

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

June 26, 2009

The St. Lawrence County Community Services Board met on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 in the Human Services Complex, Canton, New York.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicki Perrine, Chair; Tim Cameron; Michele Montroy; Lynne Mattot; Sue Thomas; Marsha Sawyer; Carolyn White.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bonnie Barkley; Sallie Brothers; Lynette Collins; Tom Doyle; Dr. Saleem; Daphne Pickert; James Westerfield.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Ayen, Director of Community Services; Dan Dodge, Deputy Director; Donna Cole, Recording Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms Perrine, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A quorum was not present. The May minutes will be presented at the September meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Mental Health Subcommittee Report: Ms Mattot, Chairperson, reported that the Mental Health Subcommittee met on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 in the Human Services Complex, Canton, NY. At that meeting Dan Dodge, Deputy Director of Community Services, distributed and discussed information regarding the State's proposal to restructure the way outpatient mental health services are delivered and reimbursed. Dr. Ravelo, Canton-Potsdam Hospital Psychiatrist was out of town and unable to attend the June meeting. The Subcommittee hopes to schedule him for the September meeting. Ms Ayen informed Subcommittee members that security personnel and a magnetometer would be implemented at the Human Services Complex on June 15th.

MRDD Subcommittee Report: Ms Ayen reported that the MRDD Subcommittee met on Wednesday, June 3, 2009. At that meeting an update was reviewed on the Respite Survey results. In response to the survey, Subcommittee members discussed ways to increase after school and other recreational programs. Discussions resulted in a number of items to be accomplished over the summer. Subcommittee members also discussed changing the time of subcommittee meetings to either 9:00, 10:00 or 1:00 or remain at 3:00 on the first Wednesday of the month. An email poll will be taken. Provider agencies provided updates.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms Ayen reported that mental health clinic staffing has improved. A children's counselor will begin work on June 1. The Supervisor for Expanded Children's Services position remains vacant. Chemical Dependency is currently at full staff. The Massena clinic has moved to its new

location at Harrowgate Commons. The Ogdensburg renovations at 206 Ford Street are nearly complete. The operating certificate for Ogdensburg is expected soon.

OLD BUSINESS

2009-2010 Budget Implications: There is no new news at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolutions: None

Mental Health Clinic Restructuring/COPS Reductions Overview: Mr. Dodge distributed the Implementation Paper for OMH Mental Health Clinic Restructuring plan. He discussed expected changes that will occur with the multi-year implementation of the plan which will see a $\frac{1}{4}$ reduction of COPS funding over the next 4 years as redesigned Medicaid clinic rates are phased in, beginning January 1, 2010. Over the 4 year period, COPS income will be reduced by 1 million dollars. It is hoped that the new billing rates will cover this loss. These rates will be based on the efficient and economical provision of services to Medicaid clients. COPS reimbursement will be replaced by a fee for service scale based on a Department of Health reimbursement methodology called Ambulatory Patient Groups (APGs). With the implementation of APGs, there will be additional billing codes, breaking down services currently provided into specific billing categories including services previously provided but unable to be billed for. The key to success with the new billing will be to understand services provided, code them properly and capture all possible reimbursable items. The Board will be kept informed as new information becomes available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms Ayen and Karen Easter are working together on organizing a suicide awareness coalition. They are starting with a small group and will bring in other participants as the coalition moves forward to increase awareness and prevention activities.

Ms White visited an outpatient detoxification center in Rochester, NY. She expects to submit a Certificate of Need to OASAS for an outpatient detox at Canton-Potsdam Hospital. She will propose trading one licensed inpatient bed for five or six outpatient slots.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. Next meeting will be September 15.