



**ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**  
**Community Services Board Meeting**  
**30 HARRIMAN DRIVE GOSHEN,**  
**NEW YORK 10924**

**Meeting Notes CSB September 13, 2023**

**CSB Board Members Present:** Nora Shepard, Lisa Hayes, Dhanu Sannesy, Sandra Brownsey, Dr. Guy Delisfort, Juan (Jay) Lantigua, Jessenia Ogunade, MaryAlice Kovach.

**Board Members Absent:** Linda Prieto, Rosangela Alicea, Shannon Kelly, Dr. Michele Iannuzzi Sucich, Lauren Savino, Dr. Rebecca Lowy, and Lisa Currao. (Dr. Iannuzzi Sucich, tried to attend remotely unable to join due to technical issues).

**Present:** Darcie Miller, and Regina LaCatena

Meeting called to order by Nora Shepard at 5:34 P.M.

**Quorum Present: Approval of Minutes:**

June 14, 2023 – motion Dhanu Sannesy, second Sandra Brownsey, all approved.

**Commissioners Report Darcie Miller, Commissioner**

- Working on finalizing the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with Police Chiefs in order to provide CIT training to senior officers.
- HIDA – OD response with Independent Living need MOU signed had to reschedule meeting for October.
- OPIOID Settlement Fund RFP –
  - Abatement Funds
  - Settlement Funds
  - HEALing Communities Funds

Priorities were established with RFP Committees before putting out the RFP

Two funding awards have been established:

- Oxford House – Adding three peer run homes, they will house up to 24 people.
- Alcohol & Drug Awareness Council (ADAC) – Prevention work in schools K-12 - Mary Alice – currently pre-screening candidates – staffing will consist of 6 staff embedded in districts to plan and practice, 2 positions – teen intervene, 1 full time MH First Aid and MH Trainer. Will train Youth version of MH First Aid.

This work must focus on saving lives – we will be re-issuing the RFP – currently trying to make the instructions clearer. The RFP will be posted on the county website under the department of General Services.

- September is Recovery Month Awareness –
  - Purple lights have been installed on some of the County buildings.
  - MOUD Education/Campaign
- Fentanyl Awareness and Free NARCAN Training event will be held on September 29 at SUNY Orange Rowley Building. Presenters: Dr. Lynch of New York Matters, and Dr. Shulman, followed by a Panel discussion. Regina will share flyer/registration information with CSB members.
- CIT – National Association of Counties did a research project w/Orange County which consisted of conducting interviews with our OC. Crisis Call Center/Mobile response Teams. They are going to write a white paper and share our model as best practice.

- Darcie has recently been appointed to NY State Daniel's Law Task Force - The 10-member panel will address issues related to "trauma-informed, community-led responses and diversions for mental health, alcohol use or substance use crises," as well as how people are affected by police responses to mental health. Daniel Prude died while being arrested by police in Rochester NY. Evaluate current system hold town hall meeting and report back to committee.
  - In orange county there are 31-32 police departments and only two mobile crisis teams. Darcie will present what Orange County is doing with an open mind of what can we improve, including law enforcement, medical/hospitals, and crisis teams. Darcie is honored to be on this committee and is open to hearing suggestions from CSB members.
  - Jessenia Ogunade will share information/studies how effective teams' w/clinicians are the current successes.

The Task Force meetings are recorded and can be viewed online.

- Threat Assessment Management Team (TAM) – NYS Governor Hochul has required each county to have a team. Lacey and Darcie are participating on the OC team. They recently participated in a training event where Stephani Leite, Forensic Psychologist presented. Many groups feel police should be in schools/cameras etc. All of this is good, but we need to provide prevention, one without the other is not productive.
- The annual Masterson's Event is being planned for November, TAM will be the topic, pathway to violence, having clinical tools.

#### **Question/Comments - Commissioners Report:**

Nora: Expressed her gratitude that Darcie and Lacey are participating on the TAM team.

Jessenia: Would like to offer her help w/CIT as a former NYPD Officer and trained in CIT. Darcie will connect Tammy with Jessenia.

#### **Board Member Terms Expiring:**

Nora – renew.

Sandra – renew.

Guy – not sure yet additional responsibilities at work.

Linda P. - absent

#### **Old Business:**

N/A

#### **New Business:**

Jessenia Ogunade

- Participated in National Night out and gave out 300 backpacks for back to school and 200 were given out in Cuba.
- Currently doing research/dissertation for next spring on Police use of Force. She would be happy to share it with Darcie and the CSB when completed.

Mary Alice

- Red Ribbon Event kick-off date is October 19 4:00 PM, help tie ribbons at government center. School kick-off will be at the Warwick School. Mary Alice will send Regina flyers and information for all events to share with CSB members.

**Next meeting:** October 11, 2023 - 5:30 P.M. via Microsoft Teams.

Motion to adjourn this meeting by Dr. Guy Delisfort, second Sandra Brownsey, all present agreed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned 6:37 P.M.

Regina LaCatena, Executive Secretary/Admin. Assistant - approved @ October 11, 2023, meeting.