

**Oswego County Division of Mental Hygiene
Community Services Board
Meeting Minutes
Friday, February 18, 2022 VIA WEBEX**

Present: Angela Christmas-Mattison, Robert Ireland, Brian Coleman, Greg Osetek, Julie Landy, Samantha Cleveland, Kevin Velzy, James Karasek, Sara Sunday, Theresa Woolson, Amy Durkin

Excused: Melinda Casson

Absent: Larry Schmidt

Staff: Nicole Kolmsee, Director of Community Services
Catherine Li Voti-Rice, Community Services Program Coordinator
Nathan Barron, Adult Services Coordinator
Susan Naugle, Senior Typist

Community Members: Hannah Alton (CC), Kim Anglestein (CC), Maureen Bobbett (Adv. Inc), Eric Bresee (Farnham), Michelle Canfield (OCO), Donna Carini (LR), Andrea Crolick- Swain (LR), Anthony Fazzino (LR), Leanne Garlock (DSS AP), Jessica Haase (Hillside), Kathy Healey (OH), Su-Ann Howard (OI), Theresa Humennyj (LR), Ellen Lazarek (OCO), Shelley LaFurney (OH), Kelsey Mattoon (Farnham), Susan Mayer (CC), Mary-Margaret Pekow (CC), Elizabeth Thompson (OCO), Lisa Williams (OI)

- 1) Call to order by Chairman, Robert Ireland
- 2) Roll call of members
 - A. Acknowledgement of Larry Schmidt's years of service to the Community Services Board.

3) ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of October 2021 Meeting Minutes by James Karasek, seconded by Samantha Cleveland. Brian Coleman abstained. All in favor.
- B. Approval of October 2021 Business Meeting Minutes by Amy Durkin, seconded by Sara Sunday. Brian Coleman abstained. All in favor.

4) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (program updates, announcements, state initiatives, etc.)

- A. ***Farnham Family Services, Inc. – Update on City of Oswego proposed project site – Eric Bresee, Executive Director*** – Received approval from the City of Oswego for the purchase of vacant land and construction of a new site at 98 George St., Oswego. Property purchased from the city for \$240,000. The selected site is accessible, with confidentiality in mind as it is not in a residential area. The new building will be 15,000 square feet, more than double the size of the current 7000 square feet building; the space is needed. Location will help clients who have transportation issues and there are other agencies nearby, with the plan to collaborate with them. Resubmitted schedule C to OASAAS. Heard from DASNY (the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York). Scheduling a kickoff meeting for next week. The timeline is 12 months to close on purchase and there is an 18–24-month timeline to build.
- B. ***Oswego County Opportunities, Inc. (OCO) – Update on proposed transition of Dublin Street Respite House to an Individualized Residential Alternative – Michelle Canfield, Director of Developmental Disability Services*** – Due to continued issues with recruiting staff, the residential program is taking a step back and is permanently suspending respite services. Dublin Street house has been vacant for 2 years. The Phoenix IRA residents will be relocated into the Dublin Street location. This location can increase capacity and will be converted to life safety code. Temporarily closing 2 IRA's and moving individuals into existing vacancies at other sites. Timeline for the moves is 4 to 6 months. Individuals, families, and staff have been notified. This is a statewide trend. 7 individuals will be moving.

- C. Oswego Industries, Inc. (OI) - New Work Readiness Initiative – Lisa Williams, Pre-Vocational Coordinator**
 – The Pre-Vocational program has been redesigned. The Sheltered Workshop for people with disabilities had to be shut down by July 1, 2021. All employees would have been unemployed, so the agency transformed the textiles department into an integrated business model with OPWDD approval. The textile department makes mammogram and hospital gowns. Also have a contract with Novelis for sewing and filling silicon bags. For the prevocational individuals already in the program they had to maintain their position by being assessed by their skills. If they met the criteria, they were placed in the new site-based prevocational program. In order to be a part of the program they need to be OPWDD eligible and coordinate for services through their life plan care managers. They would complete a Service Amendment Request Form (SARF) which is used to change and add services. The program is designed to eventually get individuals into the community, so OI started a work readiness initiative which meets with each person individually for a person-centered program. Individuals are provided weekly unpaid trainings. There are 14 individuals in the program. We are seeing their confidence develop while learning and strengthening their skills. A lot of focus on technology. Now in the process of getting the community based prevocational program up and going to get individuals out into the community.
- D. Catholic Charities – Update on Expansion of Eligible Mental Health Transportation Services – Mary-Margaret Pekow, Executive Director** – MH transportation program has expanded some of their services. Serves adults and youth with mental health diagnoses. This year adding more eligible locations such as transport to community services and agencies that are supportive to those individuals. Can now transport parents to participate in school and head start activities. Applications for the program go through SPOA. Please contact Catholic Charities for more information or Nathan Barron, Adult Services Coordinator @ Nathan.Barron@oswegocounty.com for an application.
- E. Nicole Kolmsee, Director of Community Services**
- **Director’s Report** - Will be distributed by email to the group.

5) MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Annual Report for contracted and non-contracted programs and consumer surveys for contracted programs are due on March 1, 2022.
- B. Mental Hygiene Networking Meeting – Wednesday, March 16, 2022
- C. Provider & Community Updates / Concerns
- ARISE Ramp Program in Oswego County has been in operation for 15 years and is being duplicated in Cayuga County. The program was given a \$35,000 grant from the Office of the Aging for aluminum ramps. Received first shipment and the county provided a trailer for storage located near the jail. Are ready to start processing applications in Cayuga County. Yesterday received a call from Madison County who is also interested in duplicating the program. By developing this area of New York, hoping to open opportunities for state or federal funding. Cost effective to keep residents in their own home. 2021 fundraising was successful. Will be running a 2022 campaign. Oswego County has a wait list of 45 individuals for the program. Program is continuing to grow.

Motion to adjourn by Brian Coleman, seconded by Theresa Woolson. All in favor.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Integrated Subcommittee Meeting: May 5, 2022
 Community Services Board Meeting: May 20, 2022