

Mental Hygiene Board

MINUTES

Monday – July 15, 2024 – Teams Meeting

Begin: 12:00 PM...Ended at 12:47 PM

Facilitator	Mark Searle, Chair (L)	
Note Taker	Sandi Pierson – Confidential Administrative Assistant	
Attendees	<u>PRESENT:</u> Jeanine Agnolet, Vice Chairperson (L) Brian Altonen (L) Christina Aquino (V) Cheryl Brady (L) Barbara Citarella (L) Alice Linder (L) Nedra Patterson-Thompson (V) 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> Hassan Abdul-Malik (E) Gary Collins, Recording Secretary (E) Amanda Dixon (E) Heather Kunkle (A) Karen Lancaster (E) Brianna Wasilewski (A) <u>GUESTS:</u>

PREVIOUS MINUTES

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
6/17/24 Minutes	<i>A motion to accept the June minutes as submitted was made by Jeanine Agnolet, seconded by Alice Linder, and approved by all Board members present.</i>	

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S MONTHLY REPORT

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
June 2024 Report	The Deputy Commissioner's Monthly Report for June was distributed prior to today's meeting. The discussion started with Mark Searle asking for more information about the success story that Jean-Marie included from a Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) update, regarding an individual who had been street-homeless for 10 years. Mark asked how common situations like this are in Dutchess County. Jean-Marie shared that cases like this are increasingly common in this area and these are exactly the kind of people that we hope programs like LEAD and the Empowerment Center will reach and connect with. She went on to say that LEAD case managers carry a small case load and work very intensely with their clients, meeting them where they are and working at whatever pace is effective for each individual. It requires a lot of patience, but it works. Alice noted the numbers around homelessness in the SPOA section of the monthly report were high. Jean-Marie explained that part of the problem is the prescriptive nature of the beds that we have to offer. There may be vacancies but if the individual doesn't meet specific criteria, they aren't eligible to take that open bed. In addition, there is a significant shortage of available housing, and the payment rates are too low it today's market. There was extensive conversation around the homeless population in Poughkeepsie. Jean-Marie touched on the new homeless shelter that the Dept. of Community and Family Services will oversee. The staff there will be working with clients to immediately start working toward permanent housing. DBCH continues to send out Recovery Coaches and the LEAD team continues to try to engage with this community, as well. Lastly, Jeanine asked about the name change of this group from "Mental Hygiene Board" to "Community Services Board". Jean-Marie shared that with the department separating, and the Charter being	Jean-Marie will send a list of Steering Committee members out.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	changed, they took the opportunity to give the group an updated name that reflects what advisory boards are called across New York State. <i>A motion to accept the June Deputy Commissioner's Reports as submitted was made by Sarah Ugolini, seconded by Brian Altonen, and approved by all Board members present.</i>	
ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE		
Grant Opportunity	Jean-Marie shared that Dutchess County was awarded a pilot grant opportunity through OMH to launch a Train-the-Trainer session for Mental Health First Aid, specifically geared toward college students. They'll be able to train 8 trainers that will be available to our college campuses and the training includes a harm reduction unit, as well.	
SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS		
Addiction & Recovery Dr. Hassan Abdul Malik	<i>The group didn't have a quorum for their last meeting.</i>	
Children & Youth Amanda Dixon	<i>The group did not meet this month.</i>	
IDD Mark Searle	<i>The group did not meet this month.</i>	
Mental Health	<i>The group did not have a quorum and could not meet.</i>	
NEW BUSINESS		
Rockland Psychiatric Center Bed Expansion	The director of Rockland Psychiatric Center shared that they have been approved for an expansion of pediatric inpatient beds, bringing their total from 15 to 38. They're currently hiring to staff the expansion. While this isn't in Dutchess County, it does improve access in our area. Jean-Marie's also working with the hospital to discuss receiving direct admits from the Stabilization Center.	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Troubling Behaviors, Service Gaps, etc.	The group spoke extensively on the concerns for young adults that have long neglected mental health needs that have never been addressed. A point that was brought up was the difficult transition from pediatrics to adults and the difference in care at those two levels.	
OLD BUSINESS		
Future Guests	Jean-Marie confirmed that a CLMHD representative will join the group for September to present on Community Services Board and Todd Hixson of WCMC would be joining us for the October meeting.	
FOLLOW-UPS		

SLP/