



Niagara County Community Services Board
 Minutes
 Regular Meeting
 Date: Monday, March 20, 2023
 Time: 6:00 pm

LOCATION: Dept. of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Administrative Offices, Shaw Building, Health Department Conference Room, 1st Floor, 5467 Upper Mountain Road, NY. This meeting was also offered via Webex.

<u>ATTENDANCE:</u>	PRESENT	EXCUSED
Burt Marshall, Board President	X	
Annette Dobrasz, EdD, 1 st Board VP	X	
Stephanie Donovan, 2 nd Board VP	X-Webex	
Rosamond Siegwarth, Board Member		X
Peter Butera, PhD, Board Member	X	
Thomas Gerbasi, MD, Board Member	X	
Candace Butcher, Board Member		X
Ronald Barstys, PhD, Board Member	X-Webex	
Suzanne Diez, Board Member	X	
Robin Stevens, Board Member		X
Richard Abbott, Board Member	X	
Betsy Farkas, Board Member	X	
Donald Jablonski, Board Member	X	
<u>Niagara County Mental Health Administration</u>		
Laura Kelemen, LCSW-R, NCDMH Director	X	
Myrla Gibbons Doxey, LMFT, NCDMH Deputy Director	X	
Lee Ann Cogar, Confidential Assistant	X	
<u>Guests</u>		

1) **Burt Marshall, Board President, called the Community Services Board (CSB) Meeting to order at 6:04 PM.** Burt welcomed our newest member Don Jablonski. Don introduced himself and provided a little background about himself. Don is looking forward to being a part of the Board.

2) **The Minutes for the January 23, 2023 and February 27, 2023 meetings were reviewed.**

Dr. Thomas Gerbasi motioned to approve the January 23, 2023 and February 27, 2023 minutes as presented, Dr. Annette Dobrasz seconded the motion; both sets of minutes were approved by the Board.

3) **Membership Review:**

- Membership Applications: Director Kelemen reported we have a few new Board applications in the works.
- The CSB joint subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 6, 2023 from 3pm – 4:30pm at the Trott Access Center, 2nd Floor middle room (2R) in Niagara Falls. Deputy Director Gibbons Doxey sent out today the Advance Meeting Notice.

4) **Director's Report**

- **Correspondence was reviewed by Laura Kelemen, Director.**
 - Letters, Memorandums & E-mails:
 - Correspondence listed on separate page, attached
- ***CON-** Deputy Director Gibbons Doxey presented the applications:
 - **Heritage Christian Services CON Application #IRA-030623-1-WS** – Request to permanently certify the operating certificate located at 5775 Joanne Drive, Sanborn, NY. This has been a temporary location for four (4) individuals while the renovations were being completed at 6274 Hoover Drive, Sanborn, NY. The four (4) individuals would like to stay, so Heritage Christian Services has decided they would like to make this a permanent location. The current capacity is four (4).
 - **Heritage Christian Services CON Application #IRA-030623-2-WS** – Request to relocate six (6) IRA opportunities from 860 Oxbow Lane, Lewiston, NY to 6274 Hoover Drive, Sanborn, NY. Currently 6274 Hoover Drive is certified for only four (4) individuals. There are two (2) more single bedrooms being added to make it a 6-person home. Then the 860 Oxbow Lane will be decertified. The agency plans on selling the home at 860 Oxbow Lane and profits from this home will go into the construction cost of adding the bedrooms at 6274 Hoover Drive.
 - **Heritage Christian Services CON Application #IRA-030623-3-WS** – Request to relocate six (6) IRA opportunities from 860 Oxbow Lane, Lewiston, NY to 6274 Hoover Drive, Sanborn, NY. Occupancy change from 0 to 6. Formerly four (4) individuals moved from 6274 Hoover Drive to 5775 Joanne Drive, Sanborn, NY due to construction of the home to make it accessible and add two (2) single bedrooms to the home. Eventually, the home will be a 6-person bedroom home. The 6274 Hoover Drive home will use its original operating certificate.

Deputy Director Gibbons Doxey noted that per the agency representative spoken with, the above applications are to enhance services to service recipients by increasing accessibility and assisting them in aging in place.

Don Jablonski motioned to approve all three CONS as presented; Dr. Annette Dobrasz seconded the motion. All three CONS were approved by the Board.

- ***EzPar** – None.
- **Informational** – Nothing to report.

- **2022 Annual Court Report** – Presented by Lee Ann Cogar, Confidential Assistant.

- **Corporate Compliance** – Presented by Deputy Director Gibbons-Doxey. Deputy Director Gibbons Doxey provided an overview of the new OMIG Regulation changes taking effect 3/28/23 that impact Corporate Compliance programs. Some members of NCDMH Administration and Senior Staff recently participated in a training provided by the Bonadio Group. This training provided more detailed information on the new requirements and how agencies can align their Compliance Programs to meet all requirements. The new regulation defines “Affected Individuals”, which includes “corporate officers”; clarification is being sought through the Bonadio Group as to their interpretation of the corporate officers being the Legislative Body in local county government. If defined as such, the Legislative Body will also now be required to participate in Corporate Compliance trainings. All NCDMH “Affected Individuals” will receive an updated Corporate Compliance manual once revisions are finalized.

- **Programs / System Updates, provided by Director Kelemen.**
 - **Opioid Settlement Abatement Funds** – Director Kelemen provided an update related to County Opioid settlement dollars that are Designated Schedule C. The Department is working with the Purchasing Department to create 2 RFPs – one for agencies to apply for Prevention and Anti-Stigma efforts and the other to apply for programs/services that will enhance community supports and services. Based on the public and legislative input, funds are prioritized in these two areas. The department has also been made aware of additional, recurring Regional Abatement dollars that will be distributed through OASAS, are assigned to the region and then divided up by County. Niagara County will receive approximately \$1.8 million, and then \$800,000 in future years. We are evaluating local needs to determine how best to target this funding. Housing, and support for individuals with co-occurring mental health issues are two areas we are considering based on our LSP priorities. Will continue to discuss.

 - **ENH Closure** – System Impacts. Director Kelemen reported it has been noted that with the closure of ENH, sexual assault nurse examiner services will no longer be available in the Lockport community as Catholic Health has not indicated it will provide these services. We will discuss this concern as we meet with Catholic Health. Leg. Abbott spoke about the timing of the closure of ENH and the impacts in the community for a gap in services.

 - **NFMMC/ECMC** – Child and Adolescent Emergency Room Concerns. Deputy Director Gibbons Doxey reported systemic pressures and tensions continue within the child / adolescent psychiatric emergency department / CPEP realm. For various reasons, Niagara County children and adolescents in need of psychiatric evaluations end up at ECMC CPEP versus NFMMC emergency department. NFMMC is a designated MHL 9.39 hospital and therefore able to provide psychiatric assessments for children and adolescents. A NFMMC representative informed the LGU that ECMC is reportedly advising Niagara County law enforcement and EMS to bring any individuals in Niagara County in need of psychiatric evaluation to NFMMC psychiatric emergency department first. Director Kelemen shared that NFMMC psychiatric emergency department is licensed by the NYS Department of Health and not NYS Office of Mental Health. Deputy Director Gibbons Doxey noted that when a child or adolescent is evaluated at NFMMC and the psychiatrist deems them in need of inpatient care, other than a direct transfer to Brylin if they are willing to accept the individual, there is no current option for a direct transfer to an inpatient unit. The child has to be transferred to another psychiatric emergency room, such as ECMC CPEP, that has a child/adolescent inpatient unit and be re-evaluated before being considered for admission. Deputy Director Gibbons Doxey and SPOA staff that she supervises to continue to engage in weekly collaborative calls with ECMC CPEP personnel and other involved parties to coordinate care for Niagara County youth at CPEP.

- **OMH Listening Tours** – System Pressures. Director Kelemen reported New York State is performing a statewide series of listening sessions. Laura and other NCDMH staff will be present during some of the listening sessions in Buffalo. We are planning on listening to the feedback from residents and providers, and continuing to talk about supporting our current workforce, and finding ways to reinforce the workforce foundation.

- **Additional Agenda Items** – No additional items to report.

5) **President's Report** – Nothing to report.

6) **Executive Session:**

Dr. Annette Dobrasz motioned to enter into Executive Session, Suzanne Diez seconded the motion. The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:23 pm.

Dr. Peter Butera motioned to exit Executive Session; Dr. Annette Dobrasz seconded the motion. The Board exited Executive Session at 8:05 pm.

7) **Meeting Adjournment**

Dr. Thomas Gerbasi motioned to adjourn the meeting, Suzanne Diez seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Next CSB Meeting Date: April 17, 2023