Cetta.

The next meeting is September 16th, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. at the Behavioral Health Facility.

Submitted by: JoAnn Miller