

Community Services Board

Meeting Notes

Monday – April 21, 2025 – Teams Meeting

Begin: 12:00 PM...Ended at 12:45 PM

Facilitator	Mark Searle, <i>Chair (E)</i>	
Note Taker	Sandi Pierson – Confidential Administrative Assistant	
Attendees	<u>PRESENT:</u> Jeanine Agnolet, <i>Vice Chairperson (V)</i> Brian Altonen (L) Christina Aquino (V) Gary Collins, <i>Recording Secretary (L)</i> Karen Lancaster (L) Alice Linder (V) Nedra Patterson-Thompson (L) Sarah Ugolini (L) Jean-Marie Niebuhr, LCSW-R (L) Commissioner/Director of Community Services V=Member participated virtually L=Member participated Live, In-person	<u>EXCUSED/ABSENT:</u> Hassan Abdul-Malik (E) Barbara Citarella (E) Amanda Dixon (E) <u>GUESTS:</u>

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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PREVIOUS MINUTES

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
3/17/25 Minutes	<i>A motion to accept the March minutes as submitted was made by Sarah Ugolini, seconded by Karen Lancaster, and approved by all Board members present.</i>	

COMMISSIONER'S MONTHLY REPORT

March Monthly Report	The Commissioner's Monthly Reports for March was distributed prior to today's meeting. Jean-Marie shared information on the new Children's Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team that's launching. It'll be run by Astor. This model provides community-based mental health treatment to youth who struggle with traditional service models. Hiring efforts for staff are underway, although they've faced some challenges in recruitment. There will also be a Forensic ACT team coming online, run by RSS. This will be serve people who are coming out of incarceration. There was discussion about the Safe Option Support (SOS) Team, which is a team of outreach workers that find housing for individuals who may have been homeless for a very long time and struggling with mental health issues. OMH recently awarded them beds, but they're regional across the area. Sarah shared that they've had a sporadic presence in the northwest part of the county but because they're stretched so thin and covering such a large area, it's hard for them to establish trust with the community with a more regular presence. Jean-Marie is hopeful that their effectiveness will result in an expansion of their services.	
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TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<i>A motion to accept the Commissioner’s Report as submitted was made by Karen Lancaster, seconded by Gary Collins, and approved by all Board members present.</i>	
ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE		
Community Services Board webpage	The DMH website will now include a page for the Community Services Board. Meeting agendas and approved minutes will be posted there each month with a current roster of members.	
Subcommittee vacancies	There was a brief discussion on sharing the Board/Subcommittee vacancies. It was shared that the communications department planned to push out an announcement for anyone interested with instructions on how to apply. Jean-Marie shared that the County Executive’s office had pushed a social media post regarding the vacancies on the Board and the subcommittees to hopefully fill the rosters.	
Mind and Motion Adventure	Nedra shared that the Mind and Motion Adventure will be held on 5/17 at King Street Park. This is a wellness scavenger hunt and sports experience. This event is open to the community and agencies are welcomed to table.	
SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS		
Addiction & Recovery Dr. Hassan Abdul Malik	<i>Nobody was present to report out.</i>	
Children & Youth Amanda Dixon	<i>The group met and discussed the following:</i> • The group hosted David Garcia from DCFS, and he spoke on the Safe Harbour program and human trafficking. • They also reviewed the LSP briefly and this will continue at the next meeting.	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
IDD Mark Searle (Sandi reported in Mark's absence)	<i>The group met and discussed the following:</i> • They reviewed the LSP during last meeting, looking at the areas that impact them and planning. • They also discussed upcoming events and trainings that might interest the group.	
Mental Health	<i>The group met and discussed the following:</i> • Sgt Montoya plans to attend the next meeting to discuss the Blue Envelope program. • Individual members successfully reached out to the College Consortium and will attend a meeting to present information on the subcommittee and encourage interns to join.	
NEW BUSINESS		
Mental Health Training Needed	Nedra shared that she spoke with Randy Johnson of the Dutchess County Legislature and he'd like to host some community education on warning signs and mental health resources. Jean-Marie shared that she'd already left him a message and she'd be happy to connect him to a DMH director to coordinate that.	
Mental Health Town Halls	Jean-Marie shared that the public forums will be "rebranded" as town halls, and will include County Executive Sue Serino. The hope is that more people will recognize and be interested in a Town Hall and the County Executive's presence will bring a bigger crowd. Eric D'Entrone will be forming an ad hoc committee to start planning and the town halls will take place in the fall.	
OLD BUSINESS		
FOLLOW-UPS		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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