

MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE
CORTLAND COUNTY
COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Draft - Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2021 – 3:00 P.M.
Virtual Meeting – via WebEx

Chair: Elizabeth Larkin

Vice Chair: Ellen Wright

Director: Sharon MacDougall

Members Present: Elizabeth Larkin (Chair), Ellen Wright (Vice Chair), Christopher Driscoll, Christopher Hyde, Susan Thomas and Leslie Wilkins

Members Absent: Christopher Bergene, Julie Partigianoni and Richard Shaw

Others Present: Tim Lockwood and Brittany Van Patten (CCOCC), Michele Gravel (JM Murray), Angela Adams (Liberty – Mobile Crisis Teams), Erika White (Employment Connection – JM Murray), Jordan Perkins (DSS), Lt. David Guerrero (City PD), Jennifer Gleason and Jessica Margets (Family & Children’s Counseling Services), Jamee Sobko, Patty Schaap and intern for Patty, Haile Cutter (Cortland County Department of Mental Health) and Secretary Gail Spitzer

Call to Order: 3:09 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Chair, Elizabeth (Betsy) Larkin called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending

Agenda Item: Introductions – Elizabeth Larkin – new members are absent – will introduce them next month

Agenda Item: Approve Minutes February 8, 2021 Chair, Elizabeth Larkin
Secretary Gail Spitzer – minutes from February 8 are not complete – request vote April, with apologies

Agenda Item: OMH and OASAS Merger Planning

Director Community Services, Sharon MacDougall not able to attend this meeting to discuss/ Chair Elizabeth Larkin – discussion of merging Chemical Dependence and Mental Health Subcommittees on a County level – depending on progress at State level – will look for updates / Leslie Wilkins (F&CCS) – have to submit a plan by April 1, per Lisa Hoeschele (on steering committee representing Cortland County)

Agenda Item: Youth System of Care Patty Schaap and Christopher Driscoll



MH Subcommittee
SOC March 2021.pptx

Elizabeth Larkin asked if the information gathered in the meetings could be shared – Patty will forward agencies in County and services provided

Patty Schaap: three new services found to be lacking (SOC Workgroup) – highest need, complex cases of youth not receiving the services they need – reduce hospitalizations – these were included in the composition of SOC grant / Patty and Sue Thomas (Racker Center Day Treatment) discussed the conflicting information of respite service – lack of service not reported, therefore, could not be included as a needed

Short discussion about a new email communication being set up for the Mobile Crisis Team – not intended to take the place of the crisis line

Agenda Item: Covid 19 – Short and long term effect – Children’s mental health – Vaccinations – availability

Chris Driscoll – by increasing access to vaccinations – the more people vaccinated will allow schools to resume at full capacity again / new information being released about the various long term effects on people who have contracted Covid-19 – more data as science continues to study

Agenda Item: Agency/School Updates and Report

Jamee Sobko (CCDMH – Family Support Services/Respite) – CFTSS (Community & Family Support Services) – collaborating with Department of Social Services: FSS Prevention Services – looking at placement diversion – offering therapeutic services – process moving in a good direction; actually serving children / the other services, CFTSS, Family Respite and Family Peer Support, are not getting referrals – very surprising and frustrating, especially based on community conversations – working diligently to notify sources of these services / DSS project keeping department very busy, addition of two new full time providers working with children and families

Haile Cutter (Intern for Patty Schaap – SPEAK UP Cortland) – Created an information tracking system – based on the goals and objectives of the strategic plans – created and ready capture data over the next four years to show the effectiveness of SPEAKUP Cortland Suicide Prevention Coalition

Jessica Margets (Family & Children’s Counseling Services) – Caseloads are increasing – if a client is having difficulty getting in, contact Mandy Stout or Jessica for assistance

Leslie Wilkins (F&CCS Prevention Program) – Getting ready to roll out an OASAS backed program called SSET – Support for Students Exposed to Trauma – ten sessions offered to middle school students (not currently in crisis) fully staffed and trained ready to begin

Christopher Driscoll (DSS) – beginning to share that he is going to be leaving Cortland County, accepted a position in Tompkins County – last day March 19 – “thanks to everyone here – it’s been great to work with all of you”

Ellen Wright (Vice Chair – MH Subcommittee, Retired MH Nurse) – bringing attention to the article in the Celebrate section of Cortland Standard – theme: breathing exercises for children to help calm – may be useful to providers

Michele Gravel (JM Murray) – provider of OMH Services HCBS transitioning to become CoRE once approved for adults – contract with Cortland County to provide services in ACE program – individual out of work for a long period will be working at JM Murray to begin establishing a work history, 90 day program to help him secure employment elsewhere

Sue Thomas (Racker Center Day Treatment at OCM BOCES) – doing well – majority of students back to school – funding has been approved to continue the after school program for Cortland County students

Angela Adams (Liberty Resources – Mobile Crisis Teams) – very busy

Betsy Larkin (County Clerk and Chair of the MH Subcommittee) – interested in gathering resources intended to help anyone being released from a mental health facility or from a jail – compile names and services; who best to call for what – for housing, employment – will use Patty’s document, once released

Agenda Item: Adjourn

- ✓ Chair Elizabeth Larkin thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m. **Next Regular Meeting – April 12, 2021**

MAY 18, 2021 – 3:00 P.M. JOINT MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARDS AND ALL THREE SUBCOMMITTEES

NO JUNE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

Minutes submitted by Gail L. Spitzer

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Approved minutes available on County Website:
www.Cortland-Co.org/433/Mental-Health