

STEBEN COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Chemical Dependency Subcommittee

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

3:00 p.m.

Conference Room A, 2nd Floor, Annex Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

PRESENT: Dr. Henry Chapman, Director, Department of Community Services
Darlene Smith, Director, Steuben County Public Health and Nursing Services
Dr. Robert Cole
Lynn Lewis, Assistant Director, Department of Community Services
Dawn Champaign

OTHERS: Tatiana Zentz, CASA Trinity
Susan Hooker, Hornell Concern for Youth
Connie Terri, Steuben Prevention Coalition
Stacie Wing, Bath Area Hope for Youth
Rick McInroy, Catholic Charities

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Chapman called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. **Retirement Update** – Dr. Chapman stated his retirement date is May 8, 2023. The County has advertised the position, has received applications and will be conducting interviews. He noted Lynn Lewis, Assistant Director, has submitted her application. Dr. Chapman stated that he will be taking some leave time between now and May 8, 2023, and during those times Ms. Lewis will be covering in her capacity as Assistant Director of Community Services and will continue to do so until his replacement is in place. He asked that any email correspondence also include Ms. Lewis. Dr. Chapman stated this was a difficult decision to retire, but given ongoing health issues, he felt it best to do so. He thanked everyone for their support during his 28 plus years of working in various positions within the Department of Community Services.

B. **Prevention Provider Program Updates**

1. *Bath Area Hope for Youth* – Ms. Wing noted they are moving along with their work plan which is due to OASAS May 15, 2023. One challenge they face is planning; for example the school curricular and scheduling for next year. These difficulties include change of staff, change in materials, regulatory changes. The credentials for the plan are different and she is currently under a waiver. They have received an intern grant. It is difficult to implement a 10 or 26 week program. They provide education for all grades, but mainly elementary and middle school age. They provide programming in the Corning, Addison, Bath, Hammondsport, Avoca and Prattsburgh School Districts. Their intern through Keuka Colleges loves to do data collection, surveys, social media outreach and wants to do a youth presentation.

Dr. Chapman asked are there any particular challenges that he could include in the local plan? Ms. Wing replied we need to remind the school districts that we provide these educational services. Ms.

Terri commented there is a shortage of health teachers and that she covered Jasper-Troupsburg last year on-line through BOCES.

2. *Hornell Concern for Youth* – Ms. Hooker stated they are maxed out as to the ratio of teachers to classes; kindergarten through 6th, including special education. She appreciates the funding received through the Youth Bureau for books which were used for their new curriculum. That is a big plus and puts them a year ahead with books. At the high school level they are working on presentations against tobacco, acting out class action law suits, focusing on drug and alcohol related to accidents and teen interventions as needed. She stated they have also had discussions on having 15 sessions of counseling and needing a smoother transition and hand-off between prevention and treatment services. Ms. Wing noted on the mental health side there is a long waiting list for all providers; especially for adolescents. Ms. Zents stated when they agree to treatment there are other barriers. She asked if CASA Trinity might be a resource? Ms. Hooker suggested a meet and greet with counselors to help with the transition process and to talk between providers. Transportation is also seen as a problem. Ms. Zents stated they can do off-site visits and events if they are approved by the school. Ms. Wing stated parents prefer out-of-school services as that is seen as a barrier for some. Dr. Chapman stated he was not surprised to hear that. They recently entered into a partnership with Canisteo Valley Family Practice for both mental health and substance abuse services and we are co-located in their office. The mental health services were well-received by the patients, but not the substance abuse services. Ms. Hooker and Ms. Zentz both agreed the hand-off would be great and they could either do a Zoom meeting or an in-person meeting. They also suggested having a weekly meeting between staff.

A question was asked regarding the age range for services. Ms. Zentz replied they offer services to children as young as 10, but they prefer to work with ages 12 and older. Ms. Wing stated they have a program for 12 and older. Dr. Chapman stated this information is helpful. How is the space at the Youth Center? Ms. Hooker noted it is excellent.

3. *Steuben Prevention Coalition* – Ms. Terri stated since January 1, 2023, they have trained 172 people for Narcan administration in 19 trainings. Deputy Matt Butler is now certified as a DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) and recently completed two presentations at the Wildwood and Coopers BOCES on all drugs in general. Ms. Terri stated they did fifteen Narcan trainings yesterday. They have been installing the Narcan wall units. She noted 21 units were purchased by the 2-1-1 Helpline and 18 of those have been installed so far. They have placed the units at Corning Community College, the Steuben County Public Safety Building, local hotels that are used for housing the homeless and Turning Point. These units have been in place for three weeks and have not needed to be refilled. Catholic Charities of Steuben and Livingston will be installing wall units in their locations in Bath, Mt. Morris and Hornell. Dr. Halo has indicated that he would like units to be installed in his dental practices in Bath and Dansville. Ms. Terri stated they are planning to purchase more units. They had also looked into the insulated units, but they are very expensive and are not feasible at this time. Ms. Zentz asked how many kits are located in each unit? Ms. Terri replied there are four test kits, but we gave each site eight kits. Ms. Wing noted that Catholic Charities would like all of their staff to be trained on Narcan administration by June. Ms. Terri stated the Institute for Human Services also would like their staff trained.

Dr. Chapman asked about their community education awareness programs. Ms. Terri noted that Jamie Dyke from Steuben County Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Services has been providing training in the community. Ms. Smith stated Public Health also is providing trainings and there is a web page link with

a 9-minute video that can be watched. Individuals have to be over the age of 16, complete the attestation and then a Narcan kit will be mailed to them.

Ms. Terri stated the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) will be meeting next Friday and voting on whether Naltrexone will be available over-the-counter. She is concerned that might be cost prohibitive. Dr. Chapman asked Dr. Cole if he know how long that would take to get approved. Dr. Cole replied he was not sure. He stated that he has been pleasantly surprised that he has not received any calls for individuals under the age of 20. Past trends had been for the age range of 20 to 50 and now the trend includes individuals over the age of 50. He noted the toxicology reports take a long time to get back and most often include multiple drugs such as Fentanyl, Meth, Cocaine, prescription drugs, cigarettes, Marijuana and alcohol. Individuals are going back and forth between depressants and stimulants. Ms. Terri noted now there is the trend of Xylazine being added to drugs such as Fentanyl and Heroin to extend the “high.” She explained Xylazine is a sedative used for horses and other farm animals. It causes necrosis in the veins when injected in humans and can cause the skin to rot. Ms. Zentz asked if those shots show up in the toxicology reports? Dr. Cole replied it does if a toxicology report is done. We would like all samples to be sent for toxicology so that we know what is being used in the area. The DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) is worries as this is as popular as Fentanyl, which we have stopped at the border, but it still comes through. Unfortunately, there are no known consequences for the possession of Xylazine as there is for Fentanyl and other drugs.

Ms. Terri stated Drug Take Back Day will be April 22, 2023. Discussion followed regarding the lack of ability to take back sharps (needles). It was noted that local hospitals such as Ira Davenport and local nursing homes are helping to take them, but a place is needed for shut-ins to return their sharps. Ms. Terri commented the County needs a special med box just for sharps. Dr. Cole reminded everyone not to stick their hands in anyone’s pockets as needle sticks can cause Hepatitis B and C. Ms. Terri noted that all of the Narcan kits include gloves and people need to use common sense.

C. Local Service Plan Update – Dr. Chapman noted he has not received a due date for the 2024 local plan. Last year, due to format changes, the plan was due in October. We hope to review the plan as soon as it becomes available. Ms. Lewis will be available to follow-up on any changes. He had sent out the 2023 plan and asked if anyone had any changes or additions. He asked about the Coti van? Ms. Wing stated there is not funding currently available for that, although they are applying elsewhere. Dr. Chapman asked how much would Catholic Charities need to be able to continue the van? Ms. Wing replied she did not know. Dr. Chapman noted the Opioid Settlement Funds this year will be about \$500,000 and he will be talking with Mr. Wheeler about accepting those funds. At this time they do not know what the funding levels will be going forward.

Ms. Lewis noted the State GLU funding program changes and noted those changes are for the whole Local Service Plan. Dr. Cole asked how much Opioid Settlement Funds were received last year? Dr. Chapman replied about \$600,000 and that was allocated to many agencies to provide opioid prevention, treatment, inpatient/outpatient services, peer supports. There was an appropriation made to the Steuben Prevention Coalition. Two positions; one for mental health and one for Alcohol & Substance Abuse Services will be funded. This year we anticipate receiving \$585,000 and that will be distributed through our department to various service contracts. We will need to get quarterly reports on the number of people who are receiving services.

Dr. Chapman asked how will this funding be used specific to opioid treatment in the schools? Ms. Terri replied the budget is for \$3,000 for a revised curriculum.

The group suggested that Opioid Settlement Funds be considered for a Coti van for Steuben County.

IV. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been scheduled for June 20, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the County Annex Building, with the exact conference room location to be determined. Dr. Chapman noted that until a replacement has been found, Ms. Lewis will facilitate the meeting.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MS. LEWIS, SECONDED BY MS. WING AND DULY CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted by

Dawn Champaign
Senior Stenographer
Department of Community Services