

## ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

January 19, 2010

The St. Lawrence County Community Services Board met on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 in the Human Services Complex, Canton, New York.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Vicki Perrine, Chairperson; Michele Montroy; Lynne Matott; Daphne Pickert; James Westerfield; Marsha Sawyer; Tina Buckley

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Lynette Collins; Carolyn White

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sue Thomas; Sallie Brothers; Tim Cameron; Tom Doyle; Dr. Saleem;

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ruth Ayen, Director of Community Services; Dan Dodge, Deputy Director; Chief John Kaplan; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant.

### CALL TO ORDER

Ms Perrine, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A quorum was not present. The minutes of the December 15, 2009 meeting were not acted upon.

### SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

**Mental Health Subcommittee Reports:** Ms Matott is recommending Colin Lucid as a member of the MH Subcommittee. Michelle Montroy, UH and Stevie Smith, the new TLS director have discussed the long stay supported housing slots and how they could share the long stay supported housing and funds. Stevie Smith, gave a presentation on what the supported housing residence consists of, the process of transition from the SLPC to the housing and eventually to the community. The new TLS community residence housing in Gouverneur should be completed by mid-February and an Open House will be scheduled.

**MRDD Subcommittee Reports:** Ms Pickert reports waiting to hear on pending State reductions. Reginald McDonald is recommended for appointment to the MRDD Subcommittee.

**Alcohol/Substance Abuse Subcommittee:** Ms Sawyer reports no new information on cuts. The Colocation Grant ended effective 12/31/09, but DOSS is funding these two positions in their 2010 budget. Ron Garrow, Chemical Dependency Counselor, gave an overview of the Judicial Diversion Program, including criteria for eligibility and program requirements.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms Ayen reported that the Mental Health Clinic has approval to fill the vacant Supervisor of Expanded Children's Services (ECS), and is still advertising...without any candidates as of yet. Ms Ayen gave updates on the staffing changes and vacancies within the Community Services Department. Mike Polowchena, Director of Chemical Dependency Services is planning to retire April 30, 2010, and this position will need to be filled. The Lois Bell Account is currently at \$51,339.01 as of 12/31/09 (increase of \$8218.23 since 12/31/08). The Board of Legislators has asked all departments to describe their programs and services, state if mandated or non-mandated, number of staff, population being served, costs, reimbursement rates, revenue, and other costs. Community Services will be sharing the Agency Compliance Officer with Public Health. The Agency Compliance Officer may come to the next meeting to provide information to the Board. There is currently one vacancy on the ASA Subcommittee and one on the MH Subcommittee.

## OLD BUSINESS

**2010 Budget Update:** Ms Ayen reported OMRDD agencies will have an additional 10% reduction in State Aid in addition to the 6% reduction in 2009. Per the Governor's report we might see some mandated program relief. OMH is doing some restructuring to reduce costs. The Governor's Executive Budget includes an extension of the exemption from the Social Work licensing requirements for 4 years through June 1, 2014.

**Mental Health Clinic Restructuring Status:** Mr Dodge reported the date for restructuring to take effect is now July 1, 2010. COPS funding was cut 3% in 2009 and the restructuring will be a possible 25% per year.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Resolutions:** Resolutions were unable to be acted upon because of the lack of a quorum. Members present reviewed the redistribution of the long stay supported housing slots and funding between United Helpers and Transitional Living Services.

**Community Services Board:** Ms Ayen asked members to review the Bylaws/Update and let her know if there are any suggestions for changes. Ms Ayen is requesting that agencies submit their Annual Reports by the end of March instead of waiting until June. The Board was in agreement.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Mental Health:** Mr Dodge reports an increase in referrals the last quarter of 2009, also seeing an increase in children referrals.

**BOCES:** Ms Sawyer reported on the Safe Schools/Healthy Schools no cost extensions. The 3 School Counselor positions in the Safe Schools/Healthy Schools Program will not be funded after the end of June. The program is unsustainable even though a valued program.

**Rose Hill:** Ms Buckley reported that 90% of their referrals have multiple co-occurring disorders. In 2009 there were 155 referrals with 133 of those having co-occurring disorders.

**AMI:** Ms Matott reported the topic of their Monday meeting will be "The Different Faces of Depression." She is working on the United Way Grant due 2/2/10. She reports donations from prisons are down this year.

**NYSARC:** Ms Pickert reports the closing of 2 small Day Habilitation Centers due to budget cuts in State Funding. Clients and staff are being relocated. NYSARC is trying to preserve their workforce and shifting individuals within programs to meet their needs.

**United Helpers:** Ms Montroy reports staffing issues with the ACT Team. The RN has left and the doctor is off for 8 weeks or longer. They are working with another Psychiatrist in the interim. They have increased staffing for their Case Management programs.

**CHMC:** Ms Perrine reports Claxton Hepburn Medical Center is in the process of hiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> Psychiatrist. They are also exploring Mental Health Outpatient services and Electro-Convulsive Therapy (ECT).

## ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

**Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.** Next meeting will be February 16, 2010.