

## **ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

**September 28, 2010**

The St. Lawrence County Community Services Board met on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 in the Human Services Complex, Canton, New York.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Vicki Perrine, Chairperson; Tina Buckley, Carolyn White, Lynne Matott, Dr. Saleem

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Daphne Pickert, Tom Doyle, Tim Cameron, Sallie Brothers, Sue Thomas, Michele Montroy

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Marsha Sawyer, Lynette Collins, James Westerfield, John Kaplan

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ruth Ayen, Director of Community Services; Dan Dodge, Deputy Director; Stacey Macaulay, prospective MH Subcommittee member; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Perrine, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There was no quorum. The minutes from the June 15, 2010 meeting will approved at the next meeting.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MH:** Mental Health Subcommittee meeting was canceled.

**ASA:** Ms. Ayen introduced Leo Burger, the new Director of Chemical Dependency to members present. Mr. Burger was the Senior Chemical Dependency Counselor at the Ogdensburg/Massena sites. Ms. Ayen shared attending, along with Leo Burger and Dawn Sloan, a training regarding APG's (Ambulatory Patient Grouped). APG's are a part of an overall State goal to transition Medicaid payment for behavioral health outpatient services from the current threshold prices to a cost based pricing structure. OASAS has developed fees to reflect average costs for outpatient services and allows for a range of medically necessary clinic services for clients based on evidence based practices. For our clinic there is a range of 13 services. Each is defined and has a rate calculated for that service. APG's will be phased in over a 4 year period, transitioning the payment system. This is scheduled to take effect 1/1/2011.

Mr. Aldrich shared some of the maintenance being done at the North Country Freedom Homes Halfway Houses in Canton and Madrid. They will be expanding an office, getting new carpeting, a new kitchen, floors, and new bathrooms, and some other minor maintenance. The Canton House is planning a 1600 square foot addition. There were some empty beds for most of the summer, which is typical for this time of year, but not usually this low. NCFH is a "non-smoking" facility and there have been some discharges due to smoking on the facility grounds.

Ms. Buckley reported their 3<sup>rd</sup> party reimbursement being poor this year, due to aftercare programs not being billable. Rose Hill was able to maintain a high census over summer. There were lots of kids with co-occurring disorders. Some staff have had training for co-occurring disorders. Shared they are hoping to get funding for minor maintenance to repair the HVAC system.

Ms. James shared there are currently 68 felonies and 318 misdemeanors. This is down between 80-100, possibly due to a shortage of road patrol. The second part of Leandra's Law went into effect as of August 15, 2010. Anyone receiving a DWI with a conditional license or who is on Probation will have to install the Ignition Interlock System on all vehicles in household. The Ignition Interlock System needs to be downloaded every 30 days. If the client doesn't blow into the device when directed, the lights and horn go off. The Ignition Interlock System has to be installed within 10 days of conviction. There are currently 5 installation places in this area. The cost is about \$3.00 - \$4.00 per day for the basic model, paid by the client. The client is made aware of cost of the Ignition Interlock System and including fees to uninstall the system. There is a 5 page application which can be submitted to the Judge for consideration for a fee waiver. There is no state funding for this mandate. There are 3 classes of Ignition Interlock Systems but for a majority of the cases in St. Lawrence County will have a basic model. The first part of Leandra's Law is to protect children in motor vehicles by increasing criminal penalties for those who are convicted of driving while intoxicated with a child under sixteen in the car. This is now a Class E Felony for each child in the car.

**MRDD:** Ms. Ayen shared the 2011 Priority Outcomes were reviewed. OMRDD has now changed their name to OPWDD (Office for Persons with Developmental Disabilities). This subcommittee will now be OPWDD Subcommittee.

Ms. Pickert shared there is an Autism Awareness walk at the Canton Park on Saturday, September 11, 2010. Registration at 9:00 am, walk begins at 10:00 am. There is also a National Down Syndrome Society Buddy Walk at Potsdam High School ("Stevie's Trail") on Saturday, October 2, 2010. Registration at 1:00 pm, walks begins at 2:00 pm. Ms. Pickert reported the renovations to the Hannawa Falls residence has gone out to bid and should be starting soon. She also shared that summer camp is over and everyone had a good time.

Ms. Montroy shared the Day Habilitation Open House is scheduled for Thursday, September 30, 2010, 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the Cedars Complex. Invitations will be sent to providers.

Ms. Peters reported that the Regional Coordinators will be participating in a video conference at end of month on MSC changes.

Mr. Walker shared that the Voluntary Director's Conference (Video conference) is scheduled for Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 10:00 am.

Ms. Duval shared the legislative changes for Early Intervention. These new requirements will impact how services are provided to children with autism. Some changes for providers include staffing and quality assurance/certification requirements. The next LEICC (Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council) meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 28, 2010. This council meets twice a year.

Ms. Rehse shared that LEAP is working to find ways to deal with the cuts in funding.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Ayen shared the following staffing changes: Supervisor of Expanded Children Services remains vacant and is still being advertised. The Psychiatrist position was filled temporary part time by Dr. Gabriel. Dianne Tournon was hired September 7<sup>th</sup> to fill the Mental Health Counselor position at the jail to replace Susan Riley who retired. Danielle Plumadore was hired as a Licensed Social Worker to work part time with Public Health and Community Services. Ann Waite is the new Corporate Compliance Officer which is also a shared position with Public Health. Leo Burger is the new Director of Chemical Dependency Services. Stephen Ferguson as replaced Leo Burger as the Senior Chemical Dependency Counselor in the Ogdensburg Office. Currently interviewing to fill the

Chemical Dependency Counselor position left vacant by Stephen Ferguson. Colleen Ayers as been hired to fill the Principal Fiscal Officer position effective Oct 18<sup>th</sup>. Sue Denny will transfer from OED on Oct 4<sup>th</sup> to fill the Secretary I position in Special Programs left vacant due to Kim Hayes retiring. Kathy Blair, the Secretary I at Mental Health will be retiring effective October 30<sup>th</sup>. As of August 31, 2010, the Lois Bell account is \$49,776.59. This reflects a loss of \$1635.62 since December 31, 2009.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Clinic Restructuring:** Mr. Dodge shared that OMH still has Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup> as the deadline for clinic restructuring. The Chemical Dependency department will start January, 2011. Mr. Dodge reported the mental health billing system is not prepared and that Medicaid reports not being ready for this billing process. They do assure that they can “go back and change” what needs to be changed. Mr. Dodge will review the new activity codes with his staff members. He believes the Medicaid rate will increase significantly and hopefully help balance some of the loss of COPS money. The sliding scale fee rates will be adjusted in January, 2011.

**Contingency Allocation Plan:** Ms. Ayen shared that the Division of Budget released a FMAP Contingency Allocation Plan effective September 15, 2010. This contingency plan will establish a contingency fund to help reduce the State budget gap. All state agencies are directed to reduce their cash disbursements by 1.1% across the board for all spending between September 16, 2010– March 31, 2011. This includes Mental Hygiene cuts statewide. OMH – 9.2 million in reductions. OPWDD – 17.2 million in reductions and OASAS – 2.6 million in reductions. The local impact of 1.1% reduction means a reduction in local assistance payments, Medicaid funding, and a reduction in State Aid pass through money to agencies. There are a few exemptions, one for example is Federally Qualified Health Center Services.

**Subcommittee Vacancies:** Ms. Ayen announced there is one vacancy on the MH Subcommittee and one vacancy on the OPWDD Subcommittee. Laura Duval from Early Intervention was approved for membership on OPWDD Subcommittee. Stacey Macaulay was present and introduced herself. Stacey is interested in membership on MH Subcommittee. She submitted her Bio Data Sheet.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Annual Staff Recognition Dinner:** Ms. Ayen shared that the Annual Community Services Staff Recognition Dinner is scheduled for Friday, October 15, 2010 at the Best Western in Canton. Invitations were sent to all members.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**AMI:** Ms. Matott shared she is working with Seaway House in Ogdensburg to hold a “Mental Health Awareness Walk” October 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Also planned is an art event at Seaway House on “Stigma.” Rolls of paper will be put on the walls so everyone can write down any stigmas they know. At their Halloween Party on October 29<sup>th</sup>, they will symbolically “stamp it all out - get rid of the stigma,” using shoes dipped in poster paint to physically block out the identified stigma. They are selling raffle tickets for an Amish quilt and a double-bed sized afghan. Drawing will be the last Sunday in October.

## ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

**Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.** Next meeting will be Tuesday, October 19, 2010.