

Gloucester County Mental Health

February 21, 2023

<u>Members Present</u> Katie Doyle JoAnn Dunagan Chief Thomas Ryan Suzanne Smith Carol Weinhardt <u>Guest:</u> Nicole Moore Anna Guida Sharon Venezia	<u>Non-Voting Members & Liaisons Present</u> Dr. Becky DiLiscandro Lisa Cerny Jim Jefferson Amy Swanson Ron Roebuck
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Welcome and call to order/public record act:

Introductions:

- Roll call introductions

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made by Suzanne Smith to approve the minutes for November 15, 2022; Dr. George Scott seconded.

Mental Health Professional Advisory Committee: Nicole Moore

- The MHPAC met February 9, 2023. Nicole Moore Chair Anne Marie Green, Jennifer Zoyac, and Becky DiLiscandro were present.
- Agency check – ins. It appears staffing was always an issue but progress is happening. Lots of recruitment.
- Discussed DRCC event in October with Community Resource presentations.
- Inspira Woodbury – brand-new satellite ER and Behavioral health unit in progress. The behavioral health unit will have 20 single occupancy rooms. There will be a nice outdoor space. Opening date tentatively 1st quarter of 2024.
- Suzanne asked about 988 and if ER is seeing a change in volume regarding Mental Health. Nicole will see if any data to answer.
- Becky DiLiscandro asked board members if a description of purpose of the MHPAC would be wanted in future. This would refresh what the MHPAC purpose is and what they are a part of.
- Dr. George Scott asked what the maximum stays for voluntary beds are. Nicole said voluntary stays are 5-7 days with involuntary stays having a goal of 10 - 15 days (depending on status of moving patient to a long-term care facility)

Acenda: Sharon Venezia

Adult Systems Review Committee: Sharon Venezia

- Introduction Sharon Venezia: The Director of Crisis Services for Acenda in Gloucester County. Her mission and vision are aligned with decreasing Emergency Room utilization, and increasing the overall quality of daily life for families and their loved ones, through education and breaking down barriers for quality care services.
- Provided an overview of services with ACENDA. IOTSS, EISS, PESS, and COPE and how they intertwine together.

Program Statistics/Updates

- PESS- 98.4% LOS for January 2023. We have hired 1 full time screener 1 part time screener. We have 1 part time position open for recruitment. 33.2 % outreaches with PESS.
- IOTSS- bringing parole officers in with people to offer support
- EISS- We have seen 26 individuals in January and were able to link all to appropriate services. Our primary referral sources are Inspira Emergency Room, Rowan, PESS, and community. We are recruiting for a part time Co-occurring Therapist. Katie asked if they are getting walk ins – Sharon said yes mainly all walk ins with some appointments. Address again: 200 Hollydell Dr., Sewell, NJ. Open M-F 9am – 8pm and 11am -7pm weekends. Limited to Gloucester County residents but all will be assessed if they walk in and refer to their county for linkages (provide transportation to get them to their EISS). No one will be turned away. Sharon welcomed anyone who would like to arrange a tour.
- Involuntary Commitment going well
- Becky expressed interest in receiving data regarding how long people are staying in ED. Becky mentioned state is utilizing a new system looking into data.

NAMI: Anna Guida

- NAMI provides support, education and advocacy
- Grassroots organization started by families
- Most counties are powered by volunteers – Gloucester County chapter has about a dozen
- Catch a Fire helped link Gloucester County chapter with linking up with someone to help build a system to track data
- Referrals come from national/state offices or referrals in its self
- 2022 last quarter 36 calls were received
- Nami relies on donations and/or people who join the chapter
- Website: Namigloucester.org. You can sign up for electronic newsletter
- Becky suggested Anna writing up an intro that she could forward to all members with website information.

New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addictions Services (DMHAS) –Ron Roebuck

- Federal Public Health Emergency ending in May. Katie Doyle asked for more details on what exactly will be stopping. Ron didn't have all details reason why they are anticipating a lot of questions and trying to get answers ahead.
- Ron announced he is the Regional Coordinator no longer acting
- Becky asked for clarification on screening waiver timeline. We will add to agenda next month to get process started. Ron will speak with Sharon regarding what is needed

Notice of Funding Availability

- Program Name: 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (system) Managing Entity

Available Funding Amount: total annualized funding is \$2,000,000 subject to State appropriations. DMHAS anticipates awarding funds to a singular agency.

Proposal Procedure: Effective January 3, 2023, the RFP is available at www.state.nj.us/humanservices/providers/grants/rfprfi/index.html. A proposal must be submitted that comports with the RFP requirements and instructions.

Notification Date: Review in process and awardee will be announced shortly

- Program Name: Residential Services for Individuals Discharged from Nursing Facilities.

Purpose and Intent: Issued by the DHS and DMHAS for Level A+ residential program for those with a mental health diagnosis and medical needs from a nursing facility. Total annualized funding for the deficit funded contract is \$377,000, subject to State appropriations. DMHAS anticipates making one award to provide services to five (5) individuals. In addition, up to \$600,000 in one-time capital funding may be requested for the purchase of a single story home with sufficient bedroom and bathroom accommodations for 5 individual residents and the requisite staff. Also, up to \$100,000 in one-time capital funding may be made available for physical modifications to a home to be purchased or long-term leased, or for physical modifications to a home already owned by the bidder. DMHAS is seeking a successful bidder to provide services in a residential setting to 5 eligible individuals with mental illness and co-existing medical needs; individuals who are residing in a nursing facility but are able to live in the community with the services provided to meet their needs, and continue to have medical needs, shall be given priority.

Written Intent to Apply and Contact for Further Information: Bidders must email MH.upload@dhs.nj.gov no later than 4pm on 1/31/23 indicating their agency's intent to submit a proposal. If a bidder's notice of intent to submit a proposal is received after the deadline, their agency is not eligible to submit a proposal. Submitting a notice of intent to apply does not obligate an agency to apply.

Notification Date: Review in process and awardee will be announced shortly

RFP:

- Open Access to medications for Opioid Use Disorder in Homeless Shelters; issued by NJDHS and NJDMHAS to increase the access to buprenorphine and other ancillary services for individuals with a substance use disorder (SUD) through current programming available at homeless shelters licensed by NJ Department of Consumer Affairs' Bureau of Rooming and Board House standards and outlined in state regulation NJAC5:15. These provider will develop the capacity to provide medication and support services for individuals who reside or drop in at homeless shelters. The intent of the program is to provide low threshold medication services to individuals with SUD who present in these settings. Annualized funding is \$2,125,000 subject to federal appropriations. DMHAS anticipates giving 5 awards of up to \$425,000.00 each.
3/31/23 proposals due no later than 4:00pm
4/28/23 notification date

Arrive Together Expansion:

- Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin recently announced that the ARRIVE Together mental health crisis response initiative has expanded to include additional municipalities in Cumberland and Union Counties, with the Bridgeton Police Department the new municipality under the Cumberland County initiative, while Atlantic County has initiated an innovative new version of the program.

Mental Health Administrator: Dr. Becky DiLiscandro

Reorganization:

- With great regret Juanita Nazario has resigned from her position on the Board. Juanita will be greatly missed and she is always welcome to attend our meetings, if she is able. We thank Juanita for her time and commitment.
- Moving forward, Becky would like to present that Katie Doyle will continue in the position of Chairperson and ask for a Board vote to continue Katie's role.
 - Suzanne Smith made a motion to approve Katie Doyle as Mental Health chair; Eugene Caldwell seconded; all in favor; no opposed

County Contracts:

- Three Year Mental Health Contract:
 - As a reminder, the County provides supplemental funding for the following programs: Psychiatric Emergency Screening Services (PESS), Integrated Case Management Services (ICMS), Bridge Program, and Outpatient Mental Health Services. The total award amount is \$213, 500, and the contract will expire on 12/31/2024.
 - Acenda has submitted all quarterly invoices with supporting documents, for 2022.
- Gloucester County is also funding an additional program to provide expedited screening services to local police departments. This program will provide necessary funding to increase certified screening staff and provide staff the tools they need to deploy with law enforcement officers for residents experiencing a psychiatric crisis or preventative care. Meetings are in progress to ensure an effective roll out. Once roll out time happens is when it becomes most appropriate to identify police departments involved; conversations and meetings are still happening. The Commissioner board allowed us to use American Rescue Dollars for mental health programs which is a great benefit for all residents.

CIT Program:

- Registration: The final headcount will be organized in the next few days as the last day for registration was 2/17.
 - Instruction: There are two types of modules during the 40-hour class (5 full days). Some modules are instructed by mental health professionals and the other by law enforcement professionals. The majority of mental health CIT instructors have resigned from the mental health care field and I have been working with our local providers to begin training instructors. The good news is there is an interest in instruction from local mental health agencies, we just need to put the time in to make sure everyone is properly trained and comfortable with instruction. Becky has also been working with statewide instructors to ensure mental health blocks are filled. In regard to law enforcement instructors, there continues to be a lack of instructors and Becky will continue to collaborate with law enforcement to increase interest. In the meantime, we continue to rely on statewide instructors for law enforcement modules as well.
 - Dr. George Scott is allowing us to use building again for the class. This is a great building for class.

NJ Disaster Response Crisis Counselor Volunteer Program:

- We are hosting two in person meetings for DRCCs, 5/18 & 10/18. During the May meeting we plan to provide an overview of Psychological First Aid and a tour of the Emergency Operations Center. In October, we are planning to provide an opportunity for volunteers to network and learn more about our County mental health services, which may be utilized in a disaster event.
- JoAnn Dunagan asked how many volunteers we have. Becky responded that we have 50 but during a deployment we typically have 10-12 available. Some of our volunteers live outside of county but indicate they will travel to Gloucester if needed.
- Suzanne Smith asked about recert for DRCC's. Becky responded that all DRCC's will receive recert credit for our meetings and many recert opportunities are posted online.

Tri-State Canine Response Team Visits with PSTs:

- There have been four visits so far this year and the program continues to have a very positive response. We will continue with two visits per month. Tri-state is providing this service as volunteers.

2023 Prosecutor Office Recertification Schedule:

- Anne Marie Green (MHPAC Co-Chair and Hampton Director of Business Development) has generously agreed to provide volunteer instruction once a month, totaling 12 classes this year.

2023 MHB Agenda / Meeting updates:

- Next month, the Board meeting occurs during CIT training. Since CIT training is being held on-site at the Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine, Becky will be working with staff there to organize a Zoom meeting in March.

Reminders:

- The NJDTB continues to offer Mental Health Awareness Trainings to the community. If your organization would like to host a training, please contact Becky and she will connect you with NJDTB. Classes must have at least 10 participants and virtual options may continue to be available.

Old Business

OTHER Announcements

- **Next Meeting:** 03/21/23 4:30pm via zoom

A motion to adjourn meeting at 5:56pm was made by Suzanne Smith; JoAnn Dunagan seconded.