



**Delaware County Behavioral Health**

243 Delaware Street, Walton, NY 13856

(P)607-832-5888 \* (F)607-832-6081



*Douglas Elston, LCSW-R  
Director of Community Services*

*Sara Cirba, MPA, LCSW  
Deputy Director of Community Services*

**Delaware County  
Mental Health Committee Meeting**

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

**March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**PRESENT: Joe Cetta, Art Merrill, Betty Scott, Maya Boikai, Wayne Marshfield, Doug Elston and Sara Cirba**

**GUESTS: Elizabeth DeFalco and JoAnn Miller**

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

**Minutes:** The minutes from January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, were reviewed and approved upon

**Motion** from Art Merrill and seconded by Maya Boikai.

**Motion carried** by Wayne Marshfield, Betty Scott and Joe Cetta.

Census: Mental Health -- 574

Alcohol & Drug – 157

Supportive Housing – 30

AOT -- 2

Substance Use Jail Program – 31 services for 2025

Mental Health Jail Consults – 66 services for January & February 2025

Current Vacancies:

**Senior Staff Worker (2)** – One staff member changed to a part time position, and we plan to promote within to fill one of the available positions.

**CASAC**

**Nurse Practitioner-Psychiatry**

**Receptionist-** waiting for the eligible list to come out

**Staff Social Worker** – recently received resignation as she prefers to work with Hospice and felt this was a good experience but feels her calling is with Hospice.

**Updates**

Building Complaints – Bugs, have been an issue since fall, Pete from Maintenance put down a non-toxic powder to help control the issue.

Security/Safety – Phones can be used for “panic buttons” the call would go directly to supervising staff. IT would like to have staff sign off that they have received training of when to use the button or when to call 911.



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Sidney Satellite – Doug and Sara met Eric Wilson, Sidney Town Supervisor a few weeks ago to check out a different space at Tri-Town Hospital. They will be changing the space into 2 offices and 1 conference room; a lease should be generated this week. Rent will be around \$800 per month.

730-Restoration – Both expire this year, July and October. Doug will be calling his contact monthly to get an update. Counties are trying to change legislation to put a time limit of 90 days on being restored, as counties cannot afford to pay these amounts.

### **New Business**

Jail Based Services – Currently updating the existing MOU for Mental Health Forensic Social Worker services. Consulting and generating an MOU for the jail for Substance Use and for psychiatric prescriber contracts. The jail has been searching for psychiatric services for several years, this MOU would be for prescriber consultation not prescribing medications and a as needed basis for any inmates that may need. The psychiatrist would either speak provider to provider or the inmate would be brought down to the clinic for a consult. Any psychiatrist services will be billable with re-imburement through the jail. With the new MOU's the clinic hopes to increase group work at the jail for both Mental Health and Substance Use services.

Methadone Treatment – OASAS reported that 54 individuals from Delaware County travel to other parts of the state to receive treatment; Methadone must be given daily. OASAS would like to see treatment within Delaware County; the clinic cannot provide this service. The LGU supports a Mobile Methadone unit that would be able to travel throughout the county.

Transportation Committee – Initiated by Keath Weaver at DSS, Doug as well as Office of the Aging, Veterans Services and Delaware Opportunities will be meeting Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> in Delhi to discuss ideas. Doug has a meeting scheduled with Teresa Finch, owner/operator of TMR Transportation, to explore a contract for on-call services. Doug will also reach out to Jayne Francisco with RSS about the TOPS transportation program.

Disaster Mental Health Planning – On March 11<sup>th</sup>, Doug met with the representatives from OMH DMH, Steve Hood (EMS), Mandy Walsh (Public Health) and Schoharie County EMS Director, MCAT staff and Chenango, Otsego & Schoharie County Directors of Community Services. Doug will review the current Delaware County plan and consult with Steve Hood. The committee will develop a cross- county plan to include an MOU; the plan must be submitted to OMH before the end of 2025.

### **Staff Development**

IMA EHR – Will be down the week of 3/31-4/4 to start the next phase of integration of the MH & SUD records.



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Mandated Reporter Training –DSS is collaborating with DCBH for the training; to be completed my 4/1/2025.

Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Training – All staff will be doing the training either April 1<sup>st</sup> or April 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is grant funded through Westchester Medical Center.

Integrated MH addictions treatment meeting – A training that will give a certificate to staff that complete the training, this will help clinicians that may not have as much experience with the co-occurring population.

Harvard Addiction Conference – The Opioid Committee is interested in sending another group to this year in Boston.

### **Outreach and Engagement**

Thriving Communities – Went well and made connections with other county agencies.

Delaware Opportunities “Collab Connect” – On 2/28/25 this was a tabling event with different organizations within Delaware County.

May is Mental Health Month – The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual event is scheduled for Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, we will be inviting other agencies to have tables. Have activities, food trucks and educational information.

Celebrating Recovery Fall Festival – The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual event is scheduled for Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Adjournment/Next meeting:**

**Motion** to adjourn the meeting by Joe Cetta and seconded by Betty Scott

**Motion carried** by Art Merrill, Wayne Marshfield and Maya Boukai.

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

The next meeting is May19th, 2025, at 12:30 p.m. at the Behavioral Health Facility.

Submitted By: JoAnn Miller