

Mental Hygiene Board

MINUTES

Monday – April 15, 2024 – Teams Meeting

Begin: 12:00 PM...Ended at 12:50 PM

Facilitator	Mark Searle, Chair (E)	
Note Taker	Sandi Pierson – Confidential Administrative Assistant	
Attendees	<u>PRESENT:</u> Hassan Abdul-Malik (L) Jeanine Agnolet, Vice Chairperson (L) Brian Altonen (L) Christina Aquino (V) Barbara Citarella (L) Gary Collins, Recording Secretary (L) Amanda Dixon (V) Karen Lancaster (V) Alice Linder (V) Nedra Patterson-Thompson (L) Sarah Ugolini (L) Jean-Marie Niebuhr, LCSW-R (L) Deputy Commissioner/Director of Community Services V=Member participated virtually L=Member participated Live, In-person	<u>EXCUSED/ABSENT:</u> Cheryl Brady (E) Heather Kunkle (A) Brianna Wasilewski (E) <u>GUESTS:</u>
PREVIOUS MINUTES		
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
3/18/24 Minutes	<i>A motion to accept the March minutes as submitted was made by Dr. Abdul-Malik, seconded by Nedra Patterson-Thompson, and approved by all Board members present.</i>	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S MONTHLY REPORT		
March 2024 Report	The Deputy Commissioner's Monthly Report for March was distributed prior to today's meeting. Jean-Marie started by welcoming the new members of the Board. She shared that she has asked a representative from the Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors to join us to present on the history of Community Services Boards and its purpose in shaping the Local Service Plan. They are tentatively planning to attend the June MHB meeting on 6/17/24 from 12pm-2pm. We can poll the group to see if that's the best date for everyone or if we should consider another time. <i>A motion to accept the March Deputy Commissioner's Reports as submitted was made by Gary Collins, seconded by Alice Linder, and approved by all Board members present.</i>	Sandi will send a meeting poll out to the group to find the best fit for the group on the CLMHD presentation.
ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE		
SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS		
Addiction & Recovery Dr. Hassan Abdul Malik	<i>The group met on April 8th and discussed the following:</i> <i>The group hosted Greg Gallo and he presented on Harm Reduction and the efforts that are being made in Dutchess County with opiate use.</i>	
Children & Youth Amanda Dixon	<i>The group met on April 11th and discussed the following:</i> <i>They are working on a quick-access brochure or resource for families. They are brainstorming what the most helpful information and resources would be to include.</i>	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	- Spoke about the upcoming event being held at the Children's Discovery Center. - Discussed future guest speakers for their upcoming subcommittee meetings.	
IDD Mark Searle	There was no one present to report on the IDD subcommittee.	
Mental Health	The group met on April 4th and discussed the following: The group discussed the upcoming public forums as well as who they would like to invite to table at the event. They are trying to include agencies that have tabled in the past, along with some new groups that people may not have seen before.	
NEW BUSINESS		
OLD BUSINESS		
MidHudson Regional Hospital Behavioral Health Center for Excellence	Jeanine Agnolet asked for an update on the MHRH Behavioral Health Center for Excellence. Jean-Marie started with a history of the collaboration between Dutchess County and MHRH, sharing that the County gave WMC Health \$3 million and, in turn, the hospital will expand the number of mental health beds, provide more specialized training to staff, and update the behavioral health units to offer a better environment for patients and staff. Additionally, DBCH will have a social worker embedded in the emergency room that will be a liaison between the hospital and DBCH and will receive additional data from MHRH. It is ultimately an investment into the psychiatric care that our community receives. She shared that construction has been slow because beds are being taken offline in Ulster County for their renovations, and there must be always a certain number of beds online. There was extensive discussion around the continued struggles	We can invite someone from MHRH administration to come speak with the Board and address further questions.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
MARC Crisis Center	around recruiting for pediatric psychiatrists and other specialized staff to expand adolescent beds. Dr. Gary Collins asked for an update on the MARC Crisis Center, formally run by MHA. DBCH sent out an RFP, after NYS issued DBCH the funding for the center, and no one applied. There were significant changes made to the regulations for running this type of facility, including mandated 24-hour nursing care, and it's become cost prohibitive to operate. Jean-Marie will update the group if anything changes.	
FOLLOW-UPS		

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