

# Carbon-Monroe-Pike Mental Health and Developmental Services Advisory Board

MINUTES	FEBRUARY 26, 2018	7:00 P.M.	724 PHILLIPS STREET STROUDSBURG, PA 18360
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A meeting of the Carbon-Monroe-Pike Mental Health and Developmental Services Advisory Board was convened on this date at 7:00 p.m. in the MH & DS Administrative Conference Room at 724 Phillips Street, Suite 202, Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania and via conference call.

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Dr. Samuel Dolgopol, Chair & Tina L. Clymer, Administrator
<b>CHAIR</b>	Dr. Samuel Dolgopol
<b>RECORDING SECRETARY</b>	Beth Bingaman-Lutz
<b>PRESENTERS</b>	Julie Smith, MBA, Behavioral Health Director, NHS Pocono Mountain Center
<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Dr. Samuel Dolgopol, Commissioner Moyer, Susan Barradale, Tom Carasiti, Dr. Laurene Clossey, Eugene Pelletreau, Constance Proctor and Elizabeth Torkildsen
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Commissioner O’Gurek, Commissioner Guccini, Lynn Hauth, and Dorothy Eberts,
<b>STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Kathleen Peterson, Jennifer Williams, and Beth Bingaman-Lutz

## AGENDA TOPICS

<b>PRESENTATION</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NORTHWESTERN HUMAN SERVICES (NHS)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAMILY BASED</li> <li>• COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION (CRR)</li> <li>• SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING (SIL)</li> </ul>	<p>Julie Smith, MBA Behavioral Health Director NHS Pocono Mountain Center</p>
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The slide show delivered a presentation on the services Northwestern Human Services (NHS) provides. Ms. Smith began by stating NHS will be changing their name to Merakey as of April 1, 2018. The name change is the result of a re-branding effort aimed at better conveying the mission of the company. Reflected were the agency’s Mission and Vision statements, and the regions across the United States in which they proudly serve individuals and families. An overview of programs servicing Adults and Children and Families were mentioned, in addition to the core services available at the Pocono Mountain Center which are:

- ACT Team for Adults
- Outpatient for Children and Adult
- Residential Housing – Community Rehabilitation Residence
- Supportive Independent Living
- Master Leasing
- Therapeutic Family Care
- Foster Care Plus
- Permanency Services
- Family Based services

Two main programs detailed in the presentation were Community Residential Rehabilitation (CRR) and Family Based Services. In closing, Ms. Smith identified general outcomes of Northwestern Human Services and provided the audience with contact information.

<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	
<b>Minutes</b>	Motion by Eugene Pelletreau, seconded by Tom Carasiti, and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2018 meeting.
<b>Agency Reports</b>	Ms. Clymer reviewed the HealthChoices and Developmental Services reports, while Ms. Williams highlighted the Mental Health report. No motion required.
<b>OLD BUSINESS</b>	
<b>County Deputy Administrator Developmental Services</b>	On behalf of the Board, Dr. Dolgopol shared that he is looking forward to meeting Ms. Kimberly Chern, the new Carbon-Monroe-Pike Developmental Services Deputy Administrator, in April and working with her in the future.
<b>County Human Service Plan</b>	Ms. Clymer explained the goal for the County Human Service Planning Team this year is for the group to take a more active lead with identifying problems and finding solutions. At the first meeting, the group came up with a few common goals including: having a cross-system training for each of the counties to get the word out about Human Services, creating a shared employment program, having a poverty simulation to learn what poverty really means, and addressing public transportation needs within all three counties, especially Pike. Mr. Tom Carisiti mentioned exploring how the vans are being used during the day when the public schools are not utilizing them.
<b>Board Member Resignation</b>	At the Joinder Board meeting held earlier today, the Commissioners received the resignation letter from Julia Carter. Dr. Dolgopol mentioned the process of trying to find her replacement and feels confident the Monroe Commissioners will make an appropriate appointment for the vacancy. Mr. Pelletreau brought a greeting card for members to sign.
<b>Promoting Community Outreach</b>	Ms. Clymer showed the audience the public service advertisement displayed on the Zimmerman's Diet Iced Tea. Dr. Dolgopol recognized Tom Zimmerman, CEO, and mentioned the family are very strong supporters of programs like ours.
<b>State Budget Status</b>	Ms. Clymer reported the governor's proposed budget identifies a good portion of funding for Developmental Services waiver expansion. It was shared that Mr. Tom Carasiti advocated strongly which helped get the waiver expansion funding identified in the budget. In addition, Mr. Carasiti gave an update on the progress being made for high school graduates with special needs. He explained that if the current budget is passed, the graduating classes of 2018 and 2019 will both be slotted for funding. Ms. Clymer mentioned she appreciates there being no cuts to the budget; however, we really need increases in funding. In this field, level funding is a decrease in funding because it does not compensate for increased costs or increases in provider expenses.

<p><b>Carbon-Monroe-Pike Mental Health and Developmental Services Advisory Board Award Nomination Form and Process</b></p>	<p>The Advisory Board Award Nomination Process was defined and updates include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distribution of nomination forms to the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. CMP MH/DS Advisory Board Members</li> <li>b. CMP MH/DS Provider Network</li> <li>c. CMP MH/DS Program Directors and Staff</li> <li>d. CMP MH/DS Website and Facebook Page (available for community)</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. June 1, 2018 will be the last date to submit nominations for 2018 year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Any nominations received after this date will be considered for the following year.</li> <li>-The recording secretary will forward all nominations to the nomination/award committee for their review.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. At the July meeting, the nomination/award committee will present their final list of award nominees.</li> <li>4. At the September meeting, a final vote on the selection of award recipients will be held by the board.</li> </ol> <p>Motion by Dr. Laurene Clossey, seconded by Eugene Pelletreau, and carried unanimously to accept the Award Nomination Process.</p>	
<p><b>OTHER</b></p>		
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>Monday, March 26, 2018</p>	
<p><b>VISITORS</b></p>	<p>Julie Smith</p>	
<p><b>ADJOURNMENT</b></p>	<p>Motion by Tom Carasiti, seconded by Eugene Pelletreau, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.</p>	
<p><b>APPROVED BY</b></p>	<p><i><b>Tina L. Clymer, Administrator</b></i></p>	<p><i>Tina L. Clymer, MS, LPC</i></p>