

FOREST-WARREN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

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WARREN, PA 16365

Warren County Commissioners

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Single County Authority for Drug & Alcohol Services
Betsy A. Miller, SCA Director

ATOD/MH/DD Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 1, 2022
Human Services 12:00 p.m.

Present: Spencer Duffee (via Zoom), Shirley Edmondson (via Zoom), Amanda Hetrick, Dr. John John (via Zoom), Pam Khare, Judy McDaid (via Zoom), Danell Sowers (via Zoom)

Absent: Alyce Busch, Commissioner Eggleston, Commissioner Huffman, Lily Morse, Jessica Uber

Staff Present: Ronna Tipton, Julie Lacki, Betsy Miller

Ex-Officio: Cheryl Burton

Guests: Lisa Babo (via Zoom), Jen Gesing (via Zoom), Colleen Wilber (via Zoom)

I INTRODUCTIONS

- Amanda Hetrick called the meeting to order and initiated roll call.

II MINUTES

- A quorum was present and Amanda Hetrick asked for a motion to approve the minutes from January 4, 2022. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes, all were in favor and the motion carried, with the addition of Cheryl Burton being present by phone at January meeting.

III TREASURER REPORT

- Ronna Tipton shared that the current balance is \$1,400.99 and there were no requests.

IV STATISTICS – Available in packet

V CONSUMER/FAMILY CONCERNS

- Ronna Tipton gave the Consumer/Family Concerns report. She gave a report on a client living in a group home, that the family is trying to get Guardianship. Process was started prior to Mother's death, and is continuing with sister. Individual is high functioning, and treatment team does not feel guardianship is needed for multiple reasons (previous decision-making of potential guardian, interference, financial concerns). An evaluation was done locally in favor of moving guardianship forward. Treatment team would like to get another evaluation. Dr. John recused himself from discussion. Questions were asked about the agency's role in guardianship process. Case Manager may need to testify on role in writing service plan, facilitating meetings, monitoring services. Jen Gesing requested that coordination occur in future with evaluating provider to collaborate prior to evaluation.
- Pam Khare voiced concern about older adults waiting outside stores in the frigid cold waiting for the bus. Wondering if anything can be done to get benches inside. Danelle offered to look into situation.

VI UPDATES

a) **ATOD-** Betsy Miller gave the ATOD report.

- ATLAS (Addiction Treatment Locator, Assessment, and Standards Platform is being developed in PA. Providers putting their information into this voluntary system. Will allow for individuals to answer 13 questions and get information about the providers available in their locality to meet their needs.
- XYZ package for rate setting is out to providers. Counties will work in groups to review and approve residential rates.
- Recovery House licensing is occurring. Betsy to reach out to local provider to ensure they are aware. No public funding or public referrals are allowed to unlicensed homes.
- ASAM lawsuit by DASPOP was withdrawn.
- Opioid Settlement- Both Forest and Warren counties have signed on to be a part of the opioid settlement through the Attorney General. Planning related to use of funding will need to occur. Amanda offered feedback related to increased prevention, education, treatment type services without diagnosis needed in schools is a need.

b) **MH-** Ronna Tipton gave the MH report.

- The crisis hotline through Center for Community Resources (CCR) rollout continues with 106 people on the recent zoom calls to share the purpose, information on how to connect. A meeting is set up for next week with local MH providers to continue collaboration with crisis services already involved with various services. Goodie bags (tear off cards, rack cards, and other materials) are being distributed to schools, police, probation, sheriff's dept, churches, libraries, agencies, etc. If you would like one contact Ronna.
- 988- National number for crisis and suicide prevention is coming to PA. Is being piloted in some areas. There will be a monthly surcharge on phone bills, which will go to the State and be distributed to the counties to enhance crisis services (phone, mobile and respite). Ronna mentioned that respite might be a need that can be addressed by a regional program. CCR is a provider, which is good since we have a contract with them.
- The Suicide Prevention Group has reconvened. Meets on the 3rd Wed at 1 PM via zoom. If interested, contact Ronna.
- Homelessness committee has merged with Local Housing Options Team (LHOT) and is working on a proposal for a regional housing plan to address the issue. A team is working on writing the proposal to pitch to municipalities, with Ronna writing the part about how social determinants affect housing.
- Ronna is working on a response to questions regarding the Proposal for reinvestment funding for 2 facilities with 2 units each for permanent housing (4 units).

c) **DD/EI-** Ronna Tipton gave the DD report.

- DD has 1 vacancy- as the recent hire resigned due to the job being too overwhelming.
- Waiver caps for Person-Family Directed Support and Community Living Waivers were increased. This is in part due to the increase in program rates, which would have resulted in decrease in services to individuals.
- There was no additional EI report.

d) **Managed Care-** Ronna Tipton gave the Managed Care report.

- The Board and various committees are working on understanding the new role with CCBH.

e) **Human Services Plan-** Ronna Tipton gave the Human Services Plan update.

- Both plans approved.

f) Other

- Acronym list received by members.
- Susan Miller is the new public health nurse in Forest County. Office is open again. 814-755-3564. She is willing to work in the community and will need added to this Board.
- Human Services hit hard by COVID. Three full departments out over last couple weeks. Masks are not required in the building.
- Cheryl Burton reported that they are seeing a lot of people not getting the boosters. Vaccinations are available at State Health Center.
- Judy asked about advertisements for Community nurses needed at Forest School District. Amanda stated they are in need of substitute nurses due to increase COVID workloads to keep charting and organizing done. Will need nurses for coverage during field trips season.
- Lisa Babo informed group of Adult member group virtually on March 9 at 1 and of Parent meetings sent out by Annette.

VII Nominating Committee

- No report.

VII ADJOURNMENT

- Amanda dismissed the meeting.
- Next Meeting is March 1, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Miller, Recording Secretary