

Office of Community Services for Warren and Washington Counties
Warren County Community Services Board
Washington County Community Services Board
April 8, 2021

Warren County

Present: Kim Brayton-Chair, Belinda Bradley, Holly Irion, Amy Molloy, Christian Hanchett (nominee)

Excused: Joan Grishkot-Vice-Chair, Chris Bessen, James Dexter, Cindy Wasson

Washington County

Present: Heather Adams-Wendell-Chair, Tammy DeLorme-Vice Chair, Linda Michaud, Mary Alice Murphy, Lisa Meade (nominee), Adele Potter (nominee)

Excused: Claire Bromley, Michelle Burke

Staff: Harry Carlson, Carrie Wright, Linda Wright, Robert York

Guests: Dean Clickner, Liz Cole, Jennifer Eslick, Davia Gaddy, Paige Lorette, Jason McLaughlin, Mary McLaughlin, Tia Ruggiero, Adrienne Slayko

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action
Regular Meeting – Call to Order	A quorum was confirmed for Washington County and the April 8, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Warren and Washington County Community Services Boards was convened and introductions were made.	K. Brayton-Chair, and H. Adams-Wendell-Chair, presided over the meeting
Meeting Minutes	Minutes of the March 11, 2021 joint regular meeting of the Warren and Washington County Community Services Boards were submitted with the meeting notice and presented for approval.	Warren Co: deferred Washington Co Motion: L. Michaud Second: M. Murphy, T. DeLorme Abstentions: None Motion carried with unanimous vote
New Business: BHSN – request for letters of support	L. Cole provided the Boards with an update on BHSN operations. BHSN is in their fifth month of providing services in our counties. They are addressing the 2-4 week waitlist for mental health outpatient services. Youth and families referred are able to begin receiving Family Support Services right away, while awaiting an initial appointment. There is a high volume of need. They transitioned approximately 2,500 individuals from Glens Falls Hospital outpatient services, plus are seeing a high volume of new referrals. The pandemic has increased need, and this is projected to continue into the summer and fall. They are hiring six new clinicians in the next 4-6 weeks to meet demand. T. Ruggiero presented on the request for letters of support for NYS OMH applications to establish school based satellite clinics in Johnsbury School District and Hudson Falls School District (elementary schools).	Warren Co: deferred Washington Co Motion: T. Delorme Second: M. Murphy Abstentions: None Motion carried with unanimous vote

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<p>Agency Presentation: Parsons Child and Family Center/ Northern Rivers Family Services</p>	<p>J. Eslick and A. Slayko presented on the Northern Rivers Mobile Crisis Team and Paige Lorette presented on their Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team.</p> <p>The ACT team serves individuals age 18 and over with serious mental illness in Warren, Washington and Saratoga Counties. It is a multi-disciplinary team that provides treatment and support in the community to individuals with a high level of need. Participants often have a history of multiple inpatient psychiatric hospitalizations, difficulty managing their mental illness, and previous lack of engagement in traditional outpatient treatment. The ACT team includes Paige as team leader, a psychiatrist (10 hrs wk), a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (20 hrs/wk), an RN, an addiction specialist, a family specialist, a vocational specialist, a program assistant, and a part-time peer specialist. They provide comprehensive clinical treatment, medication management, and supports such as case management, Housing and employment assistance, etc. She described the referral process, which works in coordination with the County SPOA Coordinators. They have continued face-to-face services throughout the pandemic.</p> <p>The Mobile Crisis Team also serves Warren, Washington and Saratoga Counties. They provide services to all ages. Current hours of operation are M-F 7a-11p; weekends 11a-7p. Their phone number is 518-292-5499. Referrals go directly to the team. Crisis phone work starts while the team members are in route to the individual in the community. Goals are to avoid unnecessary emergency room visits and hospitalizations. The team includes licensed, Masters-level clinicians, peer specialists and family specialists. They are working with local law enforcement agencies to see how they can better collaborate. They shared utilization data for the team. They have a diversion rate of approximately 80% of recipients able to safety plan and remain in the community vs. seeking emergency room visit and/or inpatient hospitalization.</p>	

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Informational Items: 2021-22 NYS Budget update	R. York reviewed with the Boards items of interest in the 2021-22 enacted NYS budget, which passed earlier this week. A proposed 5% permanent cut to State Aid was avoided, as was proposed 50% reduction in jail-based addiction services. A proposed consolidation of OMH and OASAS was also rejected. There is a 1% provider COLA approved, as well as full funding for the Warren and Washington Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer-to-Peer program (\$185,000). \$20 million to support OMH existing housing rates; \$5.1 million minimum wage increase; \$1 million for Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for law enforcement. Additional information will be provided, when available.	
2022 Local Services Planning Cycle	R. York stated the Local Services Plan is usually due to NYS on June 1 st ; however the date has been pushed back to July 1 st due to the pandemic. We will incorporate needs related to COVID-19 impacts.	
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. Each agency was to submit their plan by April 1 st . The Office of Community Services and many of our provider agencies have been/will be involved in these efforts.	
Criminal Justice and Community Services Task Force	C. Wright spoke regarding the CJCS Task Force. 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 that have monthly meetings.	
Adjournment and next meeting.	The meeting was adjourned at 4:15pm. The next scheduled meeting of the Community Services Boards will be held on May 13, 2021, via Zoom and YouTube broadcast to the Warren County YouTube channel.	

Minutes respectively submitted by Crystal Mallory, Secretary to the Boards