

**Joint Mental Health & Addiction Recovery Subcommittee
January 8, 2021**

Present: D. Hamm, L. Bishop, J. Foster, J. Beebe, J. Hill, M. Lukens, M. McLaughlin, A. Reynolds, C. Parot, L. Cole, J. Robertson, J. Darby, S. Herlick, K. Cook, R. Evansky, S. Zayachek, D. Park, H. Sontz, P. Lorette, S. McManus, C. Bearor

Staff: Robert York, Carrie Wright, Crystal Lawrence

Agenda Item		Action
Introductions	Introductions were made and the meeting began at 10:00am.	N/A
Alliance for Positive Health – Sabrina Herlick, Harm Reduction Coordinator	S. Herlick provided us with statistics first; for 2020, there were a total of 92 overdoses; so far for 2021, there have been 11 to date. She continues to collaborate and train with Warren & Washington County Sheriffs, Jail staff, DSS and GFH Staff. She is setting up a Syringe Exchange Kiosk in front of the Warren County Sheriff's Office and can distribute more if needed anywhere in the community. Contact information: sherlick@alliancefph.org 518-419-1578	
Criminal Justice/Community Services Task Force – Carrie Wright, Office of Community Services; Allison Reynolds, Council for Prevention	C. Wright spoke regarding the CJCS Task Force. In the Fall of 2017, our two counties participated in the Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) Workshop. Also, in the Fall of 2018, OCS and WWAMH collaborated to bring together Criminal Justice, LE and community providers to focus on the SIM priorities. Over the past two years the group has transformed and merged with the Hometown vs. Heroin and Addiction Coalition, previously organized by the Council for Prevention. They now have identified 11 Priorities for Change and 4 Workgroups. The PowerPoint slides are attached to the minutes.	
BHSN Outpatient Mental Health Services – Liz Cole, VP of Operations	M. Lukens & E. Cole reported on the transition of outpatient services and the Family Support Services program, previously provided by Glens Falls Hospital. BHSN is now providing these services as of November 9, 2020. They have opened the Center For Wellbeing and the Center for Recovery at 25 Willowbrook Rd., in Queensbury. L. Cole stated they are mostly relying on telehealth however utilizing face-to-face when necessary. They are going into Glens Falls School District at the end of January. Warrensburg School District has reached out with about 20 students. They are building an Open Access model, working with the community and launching school-based clinic programs. Currently they have 7 Clinicians and hope to fill 6+ additional clinician positions; 3 LPN's and are recruiting for a psychiatrist.	
Police Reform and Reinvention Collaboratives	R. York and C. Wright stated in June of 2020 all NYS law enforcement agencies were directed by the Governor to develop community collaboratives to review their policies and procedures, with a focus on the role of police, racial justice issues, mental health and addiction, training needs, etc. C. Wright stated there are links to surveys regarding this information for the public, see below:	

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	<p>https://warrencountyny.gov/sites/default/files/sheriff/Documents/PR%26RCRDR.pdf</p> <p>https://washingtoncountyny.gov/DocumentCenter/View/16077/Governors-Executive-Order-Survey--</p>	
2021 Q1 State Aid 20% withholds	R. York discussed the 4 th Quarter State Aid withhold. The withholds have been about \$160,000 per quarter across the agencies, with residential programs exempted. Most of the agencies have relied on PPE loans, not filling vacancies, and/or a temporary reduction of services.	
OASAS State Opioid Response (SOR) grant updates	S. Mcmanus provided some information about GFH use of SOR grant funds and how GFH was able to retain a person to conduct assessments and serve as a liaison and referral link to treatment providers.	
2021 agenda planning – Peer/Recovery supports, Mobile Crisis/ACT, Housing, TeleHealth	J. Darby said she would be happy to present in April for the Rose House; they are at reduced capacity with only 2 residents at a time permitted, due to COVID-19 precautions.	
Informational items	M. McLaughlin provided us with COVID education https://capitalregionvax.org information on covid vaccination for capital region HUB which included Warren and Washington Counties. S. McManus added that Recovery and Abstinence based clients need to be included in the information process. L. Bishop asked for a timeline for vaccinations; M. McLaughlin stated they are always changing; S. McManus suggested a virtual forum.	
<p>Agency updates:</p> <p>Liberty House</p> <p>Center For Recovery</p> <p>BHSN</p> <p>ACT</p>	<p>The Agencies provided updates.</p> <p>J. Beebe said they are open with reduced capacity maintaining pre vocational and employment programs. Half of her staff has been vaccinated. She managed the 20% withhold with full forgiveness of the PPE Loan. Full support of a Public Forum regarding vaccinations.</p> <p>S. McManus reported BHSN staff have accessed vaccinations in Moreau. Telehealth is going well. In regards to the CJCS Taskforce, she is concerned with increase of LSD in the community and schools.</p> <p>J. Hill stated that from the OMH side of things they have continued seeing clients, trying to build their caseloads and transition clients from GFH.</p> <p>P. Lorette spoke about recent staffing changes; Half her staff has been vaccinated already and the other half has been scheduled. They are at full capacity with a waitlist but are still accepting new referrals.</p>	

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Agency updates: continued Baywood AFPH AHI	<p>J. Foster said that they are utilizing both telehealth and in-person, community based services. All staff has been scheduled for COVID vaccine.</p> <p>S. Herlick added there is free testing for STDs Jan 12th and provided us with the Never Use Alone Hotline: 1-800-997-2280.</p> <p>H. Sontz and K. Cook provided updates; https://ahihealth.org/healthhome/ Children & Adult Health Home Referrals kcook@ahihealth.org if anyone is interested in participating in the telehealth workgroups; Broadband focus is this Tuesday at 1pm, and commercial payer rules, requirements, and processes related to telehealth will be Thursday 1/14 at 1pm. J. Robertson can help with non-Medicaid clients.</p>	
Adjournment and Next Meeting	<i>The meeting adjourned at 11:30am. The next meeting of the Mental Health / Addiction Recovery Subcommittees of the Warren and Washington County Community Services Boards is scheduled for Friday, April 09, 2021, 10a-12 noon via Zoom.</i>	N/A

Minutes respectively submitted by Crystal Lawrence, Secretary to the Boards