



County of Onondaga
Department of Children & Family Services

Child Welfare • Mental Health Services • Juvenile Justice • Youth Bureau • School Based Initiatives

J. Ryan McMahon II
County Executive

John H. Mulroy Civic Center
421 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, NY 13202

Richard Gasiorowski
Commissioner

Amy Cunningham
Deputy Commissioner

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Jennifer Parmalee
Deputy Commissioner

Community Service Board
Meeting Summary

Participants: Jim Yonai, Sara Boll, Liz Nolan, Beth Hurny, Tania Anderson, James Yonai, Vincent Schmidt, Sarah Merrick

Staff: Novelette Pierce, Jennifer Parmalee, Roshana Daniel

Review December 13, 2021 Meeting Summary approved

Updates:

-Jenn announced that program staff will be coming to the CSB meetings to give updates.

-Jessica Hopps/Martin Brown, ACCESS

With the Medicaid redesign shift system gaps and barriers were prevalent. There was a need to identify community resources and coordinate services for youth and families. ACCESS staff coordinated weekly meetings with community agencies to prevent placement and hospitalization. The meetings have been well received and is used to share new resources and discuss service delivery challenges and find solutions to service gaps.

Vincent mentioned that he could be contacted to answer questions that come up. He also recognize the frustration with OPWDD services. Great scrutiny is taking in the eligibility process as services are lifelong. He also stated the pandemic shook some things up and he is hopeful that new and more efficient strategies will soon emerge.

-Crisis System-The 911 divergent project is moving forward. Contact staff will be located at the 911 call center for the 988 crisis calls. The 988 responses can include mobile crisis units or a joint response with mobile crisis and police. A formalized protocol is being drafted.

Other Business

-Vince Schmidt reported that persons enrolled in OPWDD/CSIDD are eligible for the START Crisis Services. The Resource Center will be in East Syracuse. Primary goals are to keep people in community and prevent/decrease level of crisis. Referral process is still being worked out for the crisis respite resource. April 1st is the tentative start date. A staff representative could be scheduled to present at an upcoming CSB meeting.

With unprecedented staff shortages, creative problem solving is needed. Vince mentioned potential solutions are: an increase in revenue for staff wages, education reimbursement and omit overtime caps. An example of this

creative problem solving is the new training space at the ARC of Onondaga. The location will have a hands on training kitchen for program participants.

-We're Hiring

Candidates for the System of Care Manager, for high needs adults that are dual diagnosed. Latisha Burke will act as the Director of System of Care focusing on the OASAS/OMH/OPWDD populations.

Crisis Systems Director will be hired to oversee emergency referral system that includes the monthly team meetings, CIT coordination, and 911 divergent project.

-Jenn will give a progress report on the Upstate Adolescent/Child Youth Clinic at the next meeting.

Adjourn – Next Meeting: June 6, 2022