

*February 12, 2018
Greene County Human Services
19 South Washington Street
3rd Floor Fort Jackson Building
Waynesburg, PA 15370*

Board Attendance: Donna Dire, Chairman; Janice Blair-Martin, 1st Vice Chairman; Jeff McCracken, 2nd Vice Chairman; Mark Carlson, Secretary; Glenn Bates; Rev. James Cherry, Barb Walters

Board Members Unable to Attend: Archie Trader; Debi Chulick

Staff: Karen Bennett, Administrator; Marcy Maletta, Assistant Administrator / Chief Fiscal Officer; Brean Fuller, MH Director; Tammy Henderson, Administrative Assistant; Lauren Chambers, Early Intervention Director; Amy Switalski, Housing and Family Resources Director; Deneen Chulick, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities; Lisa Milan, Family Center/Hi Fi Supervisor; Kira Sisk, Drug and Alcohol Director; Rick Blaker, Transportation Director

Public: none

Call to Order – Donna Dire

Introductions of all staff and board members.

Quorum Check – Quorum was met.

Approval of the December 11, 2017 minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Mark Carlson and second by Jeff McCracken.

Chairman’s Report – Donna Dire

- Donna welcomed all members and staff to the new year.
- Donna announced the resignation of board member, Debi Chulick. **A motion was made to accept this resignation and send it over to the Commissioners by Janice Blair Martin and second by Rev. James Cherry.**
- Board Reorganization
 - Donna discussed the Board Re-organization the new officers for 2018 are Donna Dire, Chairman; Janice Blair-Martin, Vice-Chairman; Jeff McCracken 2nd Vice-Chairman; Mark Carlson, Secretary.
 - All Sub-Committee members were assigned anyone not interested in their sub-committee will let Donna know.
 - CYS will continue to report at this meeting.
 - This Board is actively searching for a member to fit the under 25 category for the Drug and Alcohol Sub-committee.
 - Nomination of New Board Members/Sub-committees was made of the following:
 - Mike Caruso – MH/IDD/EI
 - Terri Cooley – DA Labor
 - Tom Musgrove – DA Family
 - Pat Lemley – DA Senior, Transportation
 - Charlene – MH/IDD/EI
 - Gene Rush – DA Coroner

A motion was made to accept these nominations by Rev. James Cherry and second by Janice Blair-Martin.

- Donna presented the 2018 meeting dates for the Advisory Board and all of the sub-committees. These dates were included in the packets.

Administrators Report

Human Services Department Goals – Karen discussed the following Department Goals:

The Department goals that were selected for 2018 are overarching and are important across all the Human Services Programs.

Goal

1. It takes every single person in the Department to achieve these/our goals. Everyone needs to be on board rowing the same direction.
2. Work on objectives and goals of the 17-18 Block Grant goals – + 2 million dollars in Block Grant
 - a. Block Grant Programs: Mental Health (MH), Drug and Alcohol (DA), Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD), Housing
 - b. Target Populations of Block Grant activities: Seniors, Criminal Justice, Veterans, Adolescents, Transition Age Youth (16-24), Co/Tri – occurring
 - c. 80% of the dollars in Block Grant is Mental Health dollars
 - d. County Priorities
 - i. Mental Health in jail
 - ii. Mental Health Adolescents
3. Food Security – address following goals
 - a. Partnership has these goals
 - i. Increase access to food assistance programs
 - ii. Increase outreach and community engagement to address food security
 - iii. Maintain a weekend food program with school districts
 - iv. Support summer food programs.
 - b. Last Summit it was determined 13.4% of population 5150 are food insecure, 1610 are children
 - c. Planning a Hunger Summit – March
4. Substance Use Disorder (SUD) – Opioid/Heroin issue
 - a. SUD Task Force – Working with PITT, Commissioners and Community Stakeholders.
 - b. Distribute Narcan to appropriate first responders.
 - c. Train the Out-Reach Navigator, develop outreach materials and process, and get the Navigator out in the community by March 2018.
 - d. Work with MAT providers and residential treatment providers and enhance access to those services especially through the navigator process.
 - e. Address the #1 reported issue in Greene County Alcohol – 3 people with alcohol dementia
5. Department of Health initiatives – Public Health 3.0 Priorities – work on this issue through the MAGIC/SHIP collaborative
 - a. SUD issue
 - b. Obesity ties with Food Insecurity
 - c. Oral Health ties in with SUD – Cornerstone
6. Continue to seek out grants to fill gaps of our Human Services Department’s goals
7. Consolidation of agencies – behind the scenes – DHS, Aging, DDAP

Program Project Highlights – Human Services Directors

- Early Intervention – Lauren Chambers
 - Lauren discussed Service Coordinators (SC) for Early Intervention and explained what a SC’s roles and responsibilities are.
 - Issues have occurred with providers seeing kids where they live. They inability to adapt to schedules and no shows.
 - Additional Training for Providers
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities – Deneen Chulick
 - The IDD Program had a few staff changes since our last meeting. Violet Lawless retired in December, and Stacey Mason resigned her position in December as well. Diane Krall, formerly under Mental Health & Drug & Alcohol began as a Supports Coordinator on November 30th.
 - There have been multiple system changes within Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) and we have been working diligently with providers to provide technical assistance with issues and service delivery changes as well as changes in our supports coordination delivery and new staff. Community Participation Supports was rolled out July 1, 2017 and we are just now starting to see how it plays out and so far, has been going very well. People are getting out into their communities and participating in meaningful activities so they are not just “in” their community, but are a part of it. In turn, this raises awareness in the community and promotes inclusion.

- One of the major changes ODP made was expanding eligibility for the waiver funding to individuals with autism only diagnoses. It is an advantage to be able to expand waiver services to serve that specific population; however, also creates challenges in that it will increase the waiting list for funding and increase the need for more autism resources and providers who can deliver quality services to individuals with autism. We have been consulting with Kevin Friel, who completed the feasibility study for Greene ARC, in anticipation of the “futures” changes, to assist us in developing strategies and a work plan that encompass ODP’s changes and address any gaps in services to meet the needs of individuals, providers and families in Greene County.
- We have participated in the LGBTQ work group and have partnered with Mary Jo Podgurski to implement her training curriculum with Pathways staff and individuals around sexuality and special populations. Through a partnership between IDD and LINK, we are also able to provide annual trainings on topics that span the needs of both the IDD and aging population. Mary Jo will be doing a training/presentation in June on this same subject for those who work with these individuals.
- Mental Health – Brean Fuller
 - Brean discussed that one of the mental health priorities are offering services to those in the criminal justice system. She touched on some individuals, two male and 2 females that currently are receiving mental health services and the need of additional services such as housing, income, mixed with the severity of their charges. Much discussion occurred.
 - The 304-commitment process was discussed and what happens when these individuals are able to return.
 - Karen discussed the meeting with the Warden and what type of services are needed for these individuals.
- Housing – Amy Switalski
 - Greene County Humans Services Housing Department has been working with the HAP Program. We have been dispersing funds for first month rent, eviction, and fuel including firewood.
 - We have been working with Warm Nights. We have received calls for Warm Nights, but the individuals that have called have not been appropriate, whether they are dangerous, have small children that have nowhere to go during the day or will be homeless for a long period of time. We have been working with Fayette County and Washington County shelters.
 - Which leads us with an issue that we will be dealing with in the future. DCED, a state funding agency for housing, has recently announced that funding for these shelters in both Fayette, Washington and Lawrence will end by April 30th which has us re-looking at our program and emergency shelter. This change will not only affect our Program but it will definitely affect Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol and CYS. Since the majority of the individual that we send there are referred from these programs. So, we will keep you updated as we know more. We will continue to work diligently to serve our Greene County residents in their time of crisis.
- Drug and Alcohol – Kira Sisk
 - Warm Hand Off—
 - DDAP requires each County Drug and Alcohol Program to have a Warm Hand Off Policy for opioid overdose survivors who present in the emergency room to make certain that they
 - Who is assigned what, but putting the policy into practice has been a challenge.
 - Some of the Issues:
 - This is voluntary so many individuals do not want to even be transported to the hospital following an overdose and being administered Naloxone.
 - Coordinating with the hospital has been difficult. There is a tool that hospital staff can use to assist in making referrals to drug and alcohol treatment called Screening Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment, but we have not been able to get hospital staff trained.
 - The numbers of individuals we see in the Emergency Department are small. Sometimes, the numbers can be as low as 1-2 individuals per month and they are not all opioid overdoses. We see individuals being admitted to the acute unit, behavioral health unit, being transferred to another hospital to the ICU or eloping from the emergency department.
 - At this time the CARE Center is having challenges with hiring a navigator who is intended to assist with the warm handoff process.
- Transportation – Rick Blaker
 - Rick discussed that at this time of year the main challenge is the weather. You have the driving challenges but it has a negative impact on cancellations and no shows.

- Rick discussed outreach and the development of a new brochure.
- Marcy and Rick are working on a 3-year plan presentation for PennDOT on March 5th. Along with financial information they are asking about some pro and cons of the Ecolane System, the routing software. Rick discussed those pros and cons.
- Family Center / Hi Fi Wrap – Lisa Milan
 - Family Center – currently working on setting up 2 play groups. One in Parkview Knoll and the other in Waynesburg. Working on Outreach and Referrals.
 - Hi Fi Wrap – Continue to build referrals. The biggest challenge is education on what Hi Fidelity is. Other challenges are funding and receiving the mental health services, drug and alcohol services, housing etc. that these families need.
- Children and Youth – Karen Bennett
 - Karen mentioned that Stacey was able to attend. She mentioned that last calendar year CYS had an 85% turnover rate in staff. Currently have 6 caseworker openings out of 21.

Announcements – none

Public Comment – none

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mark Carlson and second by Jeff McCracken.

****The next Advisory Board meeting will be held on April 2, 2018 in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Fort Jackson Building at 5:00 PM**